



AN INTRODUCTION TO THE GC2018 RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

Embracing 2018
XXI COMMONWEALTH GAMES





THE ARTWORK STORY

WITH SHARED **VISION**,
TOGETHER IN **UNITY**,
WE MOVE FORWARD WITH **ENERGY**,
AND LEAVE OUR **LEGACY**.

The journey begins with a vision, a vision for a reconciled Australia, where we gain strength in the knowledge and respect we share with one another. Learning from the truth of our past we look to the future with excitement and energy for all it can bring. Strong in culture and purpose, our energy sustains us on the journey where united as a nation we take small steps together, leaving behind a legacy for all that follow of a reconciled and vibrant future.

Lead artist and designer on the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games RAP artwork Jenna Lee is a proud Larrakia woman from Brisbane based Indigenous creative agency Gilimbaa. Jenna Lee's artistic practice is strongly influenced by her heritage as she takes inspiration from traditional artwork styles, drawing on the rich artistic practices of her Larrakia ancestors.

THE QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT
ACKNOWLEDGES AND RESPECTS THE
TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE
GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND AND
AUSTRALIA AND THEIR ELDERS
PAST AND PRESENT.



The Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk MP, Premier and Minister for the Arts

MESSAGE FROM THE QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT

Humanity, equality and destiny – values that unite 70 nations competing in the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018).

It is these same values that call each of us to participate in the journey of reconciliation with Australia’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

This Reconciliation Action Plan – a first in Commonwealth Games history – will help guide our efforts to acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander values, culture and heritage and advance outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Beyond Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in the Games, this plan is about creating a lasting legacy through employment and training opportunities, promoting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and culture and supporting healthy and active lifestyles.

We acknowledge and pay respect to the Traditional Owners along with the Yugambah Elders Advisory Group and Gold Coast Indigenous Working Group who have helped develop this plan.

Their contribution will ensure the Games nurtures a rich and powerful sense of community pride and ownership throughout Queensland and particularly in our event cities of the Gold Coast, Brisbane, Townsville and Cairns.

The Reconciliation Action Plan is our commitment to delivering genuine and meaningful outcomes for Queensland’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We encourage all Queenslanders to embrace GC2018 and join us on our reconciliation journey.



The Honourable Kate Jones MP, Minister for Education and Minister for Tourism, Major Events and the Commonwealth Games



The Honourable Mark Furner MP, Minister for Local Government and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships

MESSAGE FROM THE GOLD COAST 2018 COMMONWEALTH GAMES CORPORATION

There are few things more powerful in this country than the collective experience, traditions and insights that have been embodied in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples cultures over hundreds of generations.

They reach out across the expanses of time to the current generation to teach us about kinship, spirit, identity, environment and Country.

By listening to and sharing those experiences, there is much we can all learn and understand in moving forward.

And that is why the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) is so important.

In a nationwide first for major sporting events of its kind, it will build upon these learnings to deliver lasting and tangible outcomes.

It forms a genuine connection with local Traditional Custodians, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Queensland, to encourage and bring about respectful engagement with the 70 Commonwealth nations and territories which will participate in GC2018, including those that have Indigenous peoples of their country.

The RAP outlines objectives across such areas as employment, procurement, volunteering and embedding culture within GC2018.

It also focuses on enabling Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts, cultural and other businesses to further develop from the Games initiatives.

Many representatives from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community have generously donated their time and knowledge to its development with the ambition of respectfully recognising and celebrating the extensive First Australian's heritage and cultures of the Gold Coast, Queensland and Australia.

Their efforts have created a great and enduring legacy for this state and for future major events in this country. And together we are providing a Commonwealth-first benchmark for future host nations to show leadership towards greater cultural understanding within their own communities.

As a long-term legacy of GC2018, there are few that will hold greater importance and have a more authentic role in the bringing together of the First Australians and other citizens of this country and the peoples of the world.

The Honourable Peter Beattie AC,
Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation Chairman





MESSAGE FROM RECONCILIATION AUSTRALIA

Reconciliation Australia congratulates the Queensland Government on its exceptional commitment to reconciliation in Australia through the implementation of an Elevate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

From 4 to 15 April 2018, the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) will act as a watershed moment in Australia's sporting history, seeing the first RAP enacted for major sporting events in Australia, and the first such plan in Commonwealth Games history.

These efforts will have a local and global impact, with athletes, team officials and visitors coming from across the globe, and the Games being broadcast to a global audience of 1.5 billion people.

This presents an extraordinary opportunity to showcase the cultures, histories and achievements of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

To achieve this, Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation (GOLDOC) and Office of the Commonwealth Games (OCG) has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to respectful engagement with local stakeholders. Throughout this process, staff have developed and strengthened key relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians through Games Partners, the Commonwealth Games Federations (CGF), Queensland Government agencies, Indigenous councils, event cities, schools and key stakeholders.

Respectful relationships like these are fundamental to reconciliation, of which knowledge and pride in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures are critical.

The Queensland Government's commitment to reconciliation and continued learning is demonstrated in the endorsement of Reconciliation Australia's Narragunnawali: Reconciliation in Schools and Early Learning program as the primary education tool for schools and early learning centres in the reconciliation space.

Further to these efforts, the Queensland Government is moving to advance reconciliation through the undertaking of culturally appropriate and inclusive measures, including cultural workshops, training and awareness programs for their staff.

Far beyond these 11 days of competition, these RAP efforts will leave a lasting legacy – a legacy of the stories, histories, and cultures of Australia’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples - for the Gold Coast community, Queensland, Australia and for the Commonwealth. With respect, knowledge and opportunities at its core, these reconciliation actions will set new standards, both unprecedented in scope and vision, for future engagement by host countries with respect to First Nations Peoples.

On behalf of Reconciliation Australia, I commend the Queensland Government on this extraordinary achievement, and look forward to following its continued reconciliation journey.

Justin Mohamed,
Reconciliation Australia Chief Executive Officer

“THIS PRESENTS AN EXTRAORDINARY OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE THE CULTURES, HISTORIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF AUSTRALIA’S ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES.”





WHAT IS A RAP?

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLANS (RAPs) PROVIDE A FRAMEWORK FOR ORGANISATIONS TO REALISE THEIR VISION FOR RECONCILIATION.

RAPs ARE PRACTICAL PLANS OF ACTION BASED ON RELATIONSHIPS, RESPECT AND OPPORTUNITIES.

RAPs CREATE SOCIAL CHANGE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AUSTRALIANS.

- RECONCILIATION AUSTRALIA

THE GOLD COAST 2018 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

From 4 to 15 April 2018, the Commonwealth Games will be held on the Gold Coast, with events also taking place in Brisbane, Cairns and Townsville.

GC2018 will be the largest international multi-sport event ever hosted on the Gold Coast and in Queensland, and will be the largest sporting event to be staged in Australia this decade.

Across 11 days of competition, more than 6,600 athletes and team officials from 70 nations and territories will attend, competing in 18 sports and seven para-sports.

Beyond the world-class sporting and cultural events, GC2018 will leave a lasting positive legacy for communities across the state.





A RAP FOR THE GAMES

GC2018 is the first event of its kind to have a RAP. This is the result of a commitment from Games Partners to deliver legacy outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and has been led by the Queensland Government through the Office of the Commonwealth Games and Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation.

Our vision is to deliver a great Games that will recognise, respect and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. GC2018 will leave a lasting and meaningful legacy through: employment and training; procurement; showcasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and cultures; building a culturally capable workforce and providing authentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural experiences for GC2018 and beyond.

This RAP has been developed in consultation with members of the Yugambeh Language Group and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Queensland.

As the first of its kind for a major event and for a Commonwealth Games, this RAP provides a unique opportunity and a guiding framework for other Commonwealth Games host nations to show leadership towards reconciliation with their First Peoples.



GC2018 JOURNEY TOWARDS RECONCILIATION

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

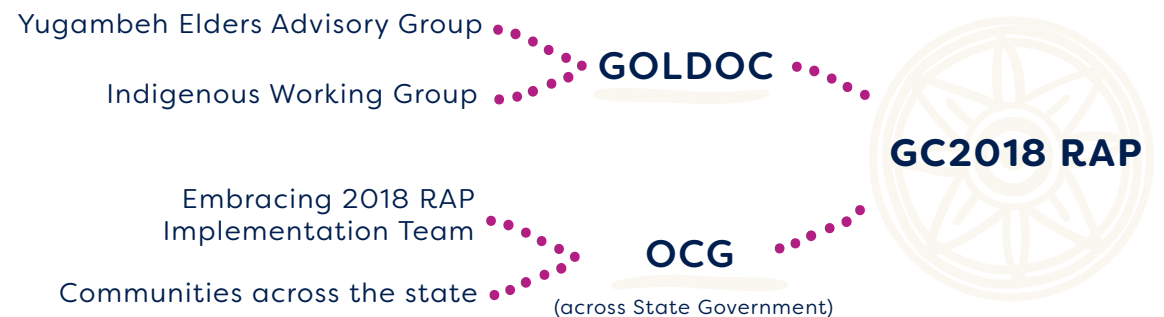
The development of this RAP has been a consultative process.

The GOLDOC Yugambah Elders Advisory Group (YEAG) and Indigenous Working Group (IWG) has been established to guide opportunities relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in GC2018 across the Gold Coast region.

The YEAG and IWG have played an integral role in supporting the identification and realisation of many GC2018 RAP activities to date.

The Office of the Commonwealth Games (OCG) is responsible for leading community engagement across Queensland with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to raise awareness of the RAP, identify legacy opportunities and to encourage participation in GC2018 activities.

The Embracing 2018 RAP Implementation Team is the primary vehicle for identifying opportunities across Government.



GC2018 RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN (RAP)

THE GC2018 RAP IS AN ELEVATE RAP - THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE OF THE FOUR TYPES OF RAPs OFFERED BY RECONCILIATION AUSTRALIA. AN ELEVATE RAP DEMONSTRATES A WILLINGNESS TO SIGNIFICANTLY EMBRACE RECONCILIATION.

This RAP is the culmination of a range of actions identified by the Queensland Government with the support of Games Partners and other Government agencies.

RAPs are built on three pillars: opportunities, relationships and respect.

OPPORTUNITIES

GC2018 provides the opportunity to create genuine participation through employment and procurement opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and businesses. Opportunities relating to GC2018 extend across Games Partners in areas such as employment, procurement, sports participation, education, language and cultural awareness.

RELATIONSHIPS

Building lasting, meaningful relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and sharing their cultures and experiences is integral to the successful delivery of GC2018. GC2018, as the largest major event the nation will experience in a decade, will aim for tangible success through building, growing and valuing stronger relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and community.

RESPECT

GC2018 provides the opportunity for a major sporting event to showcase leadership towards reconciliation in Australia, by working towards the elimination of disparities between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians.

Each of the 70 competing GC2018 Commonwealth nations and territories have their own unique culture and history. GC2018 will recognise, celebrate and respect the traditions and the unique position Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples hold as the Traditional Custodians of the land in Australia.







FIND OUT MORE

The full GC2018 RAP is published at www.gc2018.com/rap along with our reports on our progress and delivery.

For all enquiries relating to the Government contribution please contact:

OFFICE OF THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES
Department of Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games

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For all enquiries relating to GOLDOC activities please contact:

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