

Reconciliation Action Plan

January 2020 - January 2022







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The motifs used with the photographs in this plan are depictions from Dharawal rock art sites in proximity to ANSTO's Lucan Heights campus.

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Acknowledgment of Country

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of this land and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

ANSTO's three main campuses are located on the traditional lands of the Aboriginal nations of Dharawal at Lucas Heights, Eora at Camperdown and Kulin at Clayton. Furthermore, ANSTO's extensive collaborations with universities and industry partners naturally connect with other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nations on the national scale. Therefore we also recognise these peoples as Australia's first scientists, navigators, mathematicians and engineers. Their knowledge and skills are an integral part for the future growth of Australia and understanding its unique attributes.

WARNING: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are warned that the following document contains Names and images of deceased persons.

Sydney | New South Wales



Melbourne | Victoria

1 mars

Port Phillip Bay Cla

Djadjawurung

Wathaurong

Spatial relationships for the Aboriginal nations which surround the Lucas Heights (Dharawal) and Camperdown (Eora) campuses in NSW and the five clans of the Kulin Nation which Clayton Campus in Victoria sits upon.

Hawkesbury River

Guring-Gai Sydney Harbour ANSTO Camperdown campus

Port Botany

ANSTO Lucas Heights campus

Dharawal

Taungurong

Eora

Woiworung

Boonwurrung

ANSTO Clayton campus

Our vision

ANSTO's inaugural Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) has been developed with a vision consistent with ANSTO's purpose of providing nuclear science benefiting all Australians. In the context of the RAP, ANSTO's vision is:

'To foster relationships between Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians in the organisations with whom we partner; and to create opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to showcase their own abilities which leads them towards self-determination'.



Our plan and actions will be guided by this vision and also by our core values of:

- Leadership
- Excellence
- Trust and Respect

Curiosity

ANSTO is committed to advancing reconciliation through sharing cultural connections with all Australians.



Working Together

■ Safe, Secure and Sustainable

Our business

The Australian Nuclear Science and Technology organisation, ANSTO, home of Australia's expertise in nuclear science and technology, plays a leadership role in transformative science and innovation in Australia.

ANSTO operates a comprehensive array of landmark research infrastructure, including the Open Pool Australian Light-water (OPAL) multi-purpose reactor, the Australian Synchrotron, the Centre for Accelerator Science (CAS), the Australian Centre for Neutron Scattering (ACNS) the National Deuteration Facility (NDF), and the National Research Cyclotron at three campuses including Lucas Heights and Camperdown in NSW, and Clayton in Victoria.

Every year, hundreds of ANSTO scientists and about 6000 visiting national and international researchers and industry clients use these facilities. There are many strategic, international collaborations with some of the world's leading research institutes and universities.

ANSTO research focuses on investigations to support a more sustainable environment. Strategic priorities include water resources, response to environmental change, and characterising the behaviour of contaminants. Health research priorities include understanding biological processes and environmental factors that lead to disease, enhanced imaging techniques, optimising food for better health, understanding the beneficial biological response to radiation and the provision of radioisotopes and radiopharmaceuticals for diagnosis and treatment. X-ray technologies support a great diversity of health research, including protein mapping and CT imaging.

ANSTO maintains national capabilities in radionuclide metrology, the measurement and detection of ionising radiation, radioanalytical chemistry and nuclear forensics to support industry, government and scientific users.

The OPAL reactor and the cyclotron produce radioisotopes for heath research and clinical trials.

Research into the nuclear fuel cycle includes studies of fuels for nuclear reactors, understanding materials under extreme conditions, as well as managing spent fuel and waste. An Innovation Precinct with a community of users, deep technology incubator and graduate nexus is under development.

ANSTO is central to Australia's nuclear medicine manufacturing capabilities. ANSTO provides molybdenum-99, the parent isotope of technetium-99m, to Australia and the region as well as some bulk molybdenum-99 globally and a range of other health products.

Australia has a strong international role in nuclear science and technology through ANSTO. As a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors, Australia is committed to the peaceful application of nuclear science and technology. ANSTO's longterm partnership with the IAEA has important global responsibilities.

In addition we provide education opportunities at all levels, as well as community outreach programs.

With over 1200 employees, approximately 6 employees or 0.5% of ANSTO's workforce identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

A message from our CEO

It gives me great pleasure to share ANSTO's inaugural Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). ANSTO is conscious of the responsibility and the privilege it has in caretaking the unique cultures of the Traditional Owners from all Nations at its campuses.

The organisation can build on its long history of research on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage, local recognition and consultation, monitoring and remediation activities on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lands contaminated by British nuclear testing, as well as other activities that support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

I am personally committed to progressing reconciliation with the Dharawal, Eora and Kulin nations on behalf of ANSTO. To begin this process of outreach I established contact with the now deceased Dharawal Elder Les Bursill and facilitated his participation in ANSTO activities. This connection has continued through his son, John Bursill, as well as other endorsed Dharawal members.

In 2017, I established the Indigenous Australian Outreach Committee which consisted of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous staff who share my commitment to identify ways ANSTO could progress reconciliation. Membership of this committee has now been extended to staff at Clayton. We expect to initiate outreach activities with representatives from the Kulin nation.

ANSTO is committed to ensuring this RAP is a meaningful and living document that guides and informs our organisational governance and processes that support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It also provides a strategic, clear and measurable framework for translating our commitment into action. I acknowledge and thank the members of the Indigenous Australian Outreach Committee who have coordinated the development of this RAP and the Dharawal Elders and representatives who have guided us on this journey. Together we will find textures and the resilience of histories will re-emerge. ANSTO can contribute the science to amplify knowledge to Honour Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and acknowledge the deeper value system of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We look forward to continuing to be guided by our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees, volunteers, partners and stakeholders as we continue our reconciliation journey.

Dr Adi Paterson Chief Executive Officer



Our reconciliation working group

Drawing on the membership of our Indigenous Australian Outreach Committee, including two Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, we have the following employees, representing all areas of our organisation, who make up our Reconciliation Working Group:

Chair



Dale Codling Barkindji nation



Brett Rowling Descendent of Bungoree and Matora

Manager, Active Facilities and Processing of the Wannungine (Guringai) nation
Analytical Experiment Officer

Reconciliation Action Plan Champions

ANSTO's Reconciliation Action Plan Champions who actively promote our increasing awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures include Adi Paterson, Brett Rowling, Susan Bogle and Laura Dascolias.



Adi **Paterson**

Chief Executive Officer



Brett Rowling

Analytical Experiment Officer



Susan **Bogle**

Senior Communications Science Writer



Laura Dascolias

Resourcing Projects Coordinator



Champion
Chair
Champion
Vice Chair, Champi

* Retired. Working group term ended 2019.

	Radiochemist
	Principal Culture and Change
	Early Career Talent and Development Leader
	Senior Communications Science Writer
	Manager, Active Facilities and Processing
	Resourcing Projects Coordinator
	Discovery Centre Leader
	Managing Director Australian Institute of Nuclear Science and Engineering (AINSE)
	Senior Scientist, Australian Synchrotron
	Director, ANSTO Innovation Precinct
	Leader, Centre for Accelerator Science
	Senior Project Manager
	Senior Engineer
	Infrastructure Facilities Spatial Planning Manager New South Wales and Victoria
	Head of Engineering
	Radiochemist Task Leader
	NSTLI Environment, Geoscientist /Hydrogeologist
	Beamline Scientist
	Senior Accelerator Operator
on	Analytical Experiment Officer
	Research Program Manager
	ANSTO Graduate
	Cyclotron Operations Manager
	Cyclotron Operations Officer
	General Manager High Reliability
	Plant Engineer



Our reconciliation journey

ANSTO informally began involvement with Reconciliation activities in 2013 through the work of its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees. This has included the long established outreach programs of Engineering Aid Australia and their Indigenous Australian Engineering Schools for educational opportunities.

We have supported NAIDOC Week celebrations as well as providing an Acknowledgement of Country at our Staff Forums and corporate partner events. Overall this has raised awareness and interest in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures at the local scale.

In 2017, ANSTO began a formal process towards developing a RAP with the establishment of an Indigenous Australian Outreach Committee, across ANSTO's three campuses. The group currently includes two Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members. In addition, this committee liaises with external Elders, which is important as our research extends beyond the three campuses through industry and university partnerships nationally.

The main aims of this committee are to guide and further develop connections with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as well as increase the organisation's awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures both locally and across Australia. In the time leading to the present, ANSTO has implemented a number of strategies. At all major events a Welcome to Country or Acknowledgment of Country is performed combining language as well as reference to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ideologies relating to current scientific practices.



ANSTO is collaborating on a large project to elevate the importance of the world-wide unique collection of Kimberley rock art by enhancing an understanding of the geo-biochemical character of rock art pigment, a more accurate dating of the rock art using advanced analytical techniques and to provide the first comprehensive study of landscape and climate change of the region over the past 100,000 years.



Two murals representing Dharawal engravings located upon ANSTO's Lucas Heights lands were designed and brought to life by local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and students in the Strong Sisters and Strong Brothers program at Endeavour High School.

The second section of the Dharawal mural was completed in December 2019.



The use of appropriate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander words on the campuses has been undertaken through endorsement of the local Elders of both the Wannungine and Dharawal Nations. This includes naming of our meditation rooms Kulnurra, a Wannungine word meaning into the clouds, as well as naming ANSTO's technology park nandin, Dharawal for look ahead.

ANSTO's scientific researchers have conducted projects in the field for over 40 years. Much of this research has been enabled and enhanced through interactions with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. To formally recognise these significant contributions and reinforce these collaborations, a prospectus outlining our activities in this area has been produced and an interactive online resource is being developed to capture this information.

ANSTO is exploring ways in which it can better support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in both research projects and the scientific workforce. For instance, ANSTO has been using its scientific expertise to assist with understanding Australia's Aboriginal history through its work with The Kimberly Foundation in dating rock art. In future ANSTO aspires to have the local peoples undertake and interpret their own research.

All of these strategies provide exposure to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, directly and indirectly, to employees from ANSTO's diverse backgrounds and encourages them to participate in our reconciliation journey.

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Relationships

ANSTO has been a part of the broader Australian community for more than 60 years. Our research is performed nationwide and so it engages with many different Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities who have connections to Country spaning back thousands of years. ANSTO is proud to continue to build and strengthen our relationships with these first nation communities.

Through their intrinsic understanding and scientific approach Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples understanding of the Australian environment is important to ANSTO as it provides the potential to develop new sustainable solutions.

It is important for people from these Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to be an integral part of these research activities ANSTO undertakes when on Country. Furthermore through the combined application of modern techniques, their continued connection to Country is ensured.

ANSTO recognises the importance of enabling Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples themselves, as part of their self-determination, to impart their knowledge, skills and history directly.

Demonstrating ANSTO's commitment to building and strengthening these relationships, ANSTO's own environmental researcher Brett Rowling is able to perform groundwater sampling at Kulnurra, on the western end of his ancestral lands, in order to continue take care of country, which in his language is **Maniau oo millyan goori**.





ACTION	DELIVERABLE	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE
The ANSTO Reconciliation Working Group (RWG) actively monitors development, implementation, progress and reporting of our reconciliation efforts	Develop, endorse and launch RAP.	Analytical Experiment Officer with key input from First Nations RWG Members	January 2020
	Ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are represented on RWG.	General Manager High Reliability	January 2020, 2021
	Draft and review RWG terms of reference and obtain approval from Chief Executive Officer.	General Manager High Reliability	January 2020
	RWG to meet quarterly per year to monitor and report on RAP implementation.	General Manager High Reliability	January, April, July and October 2020, 2021
Provide opportunities to build and maintain relationships between	Circulate Reconciliation Australia's NRW resources and reconciliation materials to our employees.	Senior Communications Science Writer	May 2020, 2021
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians through	Ensure our RWG participates in an external event to recognise and celebrate NRW.	Facility Officer with key input from First Nations RWG Members	May 2020, 2021
celebrating and participating in National Reconciliation Week (NRW)	Organise at least one NRW event each year and encourage ANSTO employees to participate.	Facility Officer with key input from First Nations RWG Members	May 2020, 2021
	Register ANSTO'S NRW event via Reconciliation Australia's NRW website.	Principal Culture and Change	May 2020, 2021
Develop and implement an engagement plan to work with Aboriginal and	Liaise with our RWG to identify key stakeholders to involve in the development of the engagement plan.	Manager Australian Institute of Nuclear Science and Engineering	March 2020
Torres Strait Islander peoples, internally and externally	Seek internal and external advice from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to assist in the development of guidelines for ANSTO's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander engagement plan.	Facility Officer with key input from First Nations RWG Members	August 2020
Develop and maintain mutually beneficial relationships with Aboriginal and	Identify our current Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research collaborators.	Environment Geoscientist / Hydrogeologist	February 2020
Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities and organisations to support positive outcomes	Include contact details of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in our online database to maintain connections with our current and future collaborations on Country.	Senior Communications Science Writer	February 2020
	Liaise with existing collaborators who work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities to understand these relationships, and any potential synergies.	Environment Geoscientist / Hydrogeologist	March 2020
	Meet with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to develop guiding principles for future engagement.	Facility Officer with key input from First Nations RWG Members	September 2020, 202
Identify and implement ways to engage internal and external stakeholders	Develop and implement a strategy to communicate our RAP to internal and external stakeholders.	Senior Communications Science Writer	January 2020
and all ANSTO employees in our reconciliation journey	Promote reconciliation through ongoing active engagement with stakeholders, including invitation to relevant meetings and events.	General Manager High Reliability	March, July, Septemb 2020, 2021
	Include an overview of the RAP as part of employee induction process.	Early Career Talent and Development Leader	February 2020
Promote positive race relations through anti-discrimination strategies	Conduct a review of HR policies and procedures to identify existing anti-discrimination provisions, and future needs.	Resourcing Projects Coordinator	April 2020
	Develop, implement and communicate an anti-discrimination policy for our organisation.	Discovery Centre Leader	May 2020
	Engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff and/or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander advisors to consult on our anti- discrimination policy.	Facility Officer with key input from First Nations RWG Members	May 2020, 2021
	Educate senior leaders on the effects of racism.	Principal Culture and Change	March 2020, 2021



Respect

Through increasing awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, ANSTO employees will have an improved understanding of principles such as Lore customs and knowledge.

At ANSTO, we want to recognise and embrace the sacred relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their lands. We have a responsibility to engage with the local communities to ensure our research activities of ANSTO and associated partners respect the cultural significance of sites, objects and places we may encounter.

ANSTO intends to introduce cross cultural awareness training to our Reconciliation Working Group. This training should be delivered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, as they are the appropriate Custodians of cultural information.

When there is contact with a specific group, additional cultural information about that group will be shared and training offered (if available). For example, discussions over the proposed National Nuclear Waste Repository in South Australia, have involved the Adnyamathanha people.

As resources allow, a longer term plan to make cross cultural information available to all staff will be explored and added as a learning resource.





	ACTION	DELIVERABLE	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE
7	Build employee understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and achievements	Develop and implement an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural awareness training strategy for our people that defines cultural learning needs in all areas of our business and considers various ways cultural learning can be provided, including immersion experiences.	Early Career Talent and Development Leader	March 2020
		Investigate local cultural experiences and immersion opportunities.	Early Career Talent and Development Leader	March 2020
		Investigate opportunities to work with local Traditional Owners and/ or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consultants to develop cultural awareness training.	Early Career Talent and Development Leader	April 2020
		Provide opportunities for Reconciliation Working Group members, RAP champions, HR managers and other key leadership staff to participate in cultural training.	Early Career Talent and Development Leader	August 2020, 2021
8	Build employee understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	Implement and communicate guidelines for Welcome to Country, Acknowledgement of Country and other cultural protocols.	Analytical Experiment Officer with key input from First Nations RWG Members	March 2020
	cultural protocols	Develop a list of key contacts for organising a Welcome to Country.	Analytical Experiment Officer with key input from First Nations RWG Members	January 2020
		Invite a Traditional Owner to provide a Welcome to Country at significant events such as NAIDOC Week.	Analytical Experiment Officer with key input from First Nations RWG Members	June 2020, 2021
		Ensure a Welcome to Country or Acknowledgement of Country is provided at the commencement of important internal and external events.	Infrastructure Facilities Spatial Planning Manager NSW and Vic	January 2020, 2021
		Display an Acknowledgement of Country plaque within our office buildings.	Senior Communications Science Writer	May 2020
9	Recognise and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage	Maintain strong and operationally integrated Cultural Heritage Guidelines to respect places and sites of significance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.	Infrastructure Facilities Spatial Planning Manager NSW and Vic	September 2020, 2021
10	Provide opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees to engage with their cultures and communities by celebrating NAIDOC Week	Provide opportunities for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees to participate with their cultures and communities during NAIDOC Week.	Facility Officer with key input from First Nations RWG Members	July 2020, 2021
		In consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders, hold an internal NAIDOC Week event.	Facility Officer with key input from First Nations RWG Members	July 2020, 2021
		Provide opportunities for all employees to participate in NAIDOC Week activities.	Principal Culture and Change	July 2020, 2021
		Review HR policies and procedures to ensure there are no barriers to staff participating in NAIDOC Week.	Resourcing Projects Coordinator	March 2020
11	Host a screening from the Reconciliation Film Club to encourage employees to develop a deeper understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' perspectives and histories	Promote and invite all ANSTO employees to a screening of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander documentaries.	Senior Communications Science Writer	July 2020, 2021



Opportunities

ANSTO has a number of well-established partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples with research activities specific to their Country. These provide unique research avenues to validate the linguistic transfer of knowledge and skills of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples by connecting with ANSTO's nuclear measurement based techniques.

In the longer term, ANSTO recognises that showcasing our respect of Country will encourage future research projects to be self-driven by Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



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	ACTION	DELIVERABLE	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE
12	Investigate opportunities to improve and increase Aboriginal and Torres	Collect information on our current Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees to inform of future employment opportunities.	Resourcing Projects Coordinator	February and July 2020, 2021
	Strait Islander employment outcomes	Develop and implement an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment pathways cadetship or traineeship in partnership with an external provider.	Early Career Talent and Development Leader	April 2020, 2021
		Advertise employment vacancies in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander media for current and future employees participating in our workplace.	Resourcing Projects Coordinator	April 2020, 2021
		Develop and implement an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment and Retention strategy.	Resourcing Projects Coordinator	April 2020, 2021
		Engage with existing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees to consult on employment strategies, including professional development.	Resourcing Projects Coordinator	May 2020, 2021
		Review HR and recruitment procedures and policies to ensure there are no barriers to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees and future applicants participating in our workplace.	Resourcing Projects Coordinator	October 2020, 2021
		Support and encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees to take on leadership positions.	Principal, Culture and Change	February 2020, 2021
13	Build employee understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	Develop an understanding of the mutual benefits of procurement from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned businesses.	Infrastructure Facilities Spatial Planning Manger NSW and Vic	February 2020
	supplier diversity	Develop and communicate to staff a list of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses that can be used to procure goods and services.	Infrastructure Facilities Spatial Planning Manger NSW and Vic	June 2020
		Develop at least one additional commercial relationship with an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander-owned business.	Infrastructure Facilities Spatial Planning Manger NSW and Vic	July 2020, 2021
		Review and update ANSTO's Indigenous Australian Procurement Plan.	Infrastructure Facilities Spatial Planning Manger NSW and Vic	July 2020, 2021



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Governance, tracking progress and reporting





Governance, tracking progress and reporting

	ACTION	DELIVERABLE	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE
1/	Provide appropriate support for effective implementation of	Define resource needs for RAP implementation.	Principal, Culture and Change	February 2020, 2021
14	RAP commitments	Engage our senior leaders and other staff in the delivery of RAP commitments.	Principal, Culture and Change	March, September 2020, 2021
		Define and maintain appropriate systems to track, measure and report on RAP commitments.	Principal, Culture and Change	July 2020, 2021
		Appoint and maintain an internal RAP Champion from senior management.	Principal, Culture and Change	January 2020, 2021
15	Report RAP learnings, challenges and achievements internally	Complete and submit the annual RAP Impact Measurement Questionnaire to Reconciliation Australia.	Principal, Culture and Change	30 September 2020 2021
	and externally	Report RAP progress to all staff and senior leaders.	Principal, Culture and Change	April and September 2020, 2021
		Publically report our RAP learnings, challenges and achievements.	Principal, Culture and Change	October 2020, 2021
		Investigate participating in Reconciliation Australia's biennial Workplace RAP Barometer.	Principal, Culture and Change	May 2020
16	Review, refresh and update RAP	Register via Reconciliation Australia's website to begin developing our next RAP based on our learnings, challenges and achievements.	Resourcing Projects Coordinator	June 2021

Contact

For more details on ANSTO's Indigenous Australian Working Group and the RAP, contact **Brett Rowling** and **Dale Codling** at **indigenoussupport@ansto.gov.au**.





Australian Government



Lucas Heights | Clayton | Camperdown

www.ansto.gov.au ———

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