

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

2014

BETWEEN **NSW Government**

AND **New South Wales Indigenous
Chamber of Commerce**



New South Wales
Indigenous Chamber of Commerce



This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) sets out how the NSW Indigenous Chamber of Commerce (NSWICC) and Aboriginal Affairs, Department of Education and Communities intend to work together to support the development of Aboriginal businesses and employment across NSW.

1. Background

OCHRE, the NSW Government's plan for Aboriginal affairs has been developed around a core belief in fostering aspirations, identifying opportunities and promoting responsibility. The business community has a key role in broadening opportunities for Aboriginal people.

Under *OCHRE*, Aboriginal Affairs is leading the development of an Aboriginal Economic Development Framework (AEDF) that is focused on making Aboriginal people the drivers of their own economic development by setting the strategic direction for NSW and coordinating activities across government to improve alignment, address duplication issues and identify gaps for future investment.

The NSWICC has been established to encourage and promote self-reliance and economic prosperity for Aboriginal Australians and their communities through commercial activity.

Aboriginal Affairs and the NSW Indigenous Chamber of Commerce have built a strong relationship through their common goals to increase economic opportunities for Aboriginal people that is now formalised through this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The Parties to this MoU agree to work with interested Aboriginal businesses to realise potential opportunities in targeted industry sectors in NSW. The projects to be explored under this MoU may include but are not limited to the development of the AEDF, and the implementation of other Government initiatives (in particular, under *OCHRE*) with a goal to increase Aboriginal business procurement, employment and job retention outcomes in NSW.

2. Term

This MoU will commence on the date it is signed by the last party and shall be reviewed annually.

The MoU will expire three years from commencement. It can however be terminated by either party by way of written notice.

3. Objectives

The Parties aim to achieve:

- a) Increased engagement with Aboriginal people, communities and organisations to promote opportunities for employment and to support small to

medium businesses through each stage of enterprise development.

- b) Sustained economic development through targeted investment and integrated support in education, training, research, business development and infrastructure.
- c) Strengthened collaboration resulting in maximum impact of their respective resources.

4. Role Statements

- a) NSWICC will:
 - i. Coordinate feedback from Aboriginal businesses to inform the ongoing development and implementation of the AEDF and other cross government economic development activities.
 - ii. Contribute support, experience, knowledge and connections to Steering Committees for IBAs to provide easier pathways to engagement with Aboriginal employees and businesses.
 - iii. Advocate as an ambassador of the AEDF and other relevant NSW Government initiatives as appropriate through involvement in committees, boards and forums.
 - iv. Contribute expertise in forming strategic alliances and networks to Opportunity Hub service providers and provide access to relationships formed from work in Industry Based Agreements.
 - v. Support Aboriginal communities participating in Local Decision Making and related initiatives to meet diverse needs with management and governance, training and links to programs and networks.
 - vi. Work with Aboriginal Affairs to achieve a collaborative and consistent approach to Aboriginal economic development across all Government agencies.
 - vii. Coordinate connections with research facilities and Universities for the benefit of projects where the opportunities may arise.
- b) Aboriginal Affairs (on behalf of the NSW Government) will:
 - i. Recognise and promote the NSWICC as a key conduit for Government consultation, activity and opportunity for the Aboriginal business sector.
 - ii. Work with the NSWICC to support businesses to drive the economic development of Aboriginal

communities in NSW.

- iii. Support the NSWICC to engage with industry peaks through Industry Based Agreements.
- iv. Work in partnership with NSWICC to strengthen the connection between education, training, employment and business with opportunities in emerging industries.
- v. Advocate for support for NSWICC priorities as appropriate, to strengthen opportunities for Aboriginal businesses.

5. Governance Arrangements

Representatives from Aboriginal Affairs and the NSWICC will attend quarterly meetings to discuss matters relevant to this MoU, including (but not limited to):

- a) Relevant Government initiatives (in particular under OCHRE, including the AEDF and Industry Based Agreements)
- b) Development and conduct of joint initiatives
- c) Current and emerging issues and research

In addition to regular meetings, further communication through representatives from the Parties is encouraged to progress outcomes.

Aboriginal Affairs will provide executive support services for the meetings.

6. Resources and Joint Projects

This MoU is based on emerging economic activity and successful partnerships between the private and public sector. As yet there is no specific funding for this MoU but as projects arise that may require funding there is scope for this to be discussed at the quarterly meetings.

7. General

The Parties agree that any formal arrangements they develop will be documented as formal agreements setting out the terms and conditions and signed by both Parties.

The Parties do not intend this MoU to be legally binding.

8. Contact Officers

NSW Indigenous Chamber of Commerce:
Debbie Barwick,
Chairperson

Aboriginal Affairs:
Jason Ardler,
General Manager


Signed by the Parties

SIGNED for and on behalf of
the NSW Indigenous Chamber of Commerce
by Debbie Barwick
Chairperson

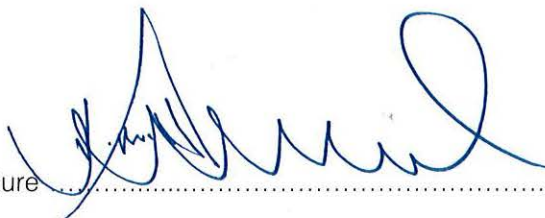
Signature 

Date 24 July 2014

Witnessed by Kristy Masella

Signature 

SIGNED for and on behalf of
The NSW Government
by the Honourable Victor Dominello M.P.
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

Signature 

Date 24 July 2014

Witnessed by Kristy Masella

Signature 