

# First Nations Peoples' Rights Working Group Meeting #2

Meeting #2-22 – 18 May 2021, 12:00pm to 1:30pm AEST / 2.00pm to 3:30pm NZST

**By Zoom** - Those registered to attend will receive a unique login from Zoom at least 24 hours prior to the meeting – please see your email inbox.

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**Attachment 1 – FY 2023 Workplan for approval** - p.7

**Attachment 2 – Gurindji film**

## Agenda

	Item	Action required
12.00 – 12.05	<p><b>1. Welcome by Chair - Alan Dayeh (Point Advisory)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Acknowledgement of Country</li> <li>○ Welcome</li> <li>○ Minutes from last meeting</li> </ul>	For adoption
12.05- 12.50	<p><b>2. Special topic presentation – Reconciliation Action Plans</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reconciliation Australia – Peter Morris, General Manager and Billie Amor, RAP Project Officer</li> <li>○ Julia Bailey (Melior)</li> <li>○ Natasha Morris (Adamantem)</li> <li>○ Q&amp;A</li> </ul>	For information & questions
12.50 - 12:55	<p><b>3. Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ First Nations Heritage Protection Alliance update (Matt Storey, National Native Title Council)</li> </ul>	For information
12.55 – 1.05	<p><b>4. Workplan FY23 and live poll (Min Wah Voon, RIAA)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ See workplan (attached)</li> </ul>	For adoption and feedback
1.05 - 1.20	<p><b>5. Objective Updates</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Collaborate with First Nations Peoples' to increase their voices in responsible investment and sustainable finance (<b>Min Wah Voon, RIAA</b>)</li> <li>2. Assist with facilitating First Nations peoples' conversations for the RI sector (<b>Myrna Machucha, Individual</b>)</li> <li>3. Facilitate education on First Nations' peoples' rights, empowerment, and leadership for the RI sector (<b>Deb Cotton, UTS</b>)</li> </ol>	For information

	<p>4. Collaborate with First Nations peoples' to promote awareness about UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and develop guidance on minimum standards and application of frameworks/tools (<b>Claire Heeps, HESTA</b>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Senate Inquiry - UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Min Wah, RIAA)</li> <li>o Dhawura Ngilan Business and Investor Initiative (Alan Dayeh, Chair/ Point Advisory)</li> </ul> <p>5. Collaborate to support First Nations Peoples' investment markets and economic empowerment (<b>Will Leak, BT</b>)</p> <p>6. Support members to challenge racism, support Truth Telling and establish inclusive culture (<b>Julia Bailey, Melior</b>)</p> <p>7. Advocate for policy that reduces gaps in wealth, income, and wellbeing (<b>Rachel Tinkler, Milford AM</b>)</p>	
1.20-1.25	<p><b>6. Other Business and Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Gurindji film – <a href="#">please view here</a> and see attachment 1</li> <li>o RIAA National Reconciliation Week Event</li> </ul>	
1.25-1.30	<b>9. Next Meeting –Thursday 18 August– <a href="#">register here</a></b>	For noting

## Minutes from previous meeting

Meeting: 17 February 2022

Item	Action required	Delegation
<p><b>1. Welcome – Chair – Alan Dayeh (Point Advisory)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledgment of country</li> <li>• Minutes from last meeting: Motion to adopt: Alan Dayeh (Chair, Point Advisory) Adopt: Erin Levey (First Australians Capital) Second: Olivia Webster (Australian Ethical)</li> </ul>		
<p><b>2. Presentation and Q&amp;A – <a href="#">First Nations Investment Screening Approach</a> – Simon Every, Head of Government and Stakeholder Relations, and Sebastian Loewenstein, Associate Director, Sustainability from the Clean Energy Finance Corporation.</b> Recording available <a href="#">here</a>. Slides available in attachment 3</p> <p>The <a href="#">First Nations Investment Screening Approach</a> considers not only negative screening but also positive screening.</p> <p>Negative screening considers three layers of law: 1) native title, 2) other statutory indigenous title and 3) cultural heritage protection legislation.</p> <p>Case Study: Project Energy Connect – electricity transmission line from New South Wales to South Australia crossing 20 different First Nations lands. CEFC has committed to \$295 million with 2.5% of the value of its engineering, procurement and construction contracts allocated to a First Nations workforce.</p>	<p>Members with follow up questions are encouraged to get in touch with <a href="#">Simon Every</a>, CEFC</p>	All

<p><b>3. Tom Widdup – First Nations Heritage Protection Alliance</b></p> <p>In November 2021 the alliance signed an agreement with the Commonwealth to co-design a reform process around cultural heritage protection. The first round of consultations with stakeholders are set to begin in the coming weeks. Investors will be considered stakeholders.</p> <p>The Alliance calls on investors as allies to ensure the government gets a strong indication from the investment sector that there is strong support to reform cultural heritage protection laws. The efforts by investors to speak up on the Western Australia cultural heritage bill were significant and they were heard by policy makers.</p> <p>First Nations peoples in Western Australia will continue to push for cultural heritage protection through regulations.</p>	<p>Members interested in supporting the alliance are encouraged to contact <a href="#">Tom Widdup (FNHPA)</a></p>	<p>All</p>
<p><b>4. Member portal update</b></p> <p>RIAA members are now able to access the <a href="#">First Nations Peoples Working Group page</a> inside the RIAA member portal. This page has the links to register to all 2022 meetings, the recordings and minutes of all past meetings and a list of resources.</p>	<p>Feedback on the member portal is welcomed</p>	<p>All</p>
<p><b>5. Objective Lead Updates</b></p> <p><b>1. Collaborate with First Nations Peoples' to increase their voices in responsible investment and sustainable finance</b></p> <p>The last bi-annual leaders meeting between RIAA and the First Nations Heritage Protection Alliance highlighted the relationships and trust that is being built. It also facilitated a quick response from the investor side regarding the WA cultural heritage bill. The press release attracted significant attention.</p> <p>This meeting and the advocacy serve as a reminder of not only the need for reform but an overall shift in national consciousness. The priorities are Dhawura Ngilan Business and Investor Initiative and the Commonwealth legislative reform.</p> <p><b>2. Collaborate with First Nations peoples' to promote awareness about UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and develop guidance on minimum standards and application of frameworks/tools</b></p> <p>We have set up the Steering Committee, chaired by Cath Brokenborough, a proud Wiradjuri woman and Executive Lead at Lendlease.</p> <p>We have identified a high-profile First Nations research partner and received several pro-bono offers from consultancy firms.</p>	<p>Members interested in getting involved can contact <a href="#">Min Wah Voon (RIAA)</a></p> <p>For more information, please contact <a href="#">Claire Heeps (HEST)</a> or <a href="#">Min Wah Voon (RIAA)</a>. Sponsorship interest should be shared by end of February.</p>	<p>All</p>

<p>The last piece of the puzzle is the funding. Investors are encouraged to get in touch if they are interested in sponsoring the initiative. Senior Steering Committee members are available to meet with senior team members if needed to provide context.</p> <p><b>3. Collaborate to support First Nations Peoples' investment markets and economic empowerment</b></p> <p>The scope of the research paper has been finalised and a sponsor request has been distributed around. We welcome and congratulate Future Super as the founding sponsor. Members interested in becoming sponsors are encouraged to contact Will Leak (BT Financial Group)</p> <p><b>4. Advocate for policy that reduces gaps in wealth, income, and wellbeing</b></p> <p>In November 2021 a submission was prepared in response to <a href="#">the inquiry on how the corporate sector is establishing models of best practice and fostering engagement with First Nations peoples</a>. The submission outlines the activities of RIAA and the outputs such as toolkits. Notably, other institutional investors, corporates and First Nations led organisations submitted insightful submissions which can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>	<p>For more information, please contact <a href="#">Will Leak (BT Financial Group)</a></p>	<p>All</p>
<p><b>6. Workplan:</b></p> <p>The draft workplan for FY2023 can be found in the slides. Members interested in leading an output are encouraged to contact Min Wah Voon (RIAA)</p>	<p>Please contact <a href="#">Min Wah Voon (RIAA)</a> for further detail or to suggest topics/speakers for future Working Group meetings</p>	<p>All</p>
<p><b>7. Next Meeting – 18 May – Register <a href="#">here</a></b></p>	<p>Register for next meeting</p>	<p>All</p>

## Action Register

NEW			
Ref	Action	Delegation	Status
22-9	Next Meeting 18 May - Register <a href="#">here</a>	All	DONE
22-8	Members interested in leading an output on the workplan please contact <a href="#">Min Wah Voon (RIAA)</a>	All	Pending
22-7	For more information on the inquiry submission please contact <a href="#">Erin Levey (First Australians Capital)</a>	All	Pending
22-6	For more information on sponsoring the research paper, please contact <a href="#">Will Leak (BT Financial Group)</a>	All	Pending

22-5	For more information on the Dhawura Ngilan Business and Investor initiative please contact <a href="#">Claire Heeps (HESTRA)</a> or <a href="#">Min Wah Voon (RIAA)</a>	All	DONE
22-4	Members interested in getting involved with the bi-annual leaders meeting can contact <a href="#">Min Wah Voon (RIAA)</a>	All	Pending
22-3	Feedback on the member portal is welcomed	All	DONE
22-2	Members interested in supporting the alliance are encouraged to contact <a href="#">Tom Widdup (FNHPA)</a>	All	Pending
22-1	Members with follow up questions are encouraged to get in touch with <a href="#">Simon Every</a> , CEFC	All	DONE

#### Previous

Ref	Action	Who	Status
21-19	Register for next meeting	ALL	DONE
21-17	If you have any feedback or would like to suggest a speaker, please contact Alan and Min Wah.	ALL	DONE
21-16	For more info on the investor statement on the WA Heritage Bill, email <a href="#">Rachel Beechinor</a> (Ardevora).	ALL	DONE
21-15	If you'd like to learn more or join the Objective 5 team, or if your organisation may be interested in partnering as a financial sponsor, please contact <a href="#">Will Leak</a>	ALL	Pending
21-14	Chris Croker (Impact Investment Partners) will help connect Alan Dayeh and Julia Bailey with the Yoorrook 'Truth Telling' Justice Commission.	CHRIS CROKER	Pending
21-13	Please reach out to any Objective Leads if you are interested to learn more.	ALL	Pending
21-12	If your organisation is interested to sponsor the Dhawura Ngilan initiative, please contact Min Wah (RIAA)	ALL	DONE
21-11	If you and your organisation would like to provide, or learn more about, providing a quote to support the Dhawura Ngilan Business and Investor Initiative – contact <a href="#">Min Wah</a> (RIAA) in the next week	ALL	DONE
21-10	Call for resources to support <a href="#">Dhawura Ngilan</a> project – contact <a href="#">Claire</a> .	ALL	DONE
21-9	Looking for sponsors for this project, part of which is to engage an Indigenous professional services firm to help manage – contact <a href="#">Min Wah</a>	ALL	DONE
21-8	Call for resources to support Objective 6 - Advocate for policy that reduces gaps in wealth, income, and wellbeing.	ALL	Pending
21-7	Call for resources to support Objective 7 - Advocate for policy that reduces gaps in wealth, income, and wellbeing.	ALL	Pending
21-6	Note and consider submission to support Uluru Statement (due March 31)	All	DONE
21-5	Share Adamantem's submission to support Uluru Statement	TM, MW	DONE
21-4	Convene discussions (internal and external) to determine how RIAA and ASFI can support advocacy for implementation of Dhawura Ngilan guide (with government and private sector)	MW	DONE
21-3	Convene discussions (internal and external) on working with Rachel and Matthew on truth-telling for investors	AD	Pending
21-2	Convene discussions (internal and external) on translating Dhawura Ngilan document for private sector	CH	DONE
21-1	Distribute latest Dhawura Ngilan document with members	MW	DONE
20-23	Plan for media/comms strategy 2021 for key moments	Alan and MW	DONE
20-22	Share key dates/moments we should be aware of for our 2021 planning	All	DONE

20-21	If anyone is interested in helping with secretariat duties for this group to get in touch with MW and AD	All	DONE
20-24	Set up quarterly meetings before HRWG meetings	MW	DONE
20-20	By COB Friday 13 November – AD and objective ‘leads’ agree priority task(s) or areas of work	Objective “Leads”	DONE
20-16	By COB Friday 6 November, members put name against 7 objectives for lead/support roles ( <a href="#">workstream doc</a> )	All	DONE
20-19	Complete the <a href="#">civil society-NGO survey</a>	All	DONE
20-18	Share any mapping/review of the First Nations landscape that may be useful to the sub-group.	All	DONE
20-17	Share investor letter to be sent to world’s top mining companies.	CH and MV	DONE
20-15	Refine workstream and share with HRWG for feedback on prioritisation	Alan	DONE
20-14	Consider what we want for a follow-up event to the August 13 and September 23 events	All	DONE
20-13	Draft TORs for FNP group	Alan	DONE
20-8	Update RIAA Board on First Nations peoples rights’ initiatives	Pablo, Min Wah	DONE
20-9	FNPR group to help inform development of RIAA Reconciliation Action Plan	TBD	DONE
20-10	Corporate engagement sub-group to develop toolkit for investors on corporate engagement on Indigenous rights and heritage protection	Michelle, Madeline, Rachel, Myrna	DONE
20-11	Map material issues as they relate to First Nations peoples in Australia, NZ/Aotearoa, other contexts.	TBD	Pending
20-1	Re-affirm what we wanted to achieve in March with NGO collaboration – and develop the outcomes from the civil society organisation (CSO) dialogue; this used to inform September half/full day event	Myrna, Min Wah (with NGO sub-group)	DONE
20-4	Start register of CSOs	Min Wah	DONE
20-7	Event speaker ideas: Reconciliation Australia; NZ equivalent	All	DONE
20-5	Start collating relevant resources	Min Wah	In progress
20-2	Bring discussion points – see “Possible Scope” below; used to inform scope and focus of topics	Nicolette	DONE
20-3	One-page briefer (Michelle); consider “Possible Scope” from Nicolette – provide to Alan for input	Michelle, Madeline, Rachel, Myrna	DONE
20-6	Schedule a meeting for end of July	Min Wah	DONE
20-12	Call out to RIAA members for new HRWG FNP recruits	Min Wah	DONE

# RIAA First Nations Peoples' Rights Working Group

## 7 Objectives and Workplan 2021-2023

Objective	Main Activity	Timeframe
1. Collaborate with First Nations peoples to increase their voices in responsible investment and sustainable finance	1a. Leaders meeting – First Nations Heritage Protection Alliance and RIAA	Nov 2021; May 2022; Nov 2022; May 2023
	1b. Explore options for ASFI – First Peoples' Financial Services Office	FY23
2. Assist with facilitating First Nations peoples' conversations for the RI sector	2a. Special topic presentations.	Quarterly meetings; RI Conference
	2b. Investor field trip - TBD	FY23
3. Facilitate education on First Nations peoples' rights, empowerment and leadership for the RI sector	See 2a.	See 2a.

# RIAA First Nations Peoples' Rights Working Group

## 7 Objectives and Workplan 2021-2023

Objective	Main Activity	Timeframe
4. Collaborate with First Nations peoples to promote awareness of UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and develop guidance on minimum standards and application of frameworks/tools	4a. Launch investor toolkit	Oct 2021
	4b. Evaluate toolkit use	FY23
	4c. Launch Dhawura Ngilan Business and Investor Initiative (DNBII)	Oct 2021
	4d. DNBII – launch guides	Oct 2022
	4e. DNBII – capacity-building	FY23
5. Collaborate to support First Nations peoples' investment markets and economic empowerment. Support Indigenous investors in becoming members of RIAA	5a. Research and mapping of Indigenous investment markets	FY23
	5b. How investors can support First Nations peoples' economic empowerment – TBD based on 5a.	FY23

# RIAA First Nations Peoples' Rights Working Group

## 7 Objectives and Workplan 2021-2023

Objective	Main Activity	Timeframe
6. Support RIAA members to challenge racism, support Truth Telling and establish inclusive culture. RIAA developing and embarking their own Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)	6a. Special topic presentations 6b. RIAA's RAP launch 6c. Resources to support members – TBD	Ongoing Oct 2021 FY23
7. Advocate for policy that reduces gaps in wealth, income and wellbeing	7a. RIAA submissions: i) Uluru Statement from the Heart, ii) corporate engagement, iii) UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples 7b. Support Commonwealth legislative reform – cultural heritage protection	2021, June 2023 1 <sup>st</sup> half 2022



**GURINDJI**  
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



**Yapakayi-nginyi Jangkarnik**  
*From Little Things Big Things Grow*

FREEDOM DAY FESTIVAL | 27-29 AUGUST 2011



## The Gurindji Story

Many people will know our story from the iconic song, *From Little Things Big Things Grow*

But we invite the RIAA to dig a little deeper. This is how we Gurindji tell it...



## **DISPOSSESSION**

For tens of thousands of years, we Gurindji people lived and thrived in our homelands in the heart of what is now known as the Northern Territory.

**When whitefellas arrived and began to occupy Gurindji Country in the late 1800s, bringing cattle and horses with them, immense pressure was placed on our traditional way of life.**

Clashes ensued, awful massacres took place and, ultimately, the pastoralists exploited the Gurindji to work on their cattle station under conditions akin to slavery.

**This shameful abuse of our people (and many others like us across Australia) went on for some 80 years.**



## **THE WAVE HILL WALK-OFF**

In the mid 1960s, Gurindji leader Vincent Lingiari said enough is enough. No longer would he and our people toil in such dismal poverty on the Wave Hill Cattle Station (owned by the British Lord Vestey).

**The incredibly brave decision was made to walk off the job, demanding they receive fair wages and conditions before they returned.**

However, what began as a wages dispute, soon became a battle for something much bigger: we Gurindji decided we didn't want Vestey's jobs even if things improved; we now wanted to rightfully reclaim our land.

**"We want to live on our land, our way," said Vincent.**



## **OUR WIN THAT CHANGED THE NATION**

Despite constant pressure, intimidation and threats, the Gurindji held strong. Even when the powers that be tried everything to break our resolve, to isolate us, to drive us to starvation, still we waited and waited.

**The courage and determination this took – especially at that time in history – is difficult to comprehend.**

After nine long years, in a watershed moment that forever changed race relations in Australia, we Gurindji won. And that famous photograph of Prime Minister Gough Whitlam ceremonially offering Vincent a handful of earth still resonates today.

**The Gurindji's bravery and resolve sparked the Aboriginal Land Rights movement and created a brighter future for all First Nations people.**



## **THE GURINDJI LEGACY**

Over the last 50 years, the heroic Gurindji story has become the subject of films, documentaries, books and songs. We are celebrated widely for our years-long fight for self-determination and the birth of Land Rights.

**We remain an enduring symbol of hope for many Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people.**

The 200 Gurindji stockmen and their families who stood up to power and won, should always be remembered as true heroes.

**In their honour, we gather on Gurindji Country every August to commemorate and celebrate them at the Gurindji Freedom Day Festival.**



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

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Gurindji Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) is our **community-owned, community development charity**. It is a **leading example of Local Decision Making** and embodies Vincent Lingiari's vision of living on our land, our way. We are proudly **blazing a trail for other Indigenous organisations** across the Northern Territory and Australia.

We deliver significant social and economic benefits across key areas of:

1. Community enterprise and local employment
2. New and improved housing for community members
3. New and improved community facilities
4. Preserving Gurindji culture and heritage (including Freedom Day Festival)
5. Supporting families, elderly and youth

You can contribute to our important community development work, including our showcase event Freedom Day Festival, with a **tax-deductible donation**.

**GAC's fully Indigenous Board of Directors oversee all contributions and ensure 100% of donations are directed to one or more of the above five focus areas.**



## BE SEEN AT OUR SHOWCASE EVENT...



Among all our community development, enterprise and self-determination successes, **GAC also delivers the annual Freedom Day Festival.**

Held on Gurindji Country every August, we gather communities, interstate visitors, business leaders, politicians, media and others, for **a long weekend of music, sports, arts, culture, tours, talks and more.**

The Gurindji Freedom Day Festival is **one of Indigenous Australia's most important and much-loved celebrations.**

**This iconic event provides our partners with an excellent platform to have their generous support publicly recognised.**



For more info, please watch:

- Our multi-award-winning [short film](#)
- Our festival [highlights video](#)

***Thank you!***

## CONTACT

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We look forward to welcoming you to Gurindji Country.

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