



Dear Colleagues,

To recognise National Reconciliation Week (NRW) 27 May - 3 June, my branch has organised a range of activities available to all ACMA and eSafety staff. These include cultural walks on country in each office location and a panel event with our recent Jawun secondees. I attach an event brief for your information. As Senior Reconciliation Champion, I encourage you to take part in these events and support your staff to participate.

Our [Reconciliation Action Plan](#) (RAP) was released on 29 August 2023.

Action 2 of the RAP is: Build relationships through celebrating National Reconciliation Week. One of our deliverables as part of this action is: Encourage and support staff and senior leaders to participate in at least one external event to recognise and celebrate NRW.

As per our commitment to the RAP, I would like to encourage all SES to participate in an external NRW activity. [Professional Development Funding](#) is available to assist with the costs associated with attending events, alternatively you can contact the Learning and Development team via HR Assist who can assist with this aspect. Reconciliation Australia has compiled an [events calendar](#) where you can search for activities and events in your state. I've highlighted a few events below that I thought looked interesting.

### **Ngunnawal Country, Canberra**

[First Nations Experiences of Democracy Tour](#) - Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House

On this 45-minute tour, you will hear stories of how First Nations Australians have created change. Learn about the Wiradjuri elders who travelled 150kms to attend the opening of Old Parliament House. Hear about the activists who campaigned for a voice in Federal Parliament and the accomplishments of Neville Bonner, the first Aboriginal Australian to be elected to parliament. Visit heritage spaces including the Prime Minister's Office and the Senate Chamber

and learn about the contributions of activists like Wenten Rubuntja, Charlie Perkins and Faith Bandler.

### **Kulin Nation, Melbourne**

#### [First Nations led tour of Pentridge Prison's former B Division](#)

A unique opportunity as part of National Reconciliation Week to learn about the First Nations experience of incarceration at HM Prison Pentridge.

The Torch artist and Keerraaywoorong man, Chris Austin will lead this talk and tour reflecting on how his art has been deeply influenced and informed by his own time spent behind the bluestone walls of Pentridge. Pentridge Prison Tours commissioned work from Chris Austin for both the Warder's Residence and B-Division, and Chris's personal and authentic storytelling is integral to the Pentridge Prison Tours experience.

### **Eora Nation, Sydney**

#### [Tokenist, ally or accomplice? How to meaningfully support Indigenous sovereignty and self-determination](#)

2024 is a year when many non-Indigenous Australians are reflecting on their engagement with First Nations people and issues. Performative action, tokenism and good intentions are not enough. How can we step up, lean into discomfort and do better? Explore the differences between a tokenist, ally and accomplice and hear practical tips on meaningfully engaging with First Nations issues and supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sovereignty and self-determination. Dr Summer May Finlay will provide a keynote address on how non-Indigenous people can stand and act with First Nations people, and a panel discussion with Prof. Lindon Coombes, Prof. Chris Cunneen and Dr Elaine Laforteza, moderated by Prof. Robynne Quiggin, will reveal further insights into how you can be actively involved.

I am proud to lead our organisation's efforts to promote a greater understanding and respect for Indigenous cultures and histories. All staff are encouraged to model our organisational value of being curious and questioning to engage with our reconciliation journey and build their knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories. This will help provide an environment where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff can thrive and be respected for their contributions and perspectives.

Regards

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