



NSW AECG Inc.
Annual Report
2022



New South Wales
Aboriginal Education
Consultative Group Inc.

Disclaimer:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are advised that this report may contain images and names of deceased persons.

Some images used were taken by Jamie James and Karen Steains for the NSW AECG Inc. Some images are also taken from the NSW AECG Inc social media pages with permission granted prior to being published.

5 President's Report

Section One

6 The NSW AECG Inc

7 Vision Statement, Aims and Role of the Organisation

8 The Secretariat

9 NSW AECG Regional Offices

Section Two

10 Our Governance and Advocacy

11 NSW AECG Organisational Structure

11 Junior AECGs

12 Local AECGs

13 Regional AECGs

14 AECG State Committee

16 Association Management Committee

Section Three

18 2022 Major Meetings

19 AGM, General Meetings

20 State Committee Meetings

20 Regional Presidents Workshop

21 Communications

Section Four

22 Our Services and Programs

23 Our Network

23 Recovering voicing and Repractising of our Languages

26 Supporting Local Governance for Local Languages

26 Language Nest Resource Developments

27 Language Nest Workshops & Registered Training Organisation

28 Professional Development & Connecting to Country

29 STEM/SHOW/STEAM/Language & Culture Camps

30 Pirru Thangkuray (Dream Strong) Program

31 Place of Learning Program

33 Resources

Section Five

34 Advocacy and Partnerships

35 NSW AECG/NSW DoE Partnership Agreement & Paul Ramsay Foundation

36 National IECBs & Coalition of Peaks

37 Burruga Foundation/Storylines/GoalHub & Connected Communities

38 NESA

Section Six

39 Financial Statements



President's Report

President's Report



Wiyabu, hello everyone,

What a roller Coaster ride it has been over the past 3 months since I've been in the role of Interim President of the NSW AECG Inc. I say that the journey so far hasn't been without the highs, lows, and many challenges we've faced as AMC members and Staff of this organisation.

I would like to Acknowledge all the past Presidents, I wish to acknowledge the passing of one of our former Presidents Cindy Berwick, who I had the privilege of working with for the past 18 years at the NSW AMC State Level. I'd like to pay my deepest respects and condolences to all of the AECG members and Families that have lost Loved ones over the Years.

In 2022, the core strength of our organisation, our Network of Local and Regional AECGs was impacted through the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic. Our Secretariat also became critically understaffed, and many roles remained unfilled throughout the year. As a result, the organisation lost a lot of corporate knowledge and the Secretariat worked with limited staffing capacity to support Local and Regional AECGs and to deliver services. I'd like to recognise the work of all the staff who moved on during 2022, in particular those who had worked for the organisation for a very long time - Sherri Longbottom former Office and Finance Manager, Desmond Barton former Relieving Executive Officer and Shayne Williams former Language and Culture Consultant.

This Annual Report documents some of the challenges we faced in 2022, but despite the challenges, we continue to have what I believe is the strongest network of Local and Regional Aboriginal committees of any community-controlled organisation in NSW and across all jurisdictions. And we have continued to deliver advocacy and a range of important Aboriginal education programs.

During 2023 and beyond we will refill the roles which have remained vacant in the Secretariat so the organisation can advocate for our members, students and communities across NSW. We have also begun the process of undertaking a review of the organisation so in 2023 and beyond we will continue to learn, adapt and become stronger as an organisation.

I say a big thank you to the NSW Department of Education for their continued support financially with some of our programs. It would be selfish of me not to mention the strong leadership of Karen Jones, Executive Director AOPD and her dedicated team that work alongside and with us. I would like to also mention and thank Michele Hall, Executive Director, Connecting Community Schools NSW.

As an organisation we need to refocus on our three-tier approach from Local, Regional and State Level and how we can come together and work strategically for our communities across NSW, for the next generation of our Children across NSW. We will build upon how we can strengthen our communities and partnerships with all our stakeholders involved in Aboriginal Education in NSW.

Marrumbu: Thank you.

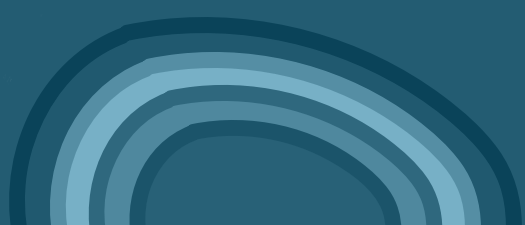
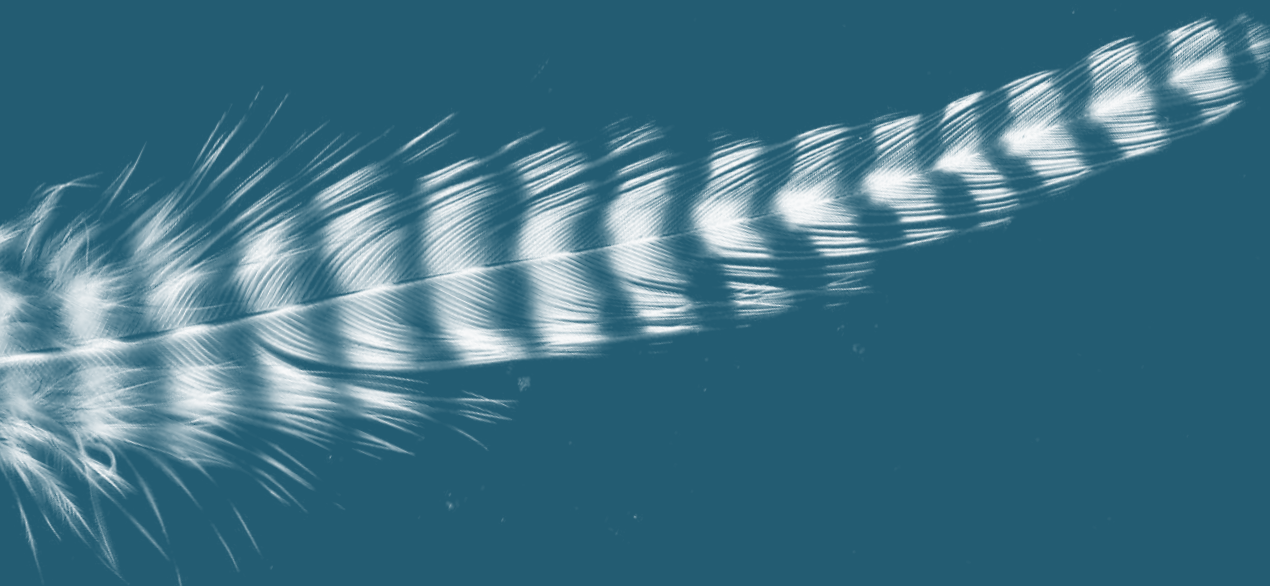
Gapu: see you later.

Leigh Ridgeway
Interim President
NSW AECG Inc.



Section One

The NSW AECG Inc.



Vision Statement

The vision of the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Inc. is to provide advice on all matters relevant to education and training with the mandate that this advice represents the Aboriginal community viewpoint.

The NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Inc. promotes respect, empowerment and self-determination and believes the process of collaborative consultation is integral to equal partnerships and is fundamental to the achievement of equality.

The NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Inc. advocates cultural affirmation, integrity and the pursuit of equality to ensure that the unique and diverse identity of Aboriginal students is recognised and valued.

Aims

To ensure that the functions and powers of members are facilitated with the premise that the most important part of the consultative process is the active involvement of Local AECG members and communities.

To provide opportunities for Aboriginal people to be actively involved in all decision-making that is relevant to education and training through a collaborative consultative process.

To empower members by providing appropriate and effective knowledge and skills to engage in the development of policies and programs that enhance the unique cultural identity of Aboriginal students and promote pride in Aboriginality.

The Role of the Organisation

The primary role of the NSW AECG Inc. is to promote active participation by Aboriginal people in the consultative and decision-making process of education and training related matters.

Our strong member base is key to the organisation being the peak advisory body regarding Aboriginal Education and Training at both State and Federal levels. As a wholly volunteer based organisation, our key focus is 'community first'; the educational rights of Aboriginal people in NSW being our driving force.

The NSW AECG Inc. has Local, Regional, and Statewide networks that enables effective communication allowing Aboriginal community viewpoint to be echoed throughout the organisation and beyond.

The Secretariat

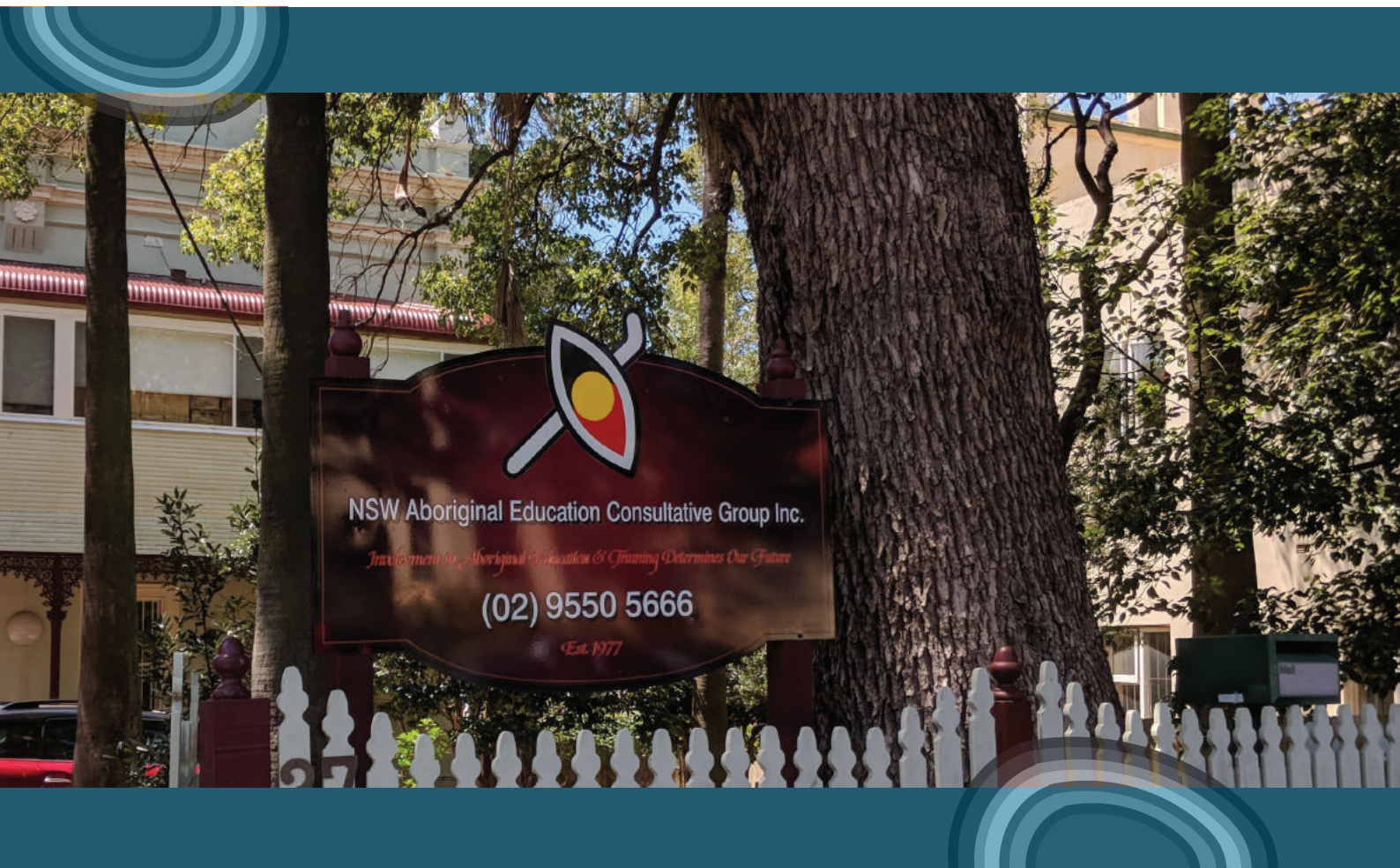
The NSW AECG's Secretariat is located in Stanmore. In 2022 staffing numbers within the NSW AECG's Secretariat reduced, as had occurred in 2021. Throughout the year several of NSW AECG's Secretariat staffing roles changed hands or remained vacant, which significantly reduced the organisation's capacity to advocate for and support our Local and Regional Network and to deliver on projects at the same standard as had been achieved previously. The NSW AECG's Secretariat worked as best as it could within the circumstances to provide professional services and support for all levels of the organisation.

The roles within NSW AECG Inc. Secretariat which changed hands or remained unfilled in 2022 included (*refers to roles which remained unfilled):

Office and Finance Manager ---- Executive Officer* ----- Language and Culture Consultant* ----- Curriculum Officer* ---- Senior Administration Officer* ---- STEM Camp Project Officers X3

A large number of NSW AECG Inc.'s Language and Culture Nest roles also remained unfilled during 2022 – more information on this is provided within the 'Our Services and Programs' section of this report.

Some new roles were created and filled during 2022 including the NSW AECG Inc. Connecting to Country Program Manager and Administration Officer, Cultural Educator Gomerioi Language Educator.



NSW AECG Regional Offices

NSW AECG's regional offices have been established to support community engagement and the Language and Culture Nests through providing space for community meetings, workshops, Language and Culture Nest staff and other AECG staff to work from.

In 2022 the NSW AECG maintained existing regional offices in Dubbo, Nambucca, Lightning Ridge, Broken Hill, Kempsey and Tamworth to support advocacy and services to regional and remote NSW locations. The severe flooding of the Wilson river during February and again in March inundated the NSW AECG's office in Lismore. A lot of furniture and other resources were unable to be salvaged and with NSW AECG staffing losses and turnover in the region, the NSW AECG made the decision to close our Lismore regional office in 2022.

In 2023 the NSW AECG will be considering capacity within existing regional offices and potentially establishing more regional offices to further our provision of accessible professional service and support for Local AECGs, schools and Aboriginal communities in NSW.





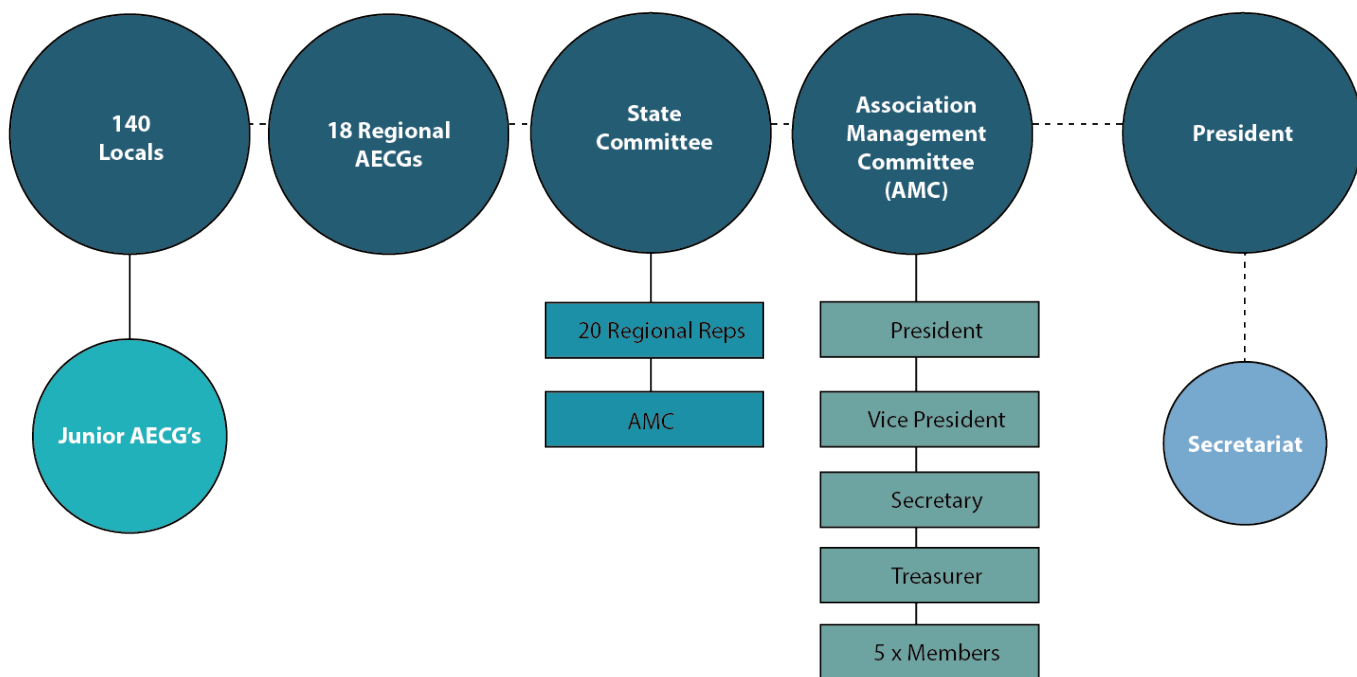
Section Two

Our Governance and Advocacy



NSW AECG Organisational Structure

In 2022, despite challenges and a reduction in our number of functioning Local and Regional AECG committees, the NSW AECG's Local, Regional and State committees continued to work hard to deliver on our advocacy and educational services.



Note: Local AECG committees continued functioning within the regions which discontinued meeting in 2022. More information on the organisation's governance can be found here - <https://www.aecg.nsw.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/chart-about.png>

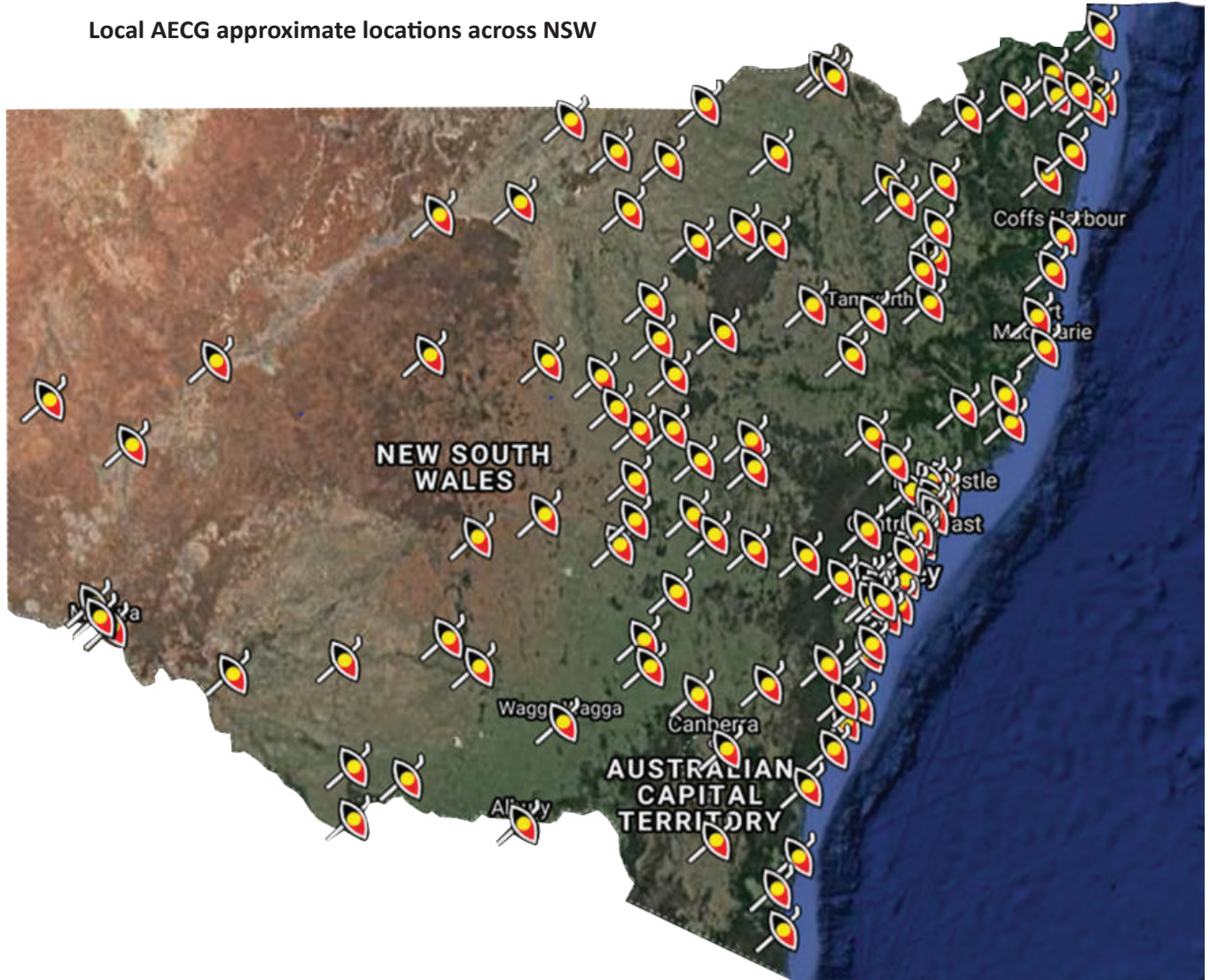
Junior AECGs

In 2022 there was a small reduction in Junior AECGs functioning across NSW. With increased staffing capacity expected, the NSW AECG will aim to support our Local AECGs to increase numbers of Junior AECGs across the state during 2023.

Local AECGs

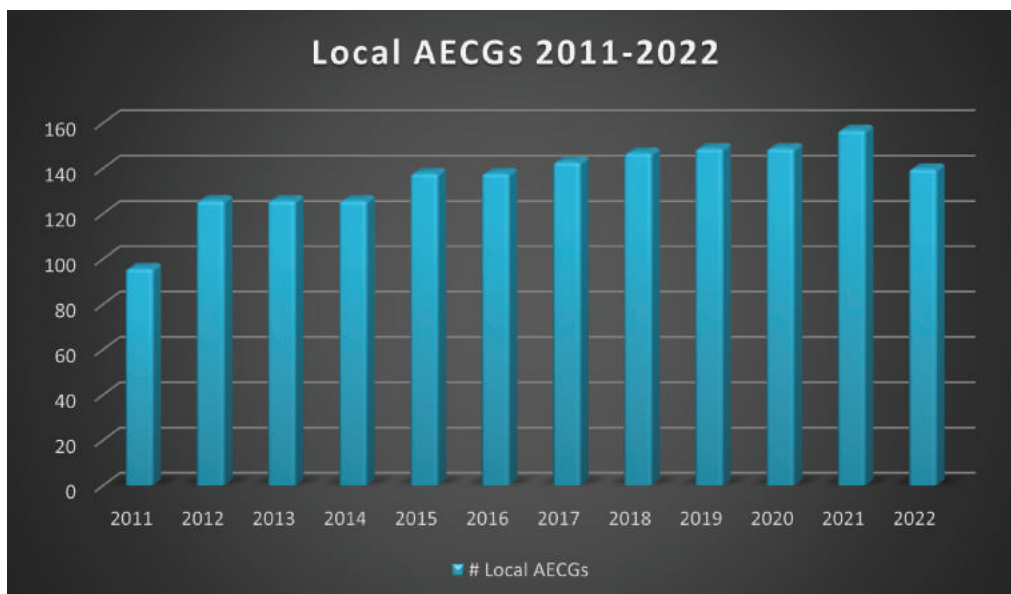
During 2022 the total number of Local AECG's reduced to approximately 140 across NSW.

Local AECG approximate locations across NSW



Our Local AECGs provided essential grassroots advocacy along with local leadership and support for a wide range of Aboriginal Education initiatives during 2022. Local AECGs organised and held a range of activities and events throughout the year which included: NAIDOC Events; Award Ceremonies; and taking part in local events to promote the work of Local AECGs and the importance of Aboriginal Education.

During 2022 NSW AECG's Local AECGs were able to meet face to face again while some Local AECGs continued to work and meet online through the NSW AECG's Zoom account and Microsoft Teams.



Regional AECGs

During 2022 the NSW AECG’s 18 Regional AECGs, consisting of 3-4 elected representatives from each of the region’s Local AECGs, met at least once per school term to discuss regional Aboriginal education issues, initiatives, matters of concern, advocacy needs and other matters.

AECG REGIONS



Note: Riverina 2 and 3 did not function in 2022, however the NSW AECG Secretariat will work to support re-establishment of these Regions in 2023.

More information on NSW AECG’s regional committees can be found here <https://www.aecg.nsw.edu.au/aecg-regions/>

AECG State Committee

The NSW AECG State Committee currently includes 18 regional representatives along with the NSW AECG President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and 5 ordinary members of the Association Management Committee. The State Committee met twice in 2022, firstly on Gumbaynggirr Country (Nambucca Heads) at the Cubana Resort and the second meeting was held at the Jigamy Keeping Place in Eden. Further information on these meetings is provided in the next section of this report.





Association Management Committee 2022

The Association Management Committee (AMC) is the senior governance committee of the NSW AECG Inc., representing the Association at the State level. At each Annual General Meeting (AGM) the Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and 5 AMC members are elected by representatives from our Regional AECGs and Local AECGs. The President is elected at the AGM every three years. The AMC met nine times during 2022.

December 8 AMC Motion to remove NSW AECG President

On December 8, 2022, the AMC tabled a motion to remove Catherine Trindall as President of the NSW AECG Inc. due to the AMC having lost all confidence in the President's management and leadership of the organisation. Statements were made in favour of the motion by all attending AMC members (8, with one Member abstaining). As a result, Vice President Leigh Ridgeway moved into the role as Acting President of the NSW AECG Inc.

Catherine Trindall

President

Catherine Trindall is a Gomeroi woman with more than 30 years of experience working in Aboriginal education in NSW. She has been awarded the highest of recognition by the NSW AECG when she was formally inducted as an NSW AECG Life Member in 2018.

She began her work in education in 1985 as the first Aboriginal Teaching Assistant in Tamworth before becoming a primary trained teacher. Catherine has extensively taught both in the city, rural and remote areas of NSW, where she has held many roles and positions across the Department of Education.

Catherine is the current Deputy Chair and Ministerial appointee to the NSW Aboriginal Languages Trust Board. More recently she has undertaken a considerable body of work in leading and coordinating NSW TAFE's work around the teaching and learning of Aboriginal Languages.

In March 2021 Catherine was formally elected to the position of NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Inc. President.

Leigh Ridgeway

Vice President

Leigh is a member of the Worimi tribal group from Port Stephens who speak the Gattang language. Since becoming involved in the NSW AECG, Leigh has realised the importance of education not only Aboriginal people but non-Aboriginal people as well. "Since being involved with Aboriginal Education, I have made it my business to educate the wider community in my area. Aboriginal Education is everybody's business: let's make a difference to give children a better start to life". Leigh became a Life Member of the NSW AECG in 2015.

Narelle Daniels

Secretary

Narelle is a Murrumurung woman who grew up in La Perouse. She is employed as a Secondary English Teacher at Sydney Secondary College, Blackwattle Bay Campus in Glebe, where she is able to incorporate more Aboriginal texts into our Stage 6 Curriculum. Narelle also advises the other faculties on all 3 Campuses on who to contact for subject specific information in relation to Aboriginal content and essential curriculum. She was also on the NESA Advisory Board for Aboriginal Education. Narelle has been actively involved in both the Inner City and Eastern Suburbs Local AECGs and Met East Regional AECG at varying levels over the past 15 years. She is currently the Vice President of the Inner City Local AECG. Narelle is a strong believer in the grass roots consultation which is the foundation of our organisation and the importance of taking this voice to the Ministerial levels (both State and Federal) as well as our existing Partnership with the Education department. She is proud of being able to represent the members in whatever platform they need and she holds the essential belief that "Aboriginal Education Matters".

Patricia Daniel

Treasurer

Trish is a proud Bidjigal/Wandi Wandian woman with strong family connections to La Perouse and Nowra. She is a permanent Aboriginal Education Officer at Busby Public School and is currently relieving as Executive Assistant to the President, NSW AECG Inc. Trish lives on Darug Country (and Wiradjuri Country when not at work). She's a proud mother of 1 daughter whom she has always encouraged to be strong in her Aboriginal culture and identity. Trish has been actively involved in AECG at varying levels for over 15 years and is currently the President of Liverpool Local AECG, Treasurer of Mil-Pra Regional AECG and Treasurer of NSW AECG Inc. She strongly believes education empowers and Aboriginal education does matter,



and it definitely is everybody's business.

Desmond Barton

Member

I am a YORTA YORTA man currently living in Sydney. I am very passionate about Aboriginal Education and the benefits of working with local schools from a community point of view. Helping schools identify local contacts and who they need to engage so that the benefits flow on to our children within our local schools. My main aim is to help all kids achieve the most they can out of education and to help schools better understand the local community and the area where it is located.

Adrian Bell

Member

Adrian is a Wiradjuri man who is off country and currently lives and works on Thaua lands of the Yuin nation on the far south coast of NSW. He has had almost 40 years of service to public education, with the last 20 years as a secondary school principal before retiring last year as Principal of Eden Marine High School. He currently works part-time for the Aboriginal Outcomes and Partnerships Directorates on several significant projects. Adrian has had a distinguished career and his leadership in Aboriginal Education has been recognised by his community and his peers. He has been awarded a Regional Award for contributions to public education, a NSW Department of Education Nanga Mai Award for Outstanding Leadership in Aboriginal Education and a NSW Secondary Principals Award for Excellence in Leadership. He was recently awarded Life Membership of the NSW Secondary Principals Council.

Since retiring, Adrian has focussed more of his time on supporting the local Eden AECG and the Far South Coast Regional AECG as their Delegate. He hopes that his experience and the support of his community will assist the NSW AECG in their constant battle to make a difference for all our First Nations young ones, our staff and our communities across the state.

Lesley Armstrong

Member

Lesley is a Yuin woman from the South Coast of NSW and has been involved in Aboriginal Education for over 30 years within her role as an AEO, Life Member of the NSW AECG, Lesley has held Local and Regional President's position for over 20 years. Currently residing on the Central Coast Lesley has strong family connections to the La Perouse and South Coast Communities.

Lesley has worked as an Aboriginal Education Officer at Gorokan High School and has seen the Central Coast Aboriginal community grow from strength to strength. Lesley believes that getting Aboriginal people engaged in education will only better the next generations' educational opportunities that would then build success.

Elizabeth Majoros

Member

Elizabeth Majoros is currently working and living on Gamilaroi Country.

She has long term experience in the AECG from local, regional, and now state AECG AMC membership. In her belief that Aboriginal education is community centred, acknowledgement of the many facets and Peoples' that must be given, and it is their journey that guide her. Education is a great connector of past, present and futures. As a Head Teacher, Elizabeth works with management, in a collaborative approach across the Northwest region as a connector. While she uses technologies well, community needs for face to face are never forgotten. As a member of the AMC, she is looking forward to engaging with all levels of education for a deeper understanding of the spheres of influence outside of community.

Raylene Weldon

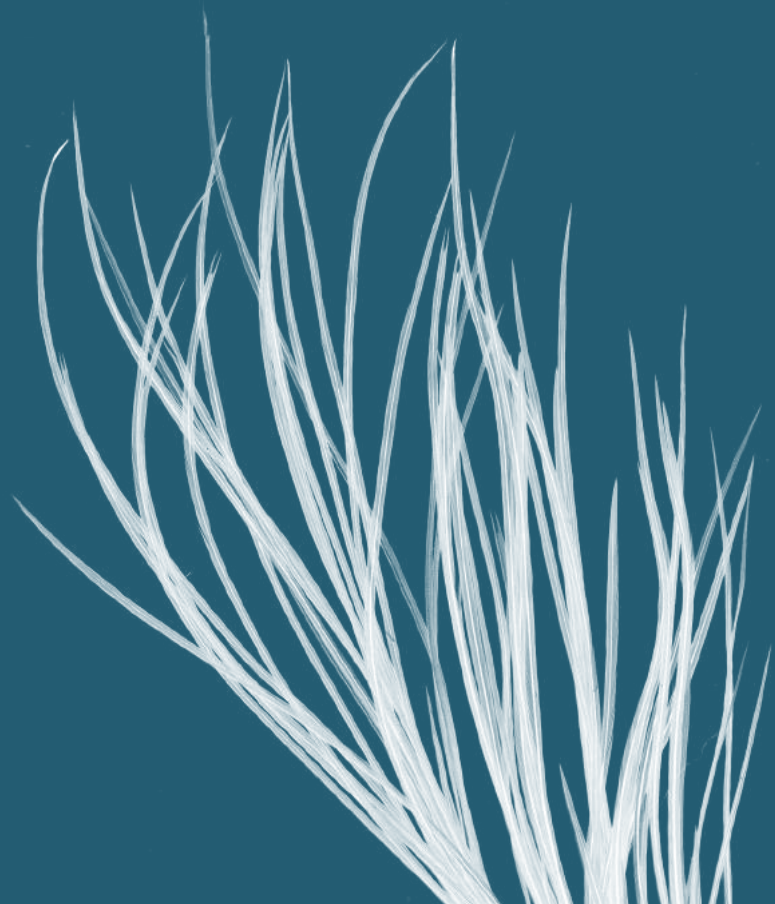
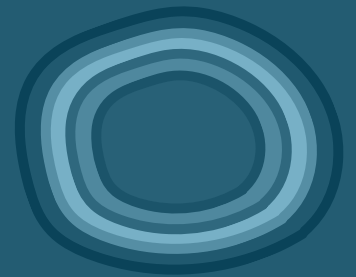
Member

Raylene Weldon is a proud Gomeri / Wiradjuri / Wayilwan, First Nation women. She is passionate about Aboriginal Education and creating equity within a cultural lens of integrity. She's been employed by the Department of Education since 1997 as an Aboriginal Education Officer and have been an AECG member since 1996. Throughout her employment history she's seen the continuous growth and changed mindset towards Aboriginal Education within the curriculum, community, and systemic structures, which has been led by NSW AECG and delivered at the grass root levels by passionate volunteers who strive for better outcomes and opportunity for our First Nation Peoples and students we serve.

Raylene is motivated to be the agent of change through equity, equality and integrity which will enable our people to have a valued position within society. Raylene envisions transformation and growth for our communities.

Section Three

2022 Major Meetings



AGM, General Meeting

In 2022 the NSW AECG Inc. Annual General Meeting (AGM) and General Meeting was held on Wiradjuri Country at the Dubbo Convention Centre on the 18th and 19th of March.

The Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Five AMC Members Office Bearer positions were up for election in 2022.

On Friday afternoon Returning Officer Bob Morgan called nominations forward for election. Delegates from the NSW AECG Inc's Regions were present and voted. Votes were counted and confirmed by Scrutineers John Lester and Allen Hall. Elections for the office bearers resulted in the following delegates being appointed:

Vice President – Mr Leigh Ridgeway

Treasurer – Ms Patricia Daniel

Secretary – Ms Narelle Daniels

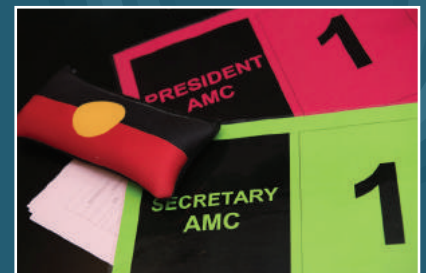
Members

1. Lesley Armstrong
2. Desmond Barton
3. Adrian Bell
4. Elizabeth Majoros
5. Raylene Weldon



Other major matters discussed during the AGM and GM included:

- The NSW AECG's work towards becoming a Registered Training Organisation
- The Premieres Priorities
- Closing the Gap
- Department of Education updates
- Recommendations and Actions



State Committee Meetings

On the 9th and 10th of June 2022 the NSW AECG Inc. held its first State meetings of the year on **Gumbaynggirr Country** (Nambucca Heads) at the Cubana Resort. The first State Meeting covered a range of important agenda items including:

- Regional Presidents' reports on achievements, key issues and activities within their region
- The NSW Department of Education's Teaching Quality and Impact Directorate
- NSW AECG's development of a Cultural Evaluation Framework
- NSW Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations Closing the Gap update and workshop
- Reconciliation School Action Plans

The second NSW AECG State Meeting of 2022 was held at the Jigamy Keeping Place in Eden on the 1st and 2nd of September. The meeting included a range of agenda items and workshops with included:

- Regional Presidents' reports on achievements, key issues and activities within their region
- Connected Communities Strategy
- On Country Cultural workshop

Regional Presidents Workshop

On 8th June the NSW AECG's Regional Presidents attended their first annual Workshop on Gumbaynggirr Country at the Cubana Resort in Nambucca Heads. The Workshop provided opportunity for Regional Presidents to network and formally discuss and clarify directions of the organisation. Major agenda items discussed during the 2022 Regional President's Workshop included:

Leadership – Regional recommendations updates – Connecting to Country – Finance, Administration and Governance training.

On 31st August the NSW AECG's Regional Presidents attended the second annual workshop at the Jigamy Farm Keeping Place in Eden. The Coalition of Aboriginal Peaks Organisations workshop – Regional issues and concerns – Finance and Administration.



Communications

During 2022 the NSW AECG was able to return to holding face to face meetings of our Local, Regional and State committees. While the Covid 19 pandemic continued to impact our communications, we adapted and provided alternative online communications options when required.

Several updates were made to our website - www.aecg.nsw.edu.au – which continues to provide information on NSW AECG’s services and advocacy work in support of Aboriginal Education.

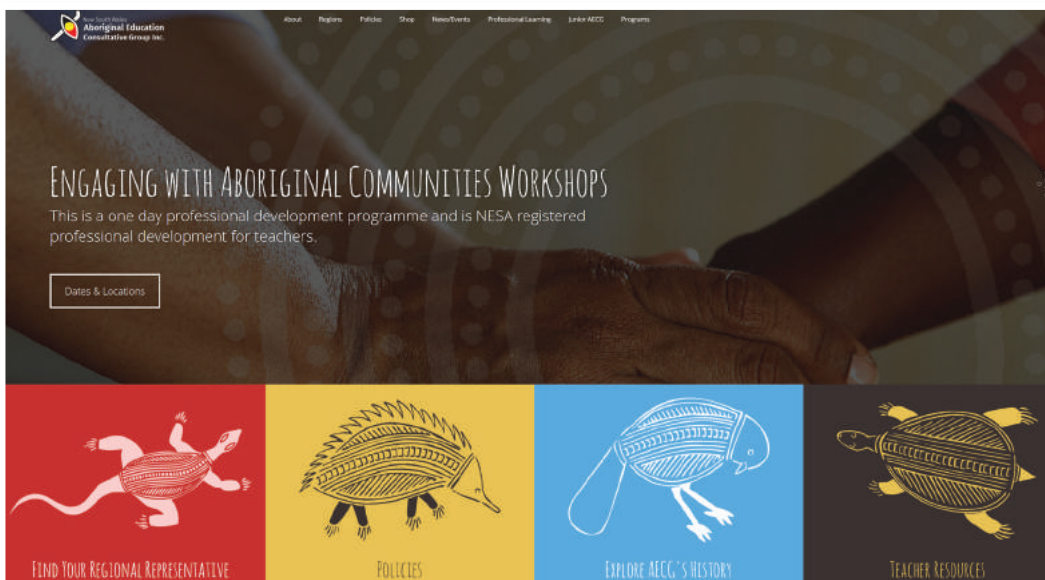
In 2021 the NSW AECG communicated through our Twitter account @nswaecg. We now have 1611 followers on our Twitter account, up from 1190 in 2021.

In 2021 the NSW AECG further established the organisation’s Instagram account. We now have 1533 followers, up from 1003 in 2021.

The NSW AECG has continued to communicate through our Mobile Application (App). The App provides an easy way for people to see news, photos and events to keep up to date on everything to do with the NSW AECG Inc. At the end of 2022 our App has been downloaded a total of 258 times, down from 1355 times at the end of 2021.

The NSW AECG Aboriginal Languages App is a great tool for learning the various Aboriginal languages of New South Wales. The App features dictionaries for the Bundjalung, Gumbaynggirr, Gamilaraay, Murrawarri, Paakantji and Wiradjuri languages with games to support the learning and revitalisation of these languages. By the end of 2022 the NSW AECG Languages App had been downloaded another 14,362 times up from 3367 times in 2021.

In 2022 the NSW AECG Facebook page increased its audience to 8,500 likes / 9,900 followers up from 6370 likes / 6942 followers in 2021. Our Facebook page continues to communicate to our broad audience through sharing information, pictures and stories. Our Facebook page is located at <https://www.facebook.com/NSW-AECG-Inc-458527720878467/>.





Section Four

Our Services and Programs

The NSW AECG continued to deliver a wide range of projects and services in 2022.

Our Network - Local, Regional and State AECG Advocacy and Services

The NSW AECG's extensive network of Local, Regional and State AECG committees continue to effectively function across remote, regional and urban contexts in NSW. Our Network brings unparalleled local community knowledge, local community experience, local community service delivery and advocacy. Our Network remains the organisation's centre and strength. In 2022 our Network continued to support the NSW AECG's major projects as outlined below, as well as ensuring more effective delivery of Aboriginal education initiatives within schools, community, childcare, government department and university and vocational education settings across the state of NSW. More information on our Network is provided in the 'Our Governance and Advocacy' section of this report.

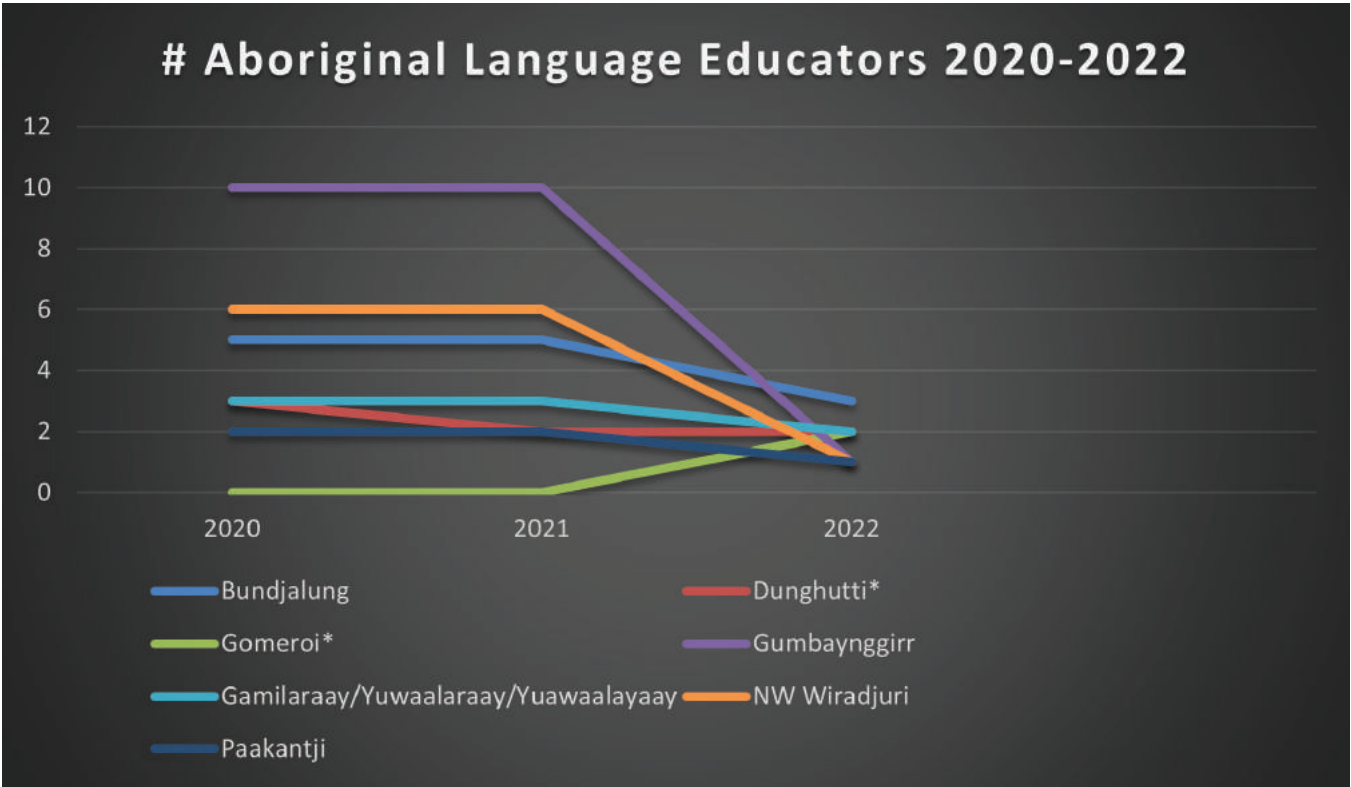
Recovering revoicing and Repractising of our Languages - Aboriginal Language and Culture Nests

The NSW Aboriginal Language and Culture Nests (ALCNs) are networks of communities bound together by their connection through Language and culture. Since 2016, the NSW AECG Inc. have been contracted by the NSW Department of Education to support the establishment and implementation of the ALCNs. More information on our work in the ALCNs can be found at <https://aecgservices.com.au/languages/>

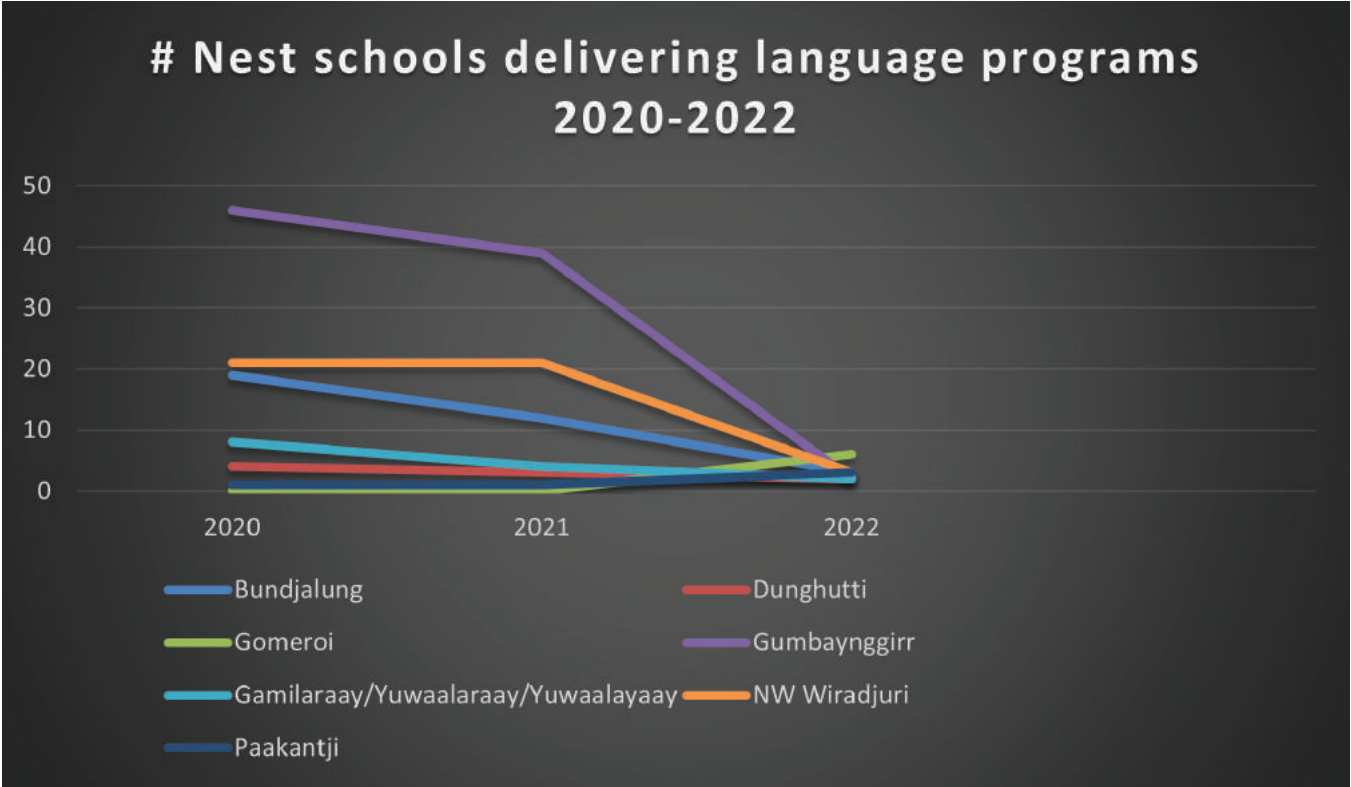
In 2022 the NSW AECG continued working to support NSW Aboriginal communities to recover revoice and repractise their languages. The December 2021 decision to stand down Language Educators due to financial reasons, the ongoing Covid 19 Pandemic, the northern floods and the NSW Department of Education's introduction of probity requirements for staff working in Aboriginal Language and Culture Nests all appear to have caused a significant reduction in our ALCN staffing and Aboriginal Language lessons delivered within the ALCNs.

The following graphs provide an illustration of how each Nest has been heavily impacted by the issues outlined above. Data within each graph is based on Term 2 data reports from 2020, 2021 and 2022.



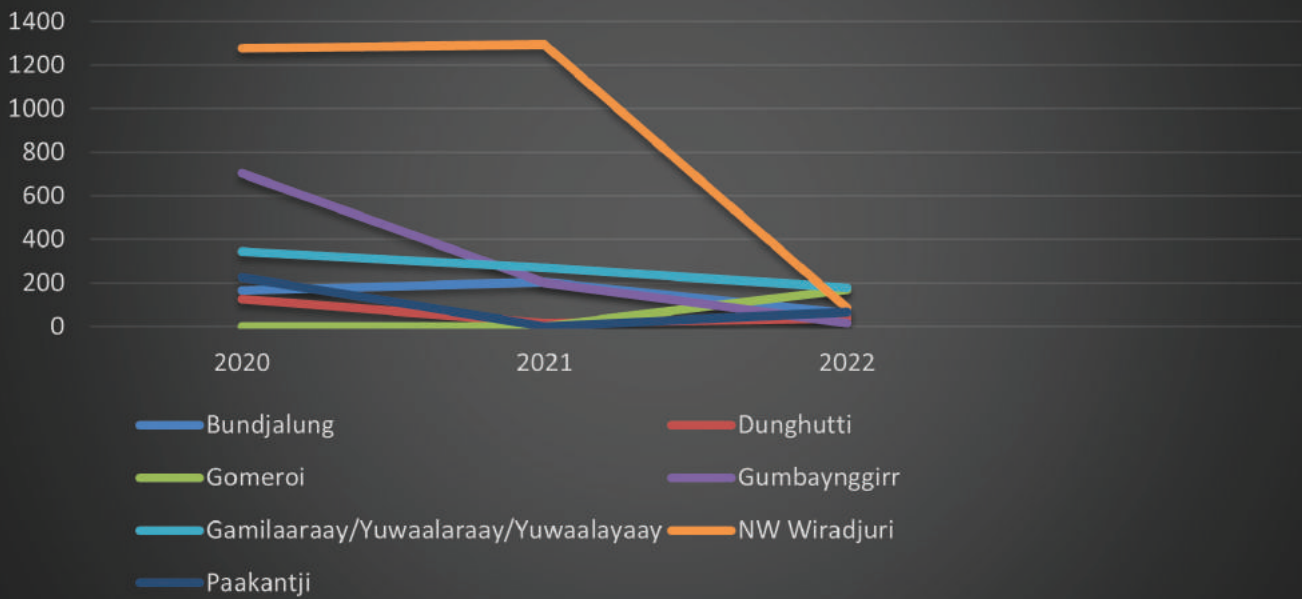


*Note that the Dunghutti and Gomerioi Satellite Nests were established in 2021 and 2022 respectively. Therefore, data on these nests is currently insignificant in comparison to the five original Aboriginal Language and Culture Nests that were established in 2016.



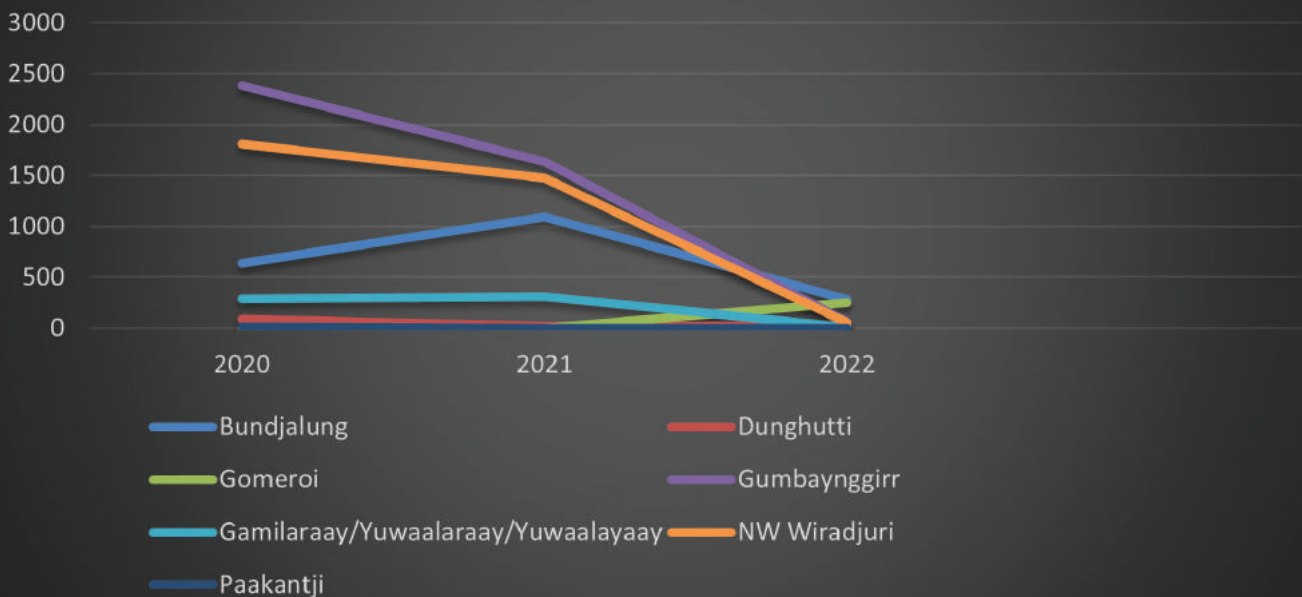
*Note that the Dunghutti and Gomerioi Satellite Nests were only established in 2021 and 2022 respectively. Therefore, data on these nests is currently insignificant in comparison to the five original Aboriginal Language and Culture Nests that were established in 2016.

Aboriginal students learning language in Nest schools 2020-2022



*Note that the Dunghutti and Gomeri Satellite Nests were only established in 2021 and 2022 respectively. Therefore, data on these nests is currently insignificant in comparison to the five original Aboriginal Language and Culture Nests that were established in 2016.

Non-Aboriginal students learning language in Nest schools 2020-2022



*Note that the Dunghutti and Gomeri Satellite Nests were only established in 2021 and 2022 respectively. Therefore, data on these nests is currently insignificant in comparison to the five original Aboriginal Language and Culture Nests that were established in 2016.

2022 involved rebuilding work to partly re-staff and re-establish Aboriginal Language teaching and learning programs within the ALCNs. NSW AECG Inc. will continue working with the Department in 2023 to rectify the significant reductions in ALCN employment and teaching and learning outcomes.

Supporting Local Governance for Local Languages

Each ALCN has a Reference Group which supports communities to identify their local successes, needs and barriers around progressing the teaching and learning of Language and Culture. All Reference Groups, along with NSW AECG's locally employed Language and Culture Project Officers and Language Educators support progressing Language teaching and learning, resource development and professional development.

Despite the significant issues outlined above, the NSW AECG, where possible, continued to work to support ALCN Reference Groups to meet on a regular basis during 2022.

More information on Nest and Satellite Nest guidelines, governance and resources can be found here –

https://education.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/main-education/teaching-and-learning/aec/media/documents/Aboriginal_Language_and_Culture_Nest_Guidelines_-_December_2019.pdf

Language Nest Resource Developments

Due to the staffing losses outlined above the NSW AECG was limited in the amount of resource developments the organisation was able to develop during 2022. However, we have been involved in the drafting of scope and sequences, and teaching resources that align with NESA's new K-10 Aboriginal Languages syllabus, in partnership the DoE Aboriginal Outcomes and Partnership Directorate. NSW AECG's new and remaining ALCN employees also developed additional language teaching and learning resources for local use during 2022, these included:

- Lesson plans
- Flash Cards
- ASLA resources
- Printing old transcripts
- Teacher's handbooks
- Student workbooks
- Weapons, tools and artifacts
- Bush medicine, food and other teaching resources



Language Nest Workshops, Professional Development and Events

Throughout 2022, the NSW AECG Inc. ALCN staff have worked in partnership with the Department of Education's Aboriginal Outcomes and Partnership Directorate to deliver 3 days of Action Research to each of the Nests. The Action Research saw staff from schools, including Principals participate in – on country experience as well as 2 days of strategic planning.

The NSW AECG Inc also conducted 2 Professional Learning workshops during 2022, one in Sydney in February and one in Ballina in October.

NSW AECG Inc. Establishment of a Registered Training Organisation

During 2022 development and consultations for the NSW AECG's development as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) were restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and NSW AECG Inc. staffing shortages more broadly.

At the conclusion of 2022 the NSW AECG Inc's RTO development has been divided into two main areas:

- Course development and accreditation
- Registration.

Course development and accreditation

Two courses have been developed:

- Diploma of Teaching an Aboriginal Language
- Certificate II in Mentoring.

Both courses have been drafted, trialled in communities, and revised on the basis of feedback. Due to COVID, trialling was restricted to accessible communities. Advice and feedback from Elders and trial participants has been incorporated into revisions.

The two courses are still in draft stage and are ready and have been proposed to be presented to the NSW AECG Inc., the NSW Department of Education, NSW TAFE and First Languages Australia for feedback and advice during 2023.

Registration

The requirements for registration have been ascertained and documented. An initial consultation with a representative of ASQA has been undertaken, on an informal basis. The next step for 2023 will be for NSW AECG Inc. to obtain formal legal advice on the formation of the RTO.

NSW AECG Professional Development 2022 Program

During 2022 the NSW AECG's professional development program continued to be impacted by the Covid 19 Pandemic as well as staffing shortages and turnover.

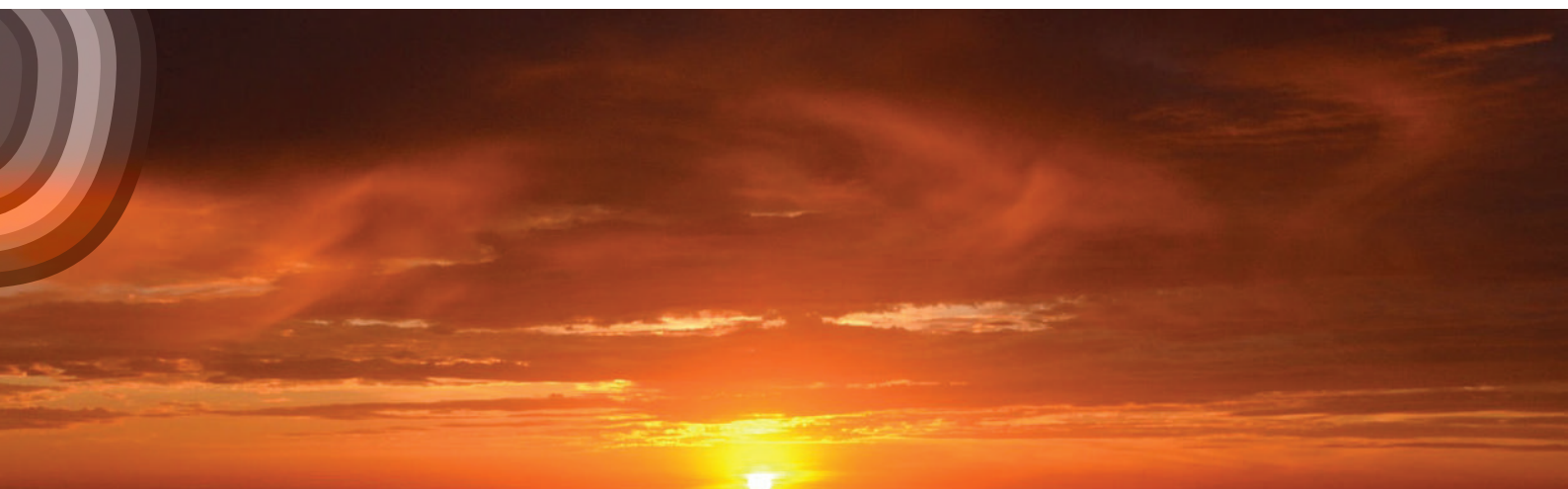
The NSW AECG did however manage to begin redelivering face to face workshops. Some of our programs were adapted to be delivered more often through an online format.

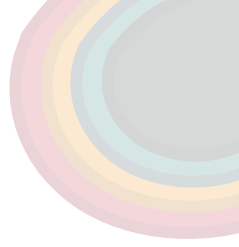
Connecting to Country

The Connecting to Country program is a Quality Teaching Council Registered course which addresses the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers and contributes to maintaining Proficient Teacher Accreditation in NSW. Over the course of the three-day program participants gain valuable access to Aboriginal parents, Aboriginal community members, representatives from Aboriginal community organisations and key Aboriginal education personnel. The program also provides the opportunity for participants to establish and maintain more respectful relationships with Aboriginal students and significantly increase the depth of their insight into the myriad of social, cultural, historic, economic and political issues that continue to affect and concern Aboriginal peoples and communities. The program supports participants' capacity to plan, develop and implement culturally inclusive programs, underpinned by productive pedagogy and practices, while increasing student expectations and performance in literacy, numeracy and general academic outcomes.

In 2022 approximately 30 Connected to Country programs were delivered by Local and Regional AECGs primarily for school staff working for the NSW Department of Education.

Our Local and Regional AECGs also delivered approximately 13 Connecting to Country programs for corporate NSW Education Standards Authority and Department of Education. These programs were delivered by Met North Regional AECG, Tamworth Local AECG, Central Coast Regional AECG, and among others, Northern Illawarra Local AECG.





NSW AECG Inc. STEM, SHOW, Language & Culture and STEAM Camps

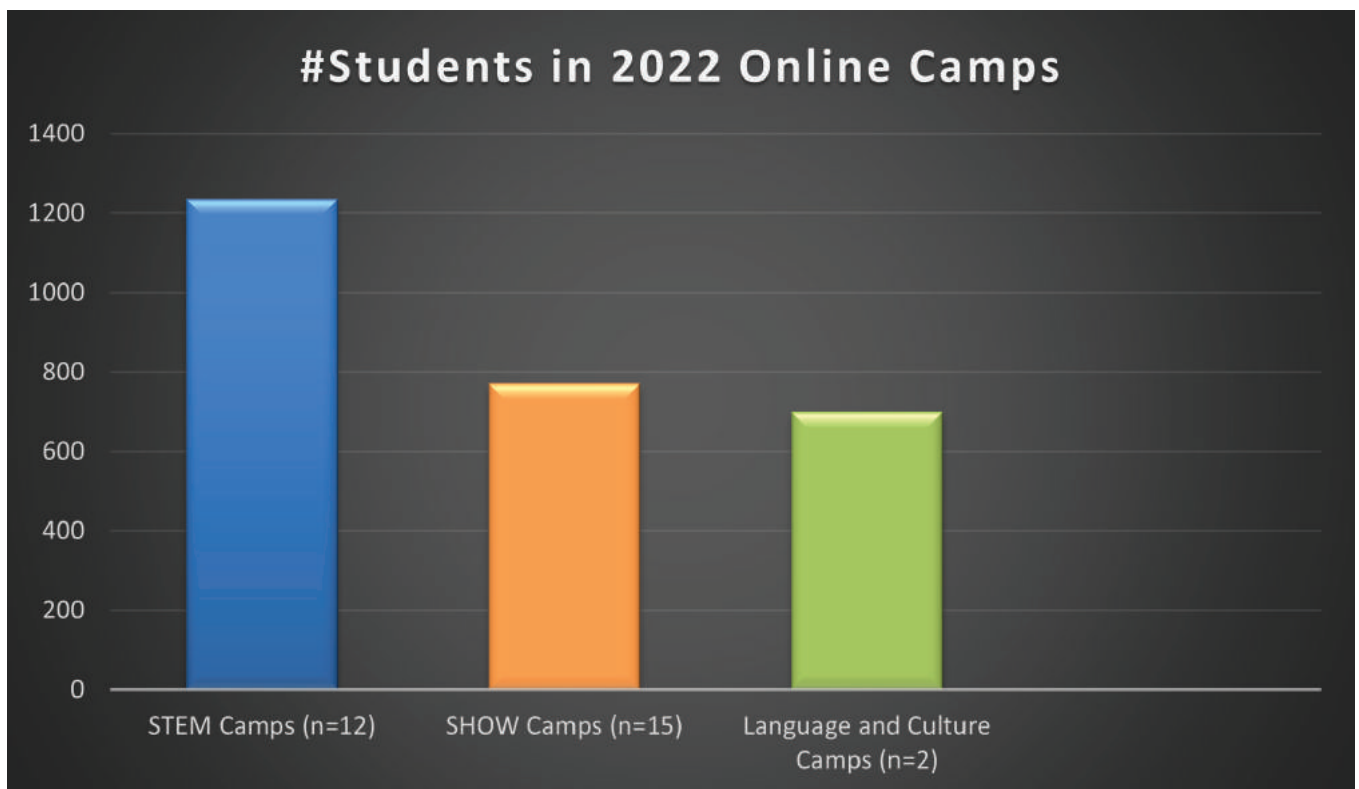
Over the past five years the NSW AECG has developed a suite of highly popular and educationally engaging Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), Sport Health Opportunity and Wellbeing (SHOW), Language and Culture, and Science Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) Camps. Our Camps actively encourage Aboriginal students from years 3 through to 12 through hands on engagement in STEM, the Arts, Language and Culture and SHOW educational initiatives.



We deliver our Camps in partnership with the NSW Department of Education’s Aboriginal Outcomes and Partnerships Directorate and when possible other supporting organisations such as Cricket NSW, Indigenous X and Transurban Westconnex.



In 2022 the NSW AECG was unable to deliver all our Camps face to face due to ongoing restrictions associated with the Covid-19 Pandemic. In adapting to the circumstances, the NSW AECG continued to provide primarily ‘online camp’ options to support schools and student learning. The graph below illustrates our delivery of online Camps during 2022.

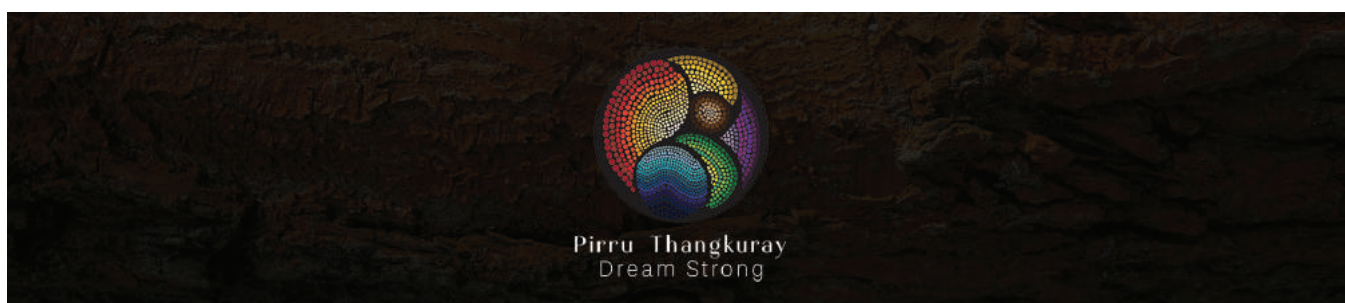


In total during 2022 the NSW AECG delivered online Camps to 2703 students and face to face Camps for 428 students. This was a huge increase on our 2021 numbers which totalled 1953 students. The students and teachers who attended the Camps were engaged through hands-on and interactive learning experiences. They also had the opportunity to meet and learn from inspiring Aboriginal role models and experts who connected culture to a range of Key Learning Areas through Aboriginal Language, totems, kinship, dance, bush food, animals, art, bush medicine, Dreamtime stories, family trees, traditional watercraft, traditional housing, traditional instruments, artifacts etc.

Teacher Professional Learning

Under our Camps funding the NSW AECG Inc. also delivered teacher professional learning (not accredited) for 188 school teachers on Wednesday 6th April and Tuesday 3rd May. These sessions were conducted by Shirley Gilbert and were focused on History and Resources for literacy teaching and learning.

Pirru Thangkuray (Dream Strong) - Cultural Engagement and Goal Setting Program



To support the NSW Government's Premier Priorities for increasing the proportion of Aboriginal students attaining Year 12 by 50% by 2023 whilst maintaining their cultural identity the NSW AECG continued delivering the Pirru Thangkuray program in 2022. Pirru Thangkuray is a cultural engagement and goal setting program for students in years 8-12. It is individualised to meet the needs and ambitions of each student. It covers:

- Goal Setting
- Personal Goals
- Academic Goals
- Family
- Culture
- Identity and Belonging

In 2022 NSW AECG delivered Pirru Thangkuray in;

- Dubbo College Delroy Campus and South Campus
- Narromine High School
- Peak Hill High School

- Tuggerah Lakes – Berkely Vale, The Entrance, Tumby Umbi, North Lakes Campuses
- Gorokan HS
- Chifley: Mount Druitt, Dunheved and Senior Campuses
- Chifley Shalvey High School, Mount Druitt & Senior Campuses
- Casino High School
- Kyogle High School
- Sydney Secondary College: Balmain and Leichardt Campuses



North Lakes HS PT students at Somersby Falls



Gorokan HS PT students – Middens at Soldiers Beach



Dubbo College Delroy Campus PT Student artwork on The Aboriginal Forgotten Soldiers

In 2022 student numbers attending the Pirru Thangkuray programs dropped slightly on 2021 numbers to approx. 350 students in total. This was due to a number of circumstances including our South Coast Project Officer moving on, the floods crisis in the Northern Rivers and Western Sydney and the mouse plague in the Dubbo region. We expect participating numbers to increase during 2023.

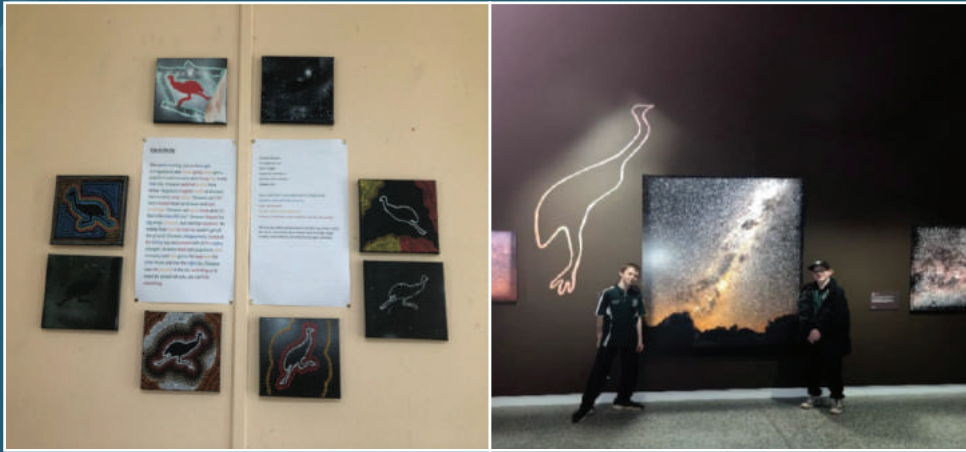
More information on the Pirru Thangkuray program can be found here: <https://aecgservices.com.au/programs/pirru-thangkuray/>

Place of Learning Program

The NSW AECG Inc., along with Orange Local Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations (CAPO) and with the support of the NSW Department of Education (DoE), established the first Place of Learning program, Ngurang-gu Yalbilinya (NgY), at Lake Canobolas near Orange in late 2020. The program is an off-site educational reengagement program, governed by the Local CAPO in Orange. It provides an alternative culturally supportive education opportunity for boys in years 7 and 8 who have disengaged with their school.

The program has a strong focus on local language and culture as well as literacy and numeracy. Yindyamarra (respect) underpins the implementation of the NGY program. The students respect the staff, the staff respect the students, the staff respect the families, the families respect the staff and the students respect each other.

Boys attending the program have achieved considerable success, particularly in their cultural engagement, attendance and literacy and numeracy outcomes.

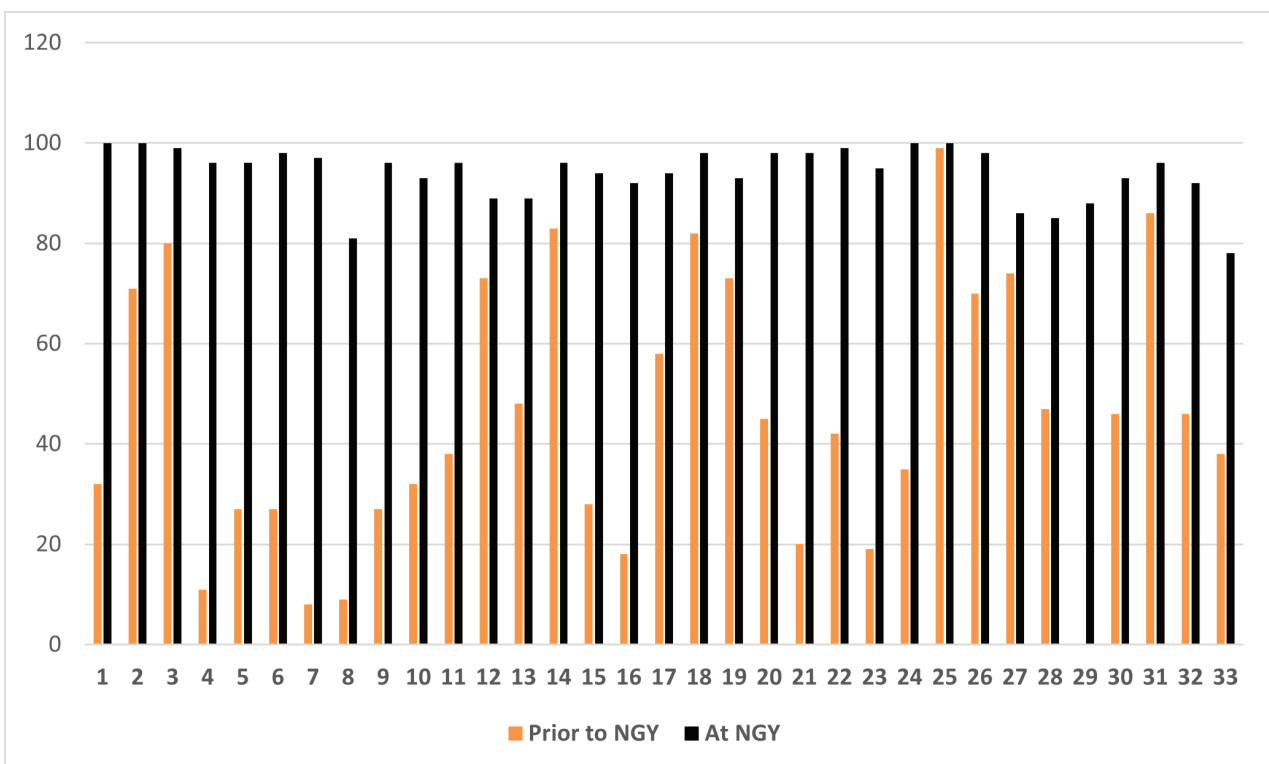


Emu in the Sky NgY Student Artwork and Excursion to National Museum exhibition



NgY students performing

Figure 3. Individual student attendance at Canobolas RTHS and the NGY program (all students attending the program from Jan 2021 through Dec 2022).



In mid-2022 the NSW AECG received its first instalment of funding from the Paul Ramsay Foundation to sustain and expand on the program. The NSW AECG worked closely with the Orange Local CAPO and the DoE throughout 2022 to:

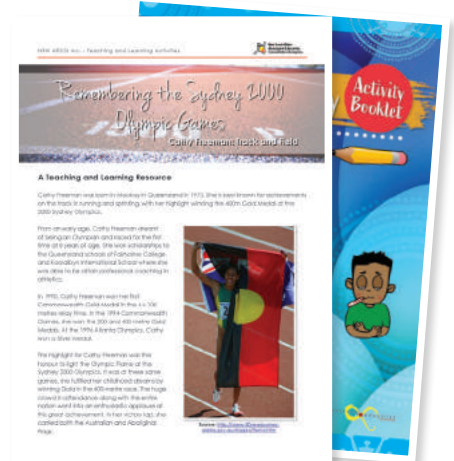
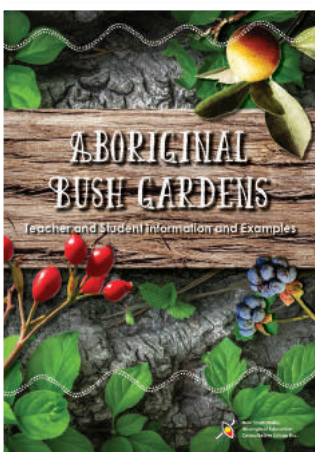
- ensure the program remained off-site
- support a formal Local CAPO commissioned evaluation
- support cultural curriculum enhancement
- develop a Funding Agreement with Orange Local CAPO to support local governance, NgY transport costs, cultural excursions and the sharing of knowledge for establishment of a similar program in another location in NSW

In December 2022 the NSW AECG employed a part time Program Manager to support sustaining the NgY program and to advocate to NSW DoE to support expanding new Place of Learning programs into other locations in NSW.

More information on the NgY and the NSW AECG’s broader Place of Learning program can be found here: <https://aecgservices.com.au/place-of-learning-program/>

Resources

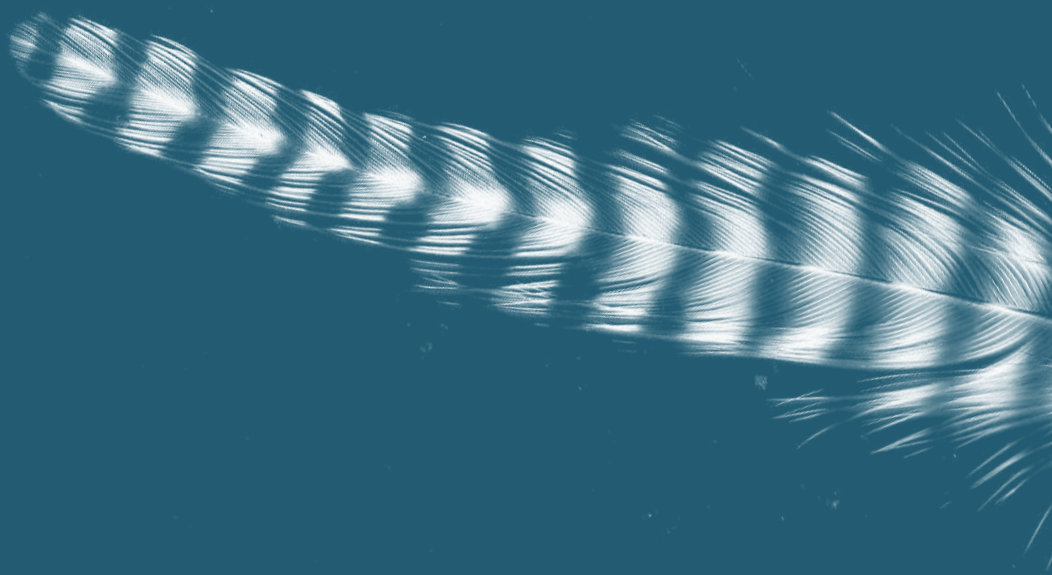
The NSW AECG continued to provide a range of free and for purchase resources during 2022. More information on our broad range of resources can be found here: <https://aecgservices.com.au/product-category/aecg-store/resources/> and here: <https://aecgservices.kinsta.cloud/product-category/teaching-learning-activities/>





Section Five

Our Advocacy and Partnerships



NSW AECG - NSW Department of Education Partnership Agreement

In 2021 the NSW AECG honoured the formal Partnership Agreement with the NSW Department of Education through a wide range of advocacy, partnership and professional development initiatives. The NSW AECG provided extensive support to the Department of Education during 2021. In addition to Members volunteering their support for education initiatives and interview panels at the local level Secretariat staff were called on to sit on a wide range of Department led working groups around the implementation of the Premier's Priorities, Closing the Gap initiatives and Culturally Sensitive Evaluation Frameworks, to name a few.

Detailed information on the Partnership Agreement can be found on our website at: <https://www.aecg.nsw.edu.au/about/partnership-agreement/>



Paul Ramsay Foundation

In 2022 the NSW AECG continued our partnership with the Paul Ramsay Foundation (PRF). The two grants we have worked on during 2022 under our partnership with the PRF include a Covid-relief support Grant and a program which supports NSW AECG's Place of Learning, Early Childhood and Statewide Network Programs.



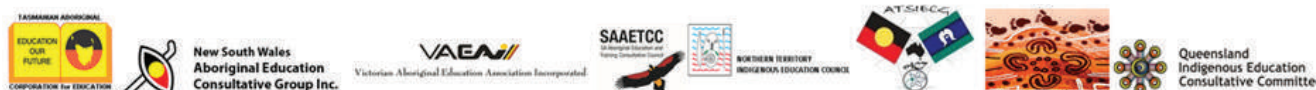
Under our Covid-Relief Support funding the NSW AECG supported communities with delivery of a range of gift cards, and large numbers of laptops for regional and student support.

Under work objectives for our Place of Learning – Early Childhood Education and Statewide Network Grant we undertook work towards sustaining and expanding the Ngurang-gu Yalbilinya program in Orange (see Our Services and Programs section of this report). Other components of this Grant for 2022 included employing a NSW AECG Early Childhood Education Officer and a NSW AECG Field Officer and implementing a program of work to support the NSW AECG Local and Regional Networks as well as the Early Childhood Education sector. Unfortunately, these positions were advertised twice during 2022 without receiving suitable applicants. The NSW AECG will re-advertise these roles in 2023.

NSW AECG will continue its positive partnership with the Paul Ramsay Foundation in 2023.

National Indigenous Education Consultative Bodies

Across Australia, the National Indigenous Education Consultative Bodies (IECBs) are the collective of peak community advocacy and advisory bodies for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education within their jurisdictions. In 2022 the NSW AECG along with the other IECBs met twice with representatives from the Federal Department of Education and the National Indigenous Australians Agency to discuss and advocate for improved initiatives in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education across Australia.



In addition to advocating across a range of education issues the IECBs continued working towards establishment and incorporation of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Corporation (NATSIEC). South Australian Aboriginal Education and Training Consultative Council (SAETCC) along with the NSW AECG and the Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc (VAEAI) have been leading the process to incorporate NATSIEC. The Covid 19 Pandemic continued to cause issues with the process however it is envisaged that NATSIEC will be incorporated during 2023 and will continue building on the work of the IECBs in the future.

In 2023 the NSW AECG will continue to meet and make contributions at the national level to improve education in Australia.

Coalition of Peaks

The NSW Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations (NSW CAPO) is comprised of the peak, representative, community controlled Aboriginal organisations in NSW, including: - First Peoples Disability Network Australia (FPDN) - Link-Up (NSW) Aboriginal Corporation (Link-Up (NSW) - NSW Child, Family and Community Peak Aboriginal Corporation (NSW AbSec) - NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (NSW AECG) - NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC) - Aboriginal Legal Services NSW/ACT (ALS NSW/ACT) - Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW (AH&MRC) - BlaQ Aboriginal Corporation (BlaQ).



The NSW AECG contributed to the Coalition of Aboriginal Peaks meetings during 2022, including as Co-Chair. The NSW AECG will continue to sit on the NSW Coalition of Peaks in 2023, contributing to important Statewide Aboriginal matters of importance.

Burruga Foundation - Storylines Platform and Goal Hub

During 2022 the NSW AECG continued its partnership with the Burruga Foundation and its Storyline platform (formerly MGoals). Local and Regional AECGs continued to support the Burruga foundation providing for culturally safe online environments to share and celebrate Aboriginal, non-secret, non-sacred stories of history, culture and achievement.

Through the partnership between Storylines and the NSW AECG, more than 100 communities have now established local Storylines website, sharing 1000's of amazing stories of success in and around Aboriginal education.



Connected Communities

The Connected Communities Strategy was launched in 2012 and continues to provide a foundation for a new approach to improve the educational outcomes in 33 targeted schools across NSW. The strategy relies on a strong partnership from the community and the school leadership to ensure the vision and aspirations of the community is an integral part of the strategic approach.



Under the strategy, schools take on a much broader "community hub" model and this approach is used as a focal point for improved staff and student outcomes. The community hub model allows for a holistic approach to increase effectiveness in delivery of services supporting children and young people in a lifelong learning approach to sustainable employment.

Increasingly, the Connected Communities Strategy focusses on reinforcing our cultural identity through language nests and cultural streams.

The involvement of the Local AECG as Chair of each established School Reference Group has, in some sites, provided a challenging approach in providing direction and community advice together with the school leadership. Both Local and Regional AECG's work in building the capacity of the community will ensure the evidenced based value of a place-based approach to education is systemically sustained.

In 2022 the NSW AECG continued to support the Connected Communities strategy through sitting on interview panels for Senior Leaders positions that sit within the Connected Communities locations across the state, through our delivery of Language and Culture Nest initiatives and through our Pirru Thangkurray program.

NESA

The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) Authority endeavours to ensure that the NSW AECG is represented on all of its committees. This representation means that Aboriginal advice informs decision-making and that Aboriginal perspectives are included in syllabus documents.



The NSW AECG's participation on NESA is of paramount importance, it helps to improve curriculums so that the needs of Aboriginal students can be considered and met. It also helps promote awareness and understanding of Aboriginal Australia by all students. Despite our Curriculum Officer role remaining unfilled since January, the NSW AECG continued representing on NESA committees in 2022, providing advice on all relevant matters pertaining to inclusive curriculum and the implementation of Aboriginal perspectives in syllabuses, curriculum and teaching.

The NSW AECG looks forward to continued collaboration in order to improve educational outcomes for Aboriginal students in all areas of schooling, as well as ensuring the education of all students about Aboriginal Australia within the context of understanding the true and shared history. In doing so and dependent on the organisation's capacity, the NSW AECG will aim to continue to provide extensive support to NESA in the coming years, particularly in regard to NESA's work on the design of new syllabus curriculum documents across all KLAs over the coming years.



Section Six
Financial Statements



08 August 2023

Mosaic Audit & Consulting
Level 26
44 Market Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Vanessa

Re: Management representation letter on the financial report of NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Incorporated ("the Association")

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial report of NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Incorporated ("the Association") for the year ended 31 December 2022 for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial report is presented fairly, in all material respects, (or gives a true and fair view) in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and Associations Incorporation Regulation 2016.

Members of the Committee responsibilities

We acknowledge the members of the committee and management's responsibility for ensuring:

- (a) the accuracy of the financial records and the financial report prepared from them;
- (b) that the financial report is drawn up:
 - (i) to give a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 31 December 2022 and of its performance, as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows, for the financial period ended on that date;
 - (ii) in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and Associations Incorporation Regulation 2016; and
 - (iii) to comply with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

ASSETS

General

1. All assets included in the statement of financial position were at that date in existence and owned by the Association, and free from any lien, encumbrance or charge except as disclosed in the financial report. The statement of financial position includes all assets owned by the Association.

Other Current Assets

2. On realisation in the ordinary course of the Association's business the other current assets in the statement of financial position are expected to produce at least the amounts at which they are stated. In particular, adequate provision has been made against all amounts owing to the Association, which are known or may be expected to be irrecoverable.

Other Non-Current Assets

3. We have considered the requirements of the accounting standards when assessing the carrying value of any non-current assets and in ensuring that non-current assets are not stated in excess of their recoverable amounts.

LIABILITIES

General

4. All known liabilities have been recorded in the accounting records, including the liability for all purchases to which title had passed prior to the statement of financial position date.

Reservation of Title

5. Having regard to the terms and conditions of sale imposed by all major suppliers of goods including fixed assets, the creditors at the statement of financial position date include no significant amounts resulting from purchases on terms, which include reservation of title by suppliers.

Commitments and Guarantees

6. Full provision has been made for all commitments and guarantees, if any, and other events, which had occurred, by the statement of financial position date, which is expected to result in significant loss.
7. Except as disclosed in the financial report, there are no other significant financial commitments or guarantees, which although not expected to result in any loss, are relevant to assessing the Association's state of affairs.

Contingent Liabilities

8. There are no material contingent liabilities of the Association existing at balance date other than those disclosed in the financial report and no further contingent liabilities of a material amount have since come to our knowledge.

Pending Litigation and Claims

9. We are not aware of any pending litigation, which may result in significant loss to the Association.
10. We have advised you of all claims, which may result in loss to the Association.
11. Legal action brought against the Association and the Association's Management Committee by the former President Catherine Trindall, has been finalised. All transactions, including indemnification, are accounted for in the financial report at balance date. There is no further or ongoing financial liability or obligation to the Association.

Tax

12. The Association is an income tax exempt charitable institution.

Future Plans & Cash Resources

13. We have no plans or intentions that may materially affect the book value of any assets or liabilities.
14. Based on cash flow forecasts, adequate cash resources will be available to meet the Association's working capital and expenditure requirements for at least the next twelve months from the date of the financial report.

Financial Report and Accounting Records

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such enquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves:

15. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement dated 7 April 2023, for the preparation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and Associations Incorporation Regulation 2016; in particular the financial report is fairly presented (or gives a true and fair view) in accordance therewith.
16. Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
17. Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards.
18. All events subsequent to the date of the financial report and for which Australian Accounting Standards require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.
19. The effects of uncorrected misstatements are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial report as a whole. A list of the uncorrected misstatements is attached to the representation letter in Schedule 1.
20. We are responsible for the true and fair presentation in the financial report of the Association's result and financial position.
21. The principal accounting policies followed are set out in the financial report and are consistent with those adopted in the previous financial report.
22. We confirm that:
 - (a) All accounting records and supporting documents, information and explanations necessary for an understanding of the nature of the transactions entered into, the assets owned, and the liabilities and commitments incurred, by the Association have been made available to you.
 - (b) Such accounting records properly reflect the true nature of all material transactions and properly distinguish between capital and revenue items.
 - (c) There have been no irregularities involving management or employees who have a significant role in the internal control structure.
 - (d) We have established and maintained an adequate internal control structure to facilitate the preparation of a reliable financial report and adequate financial records have been maintained.

Information Provided

23. We have provided you with:
- (a) Access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial report such as records, documentation and other matters;
 - (b) We have made available complete minutes of all meetings of committee members, from 1 January 2022 to the date of the financial report;
 - (c) We have provided you with all requested information, explanations and assistance for the purposes of the audit;
 - (d) We have provided you with all information required by the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and Associations Incorporation Regulation 2016; and
 - (e) Unrestricted access to persons within the Association from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
24. All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial report.
25. We have disclosed to you all information in relation to fraud or suspected fraud that we are aware of and that affects the Association and involves:
- (a) Management;
 - (b) Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
 - (c) Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial report.
26. We have disclosed to you all information in relation to allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the Associations financial report communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.
27. We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial report.
28. We have disclosed to you the identity of the Associations related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

Insurance

29. All insurable assets and risks are to the best of our knowledge and belief fully covered by insurance.

Electronic presentation of financial information

30. In the event that the financial report is made available electronically either on the Association's website or otherwise, we confirm that:
- a) The electronic presentation of the financial report will be our responsibility;
 - b) The electronic version of the financial report and audit report will be the same as the final signed version of the financial report and audit report;
 - c) We will clearly differentiate between audited and unaudited information presented electronically and understand the risk of potential misrepresentation in the absence of such differentiation;
 - d) We will assess the security controls over the audited financial information and the audit report to ensure that we are satisfied that the procedures in place are adequate to ensure the integrity of the information provided; and
 - e) Where the audit report on the financial report is provided electronically, the full financial report will also be presented.

Economic Dependence

31. The Association is dependent on Government funded grants for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this letter the members of the committee have no reason to believe that the Government will not continue to support the Association.

We understand that your examination was made in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and was, therefore, designed primarily for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial report of the Association taken as a whole. The audit included consideration of internal control relevant to the preparation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control.

Yours sincerely

NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Incorporated



Leigh Ridgeway
Interim President

08/08/2023

Dated

SCHEDULE 1

The following uncorrected misstatements have been advised by the auditor in connection with the audit of the financial report of NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Incorporated as at 31 December 2022

Description	\$
Nil, all misstatements were corrected.	

**NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION
CONSULTATIVE GROUP INCORPORATED**

A.B.N. 29 271 072 930

FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Contents

Committee's Report

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

Statement of Financial Position

Statement of Changes in Equity

Statement of Cash Flows

Notes to the Financial Statements

Statement by Members of the Committee

Independent Audit Report

NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP INC.

COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Your committee members submit the financial report of NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Incorporated for the financial year ended 31 December 2022.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The names of committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report were:

Current Members

President – vacant
Interim President – Leigh Ridgeway
Secretary – Narelle Daniels
Treasurer – Patricia Daniel
Public Officer – Adrian Bell
Member – Lesley Armstrong
Member – Desmond Barton
Member – Elizabeth Majoras
Member – Raylene Weldon

Ceased Members

Anne Dennis – ceased 18/03/2022
Melinda Brown – ceased 18/03/2022
Tom Flanders – ceased 18/03/2022
Ken Weatherall – ceased 18/03/2022
Julie Street Smith – ceased 18/03/2022
Catherine Trindall – ceased 19/06/2023

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were to provide advice on Aboriginal education, training and policy to Government departments, educational institutions and members.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

OPERATING RESULT

The surplus from ordinary activities amounted to \$592,186 (2021 deficit: \$40,518).

EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO REPORTING DATE

Apart from the matter indicated in Note 17, there has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the Members of the Committee of the association, to affect significantly the operations of the association, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the association, in future financial years.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.



Leigh Ridgeway
Interim President

Dated: 08/08/2023

NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP INC.

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Government grants	5,230,423	4,318,042
Interest received	8,539	277
Other revenue	146,216	1,243,931
	5,385,178	5,562,250
EXPENDITURE		
Administration	445,049	149,072
Community support	83,191	5,496
Conference/meeting costs	739,479	664,084
Consultants	6,335	2,100
Depreciation & amortisation	260,096	229,112
Interest expense	9,553	10,559
Information technology & communication	194,047	60,161
Motor vehicle costs	135,647	94,164
Employee benefits expense	2,467,301	4,091,400
Property & maintenance	113,636	117,361
Regional expenses	34,615	37,837
Resources	37,446	46,465
Travel costs	266,597	94,957
	4,792,992	5,602,768
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	592,186	(40,518)
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive surplus / (deficit) for the year	592,186	(40,518)

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP INC.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	4,883,036	3,251,920
Trade and other receivables	4	235,390	13,631
Other assets	5	46,938	24,003
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>5,165,364</u>	<u>3,289,554</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Plant and equipment	6	203,872	302,488
Right of use property	7	56,485	248,919
Intangibles	8	-	1,473
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>260,357</u>	<u>552,880</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>5,425,721</u>	<u>3,842,434</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	9	515,296	434,183
Deferred income	10	2,747,999	1,639,271
Lease liability	11	54,761	150,985
Employee Entitlements	12	179,310	180,976
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>3,497,366</u>	<u>2,405,415</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Lease liability	11	6,601	101,041
Employee Entitlements	12	33,945	40,355
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>40,546</u>	<u>141,396</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>3,537,912</u>	<u>2,546,811</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>1,887,809</u>	<u>1,295,623</u>
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained surplus		1,887,808	1,295,623
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		<u>1,887,809</u>	<u>1,295,623</u>

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP INC.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Retained Surplus \$	Total \$
Opening Balance at 1 January 2021	1,336,141	1,336,141
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	(40,518)	(40,518)
Closing Balance at 31 December 2021	<u>1,295,623</u>	<u>1,295,623</u>
Opening Balance at 1 January 2022	1,295,623	1,295,623
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	592,186	592,186
Closing Balance at 31 December 2022	<u>1,887,809</u>	<u>1,887,809</u>

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP INC.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
CASHFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Grants income received		5,714,118	5,170,189
Other income received		1,175,850	2,007,452
Interest income received		8,539	277
Interest paid		(9,553)	(10,559)
Payments to suppliers and employees		(5,099,601)	(5,898,113)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	16(b)	<u>1,789,353</u>	<u>1,269,246</u>
CASHFLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Receipt from investments		-	545,403
Acquisition of other assets		(10,831)	(14,622)
Receipt from sale of other assets		-	-
Net cash (used in) investing activities		<u>(10,831)</u>	<u>530,781</u>
CASHFLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Lease principal paid		(147,406)	(106,539)
Net cash (used in) financing activities		<u>(147,406)</u>	<u>(106,539)</u>
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		1,631,116	1,693,488
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		3,251,920	1,558,432
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	16 (a)	<u>4,883,036</u>	<u>3,251,920</u>

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act of NSW 2009 and the Associations Incorporation Regulations 2010 and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 101	Presentation of Financial Statements
AASB 107	Statement of Cash Flows
AASB 108	Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
AASB 124	Related Party Disclosures
AASB 1048	Interpretation of Standards
AASB 1054	Australian Additional Disclosures

No other Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values, or except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

a. **Income Tax**

The association is registered as an income tax exempt charitable institution, accordingly no provision for income tax is necessary nor is one represented in these financial accounts.

b. **Plant and Equipment**

Fixed assets are carried at cost, less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. The useful life in year used for property, plant and equipment are 2 to 13 years.

c. **Employee Entitlements**

Provision for employee benefits in the form of Long Service Leave and Annual Leave have been made for the estimated accrued entitlements, including on-costs, of all employees on the basis of their terms of employment.

In the case of Long Service Leave, the accrual has been measured by reference to periods of service and current salary rates as it is considered that this results in an amount not materially different to that achieved by discounting estimated future cash flows.

NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

d. **Going concern (continued)**

This financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis, which contemplates continuity of normal operating activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the normal course of the Associations operations.

The continuing operations of the Association and the ability to pay its debts in the normal course is dependent upon the continued support of the funding bodies for grant income.

e. **Subsequent Events**

Apart for the matter referred to in Note 17, there has not arisen since the end of the financial year any matter or circumstance that has or may significantly affect the operations of the Association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Association in future financial years.

f. **Government Grants**

Government grants are brought to account on a cash basis, except for specific project grants that are unused at year end. In this case unused specific project grants at year end are treated as “Deferred Income” for matching against expenditure in future periods.

g. **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments and bank overdrafts.

h. **Impairment of Assets**

At each reporting date, the association reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset’s fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset’s carrying value. Any excess of the asset’s carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income statement.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the association estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

i. **Comparative Figures**

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

j. **Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues and expenses are recognised net of the amount of any applicable GST. Assets and provisions are likewise recognised net of the amount of any applicable GST. Trade creditors in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

k. **Superannuation**

Superannuation contributions are made by the Association to an employee’s superannuation fund and are charged as an expense when incurred.

NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. NSW Education Standards Authority

Operational expense invoices of the Association were submitted to NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) during the year for direct payment to suppliers. This practice was consistently applied in prior years.

NESA provides an allocation of up to \$662,189 to the association for personnel and operational expenses. Not all the allocation is utilised each year.

m. Leased Assets

Leases in terms of which the Association assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as finance leases. Upon initial recognition the leased asset is measured at an amount equal to the lower of its fair value and the present value of the minimum lease payments. Subsequent to initial recognition the asset is accounted for in accordance with the accounting policy applicable to that asset.

Leased assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives where it is likely that the Association will obtain ownership of the asset. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for the period.

Lease payments and incentives for operating leases, are now either treated similar to finance leases and are recorded in accordance with AASB 16 Leases, or where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses on a straight-line basis over the lease term where AASB 16 Leases practical expedients have been applied.

NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 \$	2021 \$
NOTE 2: AUDITORS' REMUNERATION		
Auditing or reviewing the financial report	12,800	12,000
Other services	-	-
	<u>12,800</u>	<u>12,000</u>
NOTE 3: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
General Bank Account	2,153,201	1,101,683
General Investment Account	53,346	53,170
Corporate Investment Account	2,532,736	2,020,048
Security Deposit Account	10,201	10,201
Local AECG Accounts – Held in Trust	71,856	66,403
Credit Card	60,851	-
Cash on hand	845	415
	<u>4,883,036</u>	<u>3,251,920</u>
NOTE 4: TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES		
Grants Receivable	199,280	-
Other Receivables	36,110	13,631
	<u>235,390</u>	<u>13,631</u>
NOTE 5: OTHER ASSETS		
Prepayments	46,938	24,003
	<u>46,938</u>	<u>24,003</u>
NOTE 6: PLANT & EQUIPMENT		
Office Furniture and Equipment	559,778	548,947
Motor Vehicles	321,610	321,610
Less accumulated depreciation	(677,516)	(568,069)
	<u>203,872</u>	<u>302,488</u>

NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 \$	2021 \$
NOTE 7: RIGHT OF USE ASSETS		
Property leases	223,300	426,902
Less accumulated amortisation	(166,815)	(177,983)
	<u>56,485</u>	<u>248,919</u>
NOTE 8: INTANGIBLES		
Website Development	46,857	46,857
Less accumulated amortisation	(46,857)	(45,384)
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,473</u>
NOTE 9: TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
Trade and Sundry Creditors	346,745	108,402
Local AECG Accounts – Held in Trust	71,856	66,403
Superannuation Accrual	24,528	28,241
Goods and Services Tax - net	17,959	148,415
PAYG Withholding Accrual	54,208	82,722
	<u>515,296</u>	<u>434,183</u>
NOTE 10: DEFERRED INCOME		
NSW Gov – Student Programs	431,437	-
NSW Gov – Camps & Workshops	299,505	938,368
NSW Gov – Connecting To Country	152,737	-
NSW Premiers - COVID	200,034	220,000
Paul Ramsay Foundation	872,507	200,000
NSWALC - CAPO	13,179	193,017
NSW Gov – Girls Academy	375,000	-
Federal Gov- Girls Academy	375,000	-
Sundry	28,600	87,886
	<u>2,747,999</u>	<u>1,639,271</u>
NOTE 11: LEASE LIABILITY		
CURRENT		
Right of use – Property leases	54,761	150,985
	<u>54,761</u>	<u>150,985</u>
NON-CURRENT		
Right of use - Property leases	6,601	101,041
	<u>6,601</u>	<u>101,041</u>

NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 \$	2021 \$
NOTE 12: EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS		
CURRENT		
Provision for Long Service Leave	32,680	41,087
Provision for Annual Leave	146,630	139,889
	<u>179,310</u>	<u>180,976</u>
NON-CURRENT		
Provision for Long Service Leave	33,945	40,355
	<u>33,945</u>	<u>40,355</u>

NOTE 13: LEASING COMMITMENTS

a. Operating Lease Commitments

Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements

Payable:

— not later than 1 year	119,306	32,205
— later than 1 year but not later than 5 years	2,164	6,000
— later than 5 years	-	-
	<u>121,470</u>	<u>38,205</u>

The association has elected not to recognise a lease liability for short-term (leases with a term of 12 months or less) or for leases of low value assets. Payments made under such leases are expensed on a straight-line basis.

NOTE 14: CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There are no known contingent liabilities enforceable, or likely to become enforceable, within the next 12 months which may substantially affect the association's ability to meet its obligations as and when they fall due that have not already been recognised in the financial report.

NOTE 15: RELATED PARTIES

The Association's related parties include its committee members and key management personnel. The committee members act in an honorary capacity and receive no compensation for their services during the year, apart from a fully maintained car benefit to Catherine Trindall and a one-off \$1,500 fuel allowance paid to Leigh Ridgeway. Given the community nature of the Association, from time-to-time related parties of the committee members and/or key management personnel may be engaged by the Association at arms-length commercial terms. In these instances, conflict declarations are made and where possible controls are implemented to govern the engagement.

NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	2021
	\$	\$

NOTE 16: CASH FLOW INFORMATION

(a) Reconciliation of cash

Cash on hand	845	415
Cash at bank	4,882,191	3,251,505
	<u>4,883,036</u>	<u>3,251,920</u>

(b) Reconciliation of cash flow from operating activities

Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	592,186	(40,518)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and amortisation	260,096	229,112
Investments	-	(56,885)
Loss (profit) on disposal of assets		-
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Changes in trade and other receivables	(221,759)	208,593
Changes in other assets	(22,935)	41,120
Changes in trade and other payables	81,113	161,092
Changes in employee benefits	(8,076)	(84,715)
Changes in deferred income	1,108,728	811,447
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	<u>1,789,353</u>	<u>1,269,246</u>

NOTE 17: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On 5th July 2023 Consent Orders were filed in the Supreme Court of NSW which resulted in the dismissal of any further proceedings in respect of a legal action brought against the NSW AECG and AMC Members by the former President.

A Deed of Settlement and Release was executed on 19th June 2023 by all parties in respect of the matter.

All transactions as part of the Deed of Settlement, and related to it, are fully represented in this financial report. Consequently, there is no additional or ongoing financial liability or obligation on the part of the NSW AECG in future years.

NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP INC.

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report incorporating the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Incorporated as at 31 December 2022 and its performance for the year ended on that date; and.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:



Leigh Ridgeway
Interim President

Dated: 08/08/2023

NSW AECG Secretariat

37 Cavendish Street,
Stanmore NSW 2048

Phone: (02) 9550 5666

Web: www.aecg.nsw.edu.au

Email: info@aecg.nsw.edu.au



New South Wales
Aboriginal Education
Consultative Group Inc.