



Wagyl Kaip Aboriginal Corporation

ANNUAL REPORT 2022





CHAIR'S REPORT

This is the first annual report for the Wagyl Kaip Aboriginal Corporation, which comes at a really exciting moment in our journey towards establishing the Settlement and making it work for all Noongar people.

Our regional corporation has made a great deal of progress since our pre-incorporation meeting in June last year. Our first general meeting was held in Kojonup on Saturday 11 June 2022. Thank you to everyone who made the effort to attend, either in person or online, to be part of this historic moment.

Our first cultural advice committee (CAC) was elected at the meeting, and they are progressing business regarding cultural matters.

We have now appointed our first expert directors, Megan Anwyl and Tony Noonan, who we believe will bring great talent and expertise to our board. We are now focussed on the final steps towards endorsement by the State and by the Trustee.

At the time of writing this report, we are also about to appoint our first CEO, who will begin the work of hiring staff and finding office space, along with all the other necessary work to make our corporation run effectively.

The Noongar Boodja Trust has now received two of its annual payments, and the Noongar land estate has already received its first parcels of land. We will continue to accept more land over the next few years, to be used for cultural, social and commercial projects. The resources of the Trust and the central services corporation will support our work on projects that will improve social and economic outcomes for Noongar people, including jobs, housing and support for cultural heritage.

As a corporation, we're committed to transparent communication with members so that we can all be empowered to participate in the work of our corporation and to contribute to its success.

Our website will contain all the formal documents you may need to refer to, and all the latest news and events information, especially through during the next few busy months.

The website also includes an online membership form, and we encourage you to make sure your friends and family join our corporation so that we have many voices contributing to the best possible outcomes for our people.

Find us online at wagylkaip.org.au.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in this journey to this point. We are excited to continue the work of building a strong, sustainable and united Noongar Nation in 2023.

Malcolm Williams
Wagyl Kaip Chair



PROGRESS UPDATE

PREINCORP MEETINGS

Our initial directors volunteered a huge amount of time and effort to bring our corporation to where it is today. Since our pre-incorporation meeting, the initial directors met monthly or as needed to work towards setting up the corporation.

Our initial directors were Lindsay Dean, Jeanice Krakouer, Craig McVee and Merindah Bairnsfather-Scott.

During their terms, they successfully registered the corporation with ORIC, gained charitable status and an ABN, and registered our corporation's name. They also processed the first rounds of membership applications, member director elections and cultural advice committee nominations.

We greatly appreciate and value all the work these people have done to get us to this point.

MEMBERSHIP

The initial directors of the Wagyl Kaip Aboriginal Corporation held a successful membership drive prior to the first general meeting, with 1,041 members joining the corporation. Applications for membership were made online via the SWALSC website, and through hardcopy forms.

These applications were considered by the initial directors who met ten times to decide on membership acceptance, rejection or whether more information was required.

Noongar people with family connections to the Wagyl Kaip region are encouraged to fill out the membership application form on our website at wagylkaip.org.au/join.

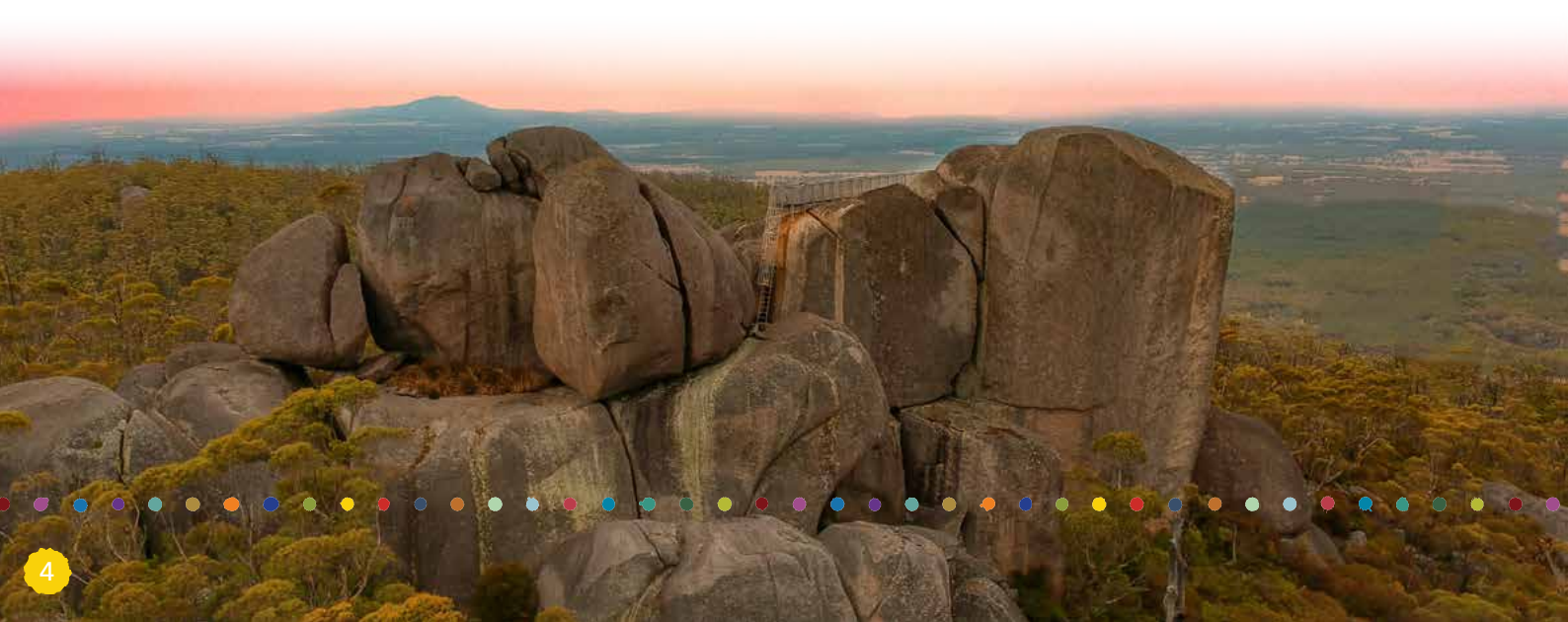
ELECTIONS

The Wagyl Kaip Aboriginal Corporation held two successful ballots this year, one via post and the other in person and online at the first General Meeting.

The elected board of directors was held by postal ballot. The successful candidates were Mervyn Eades, Malcolm Williams, Jeanice Krakouer and Oscar Colbung.

They will be responsible for strategic and financial directions of the corporation, with a number of specific tasks required in the immediate future.

The directors have already appointed two expert directors, Megan Anwyl and Tony Noonan, begun recruiting a CEO, and are now working towards finding a suitable office location and setting out a strategic plan.



Members of our first cultural advice committee (CAC) were elected by private ballot at the first general meeting. The CAC is made up of Elders who consider matters relevant to culture and make decisions to promote and protect cultural interests of the region.

The female members of the CAC are: Wendy Williams and Iris Kaye Woods (term end 2025); Olivia Roberts and Roni Gray-Forrest (term end 2024); Averil Dean and Deanna Eades (term end 2023).

The male members of the CAC are: Mark Colbung and David Williams (term end 2025); Denis Hayward and Gordon James Krakouer (term end 2024); Robert Eades and Terrance Rodney (term end 2023).

FIRST GENERAL MEETING

The Wagyl Kaip Aboriginal Corporation's first general meeting was a success, with members attending both online and in person in Kojonup, on Saturday 11 June 2022.

After a Welcome to Country from Archie Michael, the meeting was chaired by Jeanice Krakouer and facilitated by Think Culture.

The first cultural advice committee (CAC) for the Wagyl Kaip Aboriginal Corporation was elected by private ballot, with twelve successful candidates.

The outgoing initial directors were thanked for their hard work in setting up the corporation.

The first member elected directors – Mervyn Eades, Malcolm Williams, Jeanice Krakouer and Oscar Colbung – began their terms at the close of the meeting, and are now busy on the next stages of gaining endorsement as the regional corporation, by both the Noongar Boodja Trust and the State.

In her report as interim board chair, Jeanice Krakouer celebrated the historic occasion, and updated members on the journey so far.

"Thank you so much to every one of you who have joined us. The more members we have

the more effective we will be in our efforts to build our a strong, sustainable, united Noongar Nation," Jeanice said.

"The Southwest Native Title Settlement is a momentous part of our long history as Noongar people. As we all know, it has taken us many, many years for us to get to this point.

"It has taken our past Elders many more years, and some of them were not able to see this day. So, we honour them by continuing their work, to protect and respect our corporation and its potential.

"Now that regional corporations are ready to start work, we will start seeing the results of all of that time and effort."

INDUCTIONS AND MEETINGS

At the close of the first general meeting, the board of directors and the cultural advice committee took up their roles. Shortly after, on Monday 27 June, the directors met at SWALSC for their induction to the role, followed up by their regular meetings. Prior to the general meeting, the directors also took part in an information session.

The board of directors have met regularly since their election and will continue to meet monthly.

The cultural advice committee also met for an induction after the first general meeting, on Monday 18 July, and will also meet monthly.

To get in touch with the board or the cultural advice committee, email regionalcorporations@noongar.org.au.

YOUR NEW BOARD

JEANICE KRAKOUER

Jeanice has provided decades of service for Noongar people, including two terms as the Chair of SWALSC. She knows the importance of families, culture, language, and connection to country to make our people strong.

OSCAR COLBUNG

Oscar has represented the community on committees including Aboriginal Legal Service, ATSIC, SWALSC, and local Aboriginal community controlled organisations.

MERVYN EADES

Mervyn is the founder and CEO of Ngalla Maya Aboriginal Corporation, a non-profit organisation providing education, pre-employment training, mentoring and employment support to Aboriginal ex-offenders and their families.

MALCOLM WILLIAMS

Malcolm has been a public servant in education, training and employment sectors for nearly 34 years, with experience in cultural awareness, funding and grants, project management, strategic planning, and policy development.

MEGAN ANWYL, EXPERT DIRECTOR

Megan is a government relations consultant, after careers as a lawyer and member of state parliament. She loves getting out on country and looks forward to meeting the members of Wagyl Kaip and their families.

TONY NOONAN, EXPERT DIRECTOR

Tony has a background in education, mining and civil construction, HR and business development. He looks forward to learning more about Noongar culture.

YOUR CULTURAL ADVICE COMMITTEE

Each regional corporation has a cultural advice committee made up of Elders who consider matters relevant to culture, and make decisions to promote and protect our cultural interests.

Matters that may be decided by the committee include:

- Determining what cultural connection exists, or could exist, to support a piece of land being considered 'Cultural Lands' as part of the Noongar Boodja Trust.
- Determining those people who have most knowledge of relevant lands in order for surveys to be properly conducted.
- Determining how cultural knowledge should be recorded, and when and how it is shared with others.
- Determining how Noongar cultural protocols and practices should be acknowledged, valued, honoured and respected, including through welcome to country practices.

FEMALE MEMBERS OF THE WAGYL KAIP CAC:

WENDY WILLIAMS
IRIS KAYE WOODS
OLIVIA ROBERTS
RONI GRAY-FORREST
AVERIL DEAN
DEANNA EADES

MALE MEMBERS OF THE WAGYL KAIP CAC:

MARK COLBUNG
DAVID WILLIAMS
DENIS HAYWARD
GORDON JAMES KRAKOUER
ROBERT EADES
TERRANCE RODNEY

LANDS UPDATE

THE NOONGAR LAND ESTATE

The State Government, via the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DLPH), have continued to offer land to the Noongar Boodja Trust (NBT) with year two lands now provided. The NBT will be consulting with the Wagyl Kaip Aboriginal Corporation cultural advice committee regarding acceptance of these lands.

It is expected this consultation process will commence in early 2023.

LAND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

SWALSC, as the central services corporation, has been working closely with an IT consultant to design the specifications for an online land management system.

This system will be available to us and each regional corporation to assist with scheduling of land management obligations, cost tracking, mapping of individual land parcels as well as Noongar cultural values, manage Noongar Standard Heritage Agreement processes, and provide advice regarding Noongar land access and the undertaking of Noongar customary activities.

SWALSC will now seek quotes to build the land management system and expects to complete work before the end of 2022.

SOUTH COAST MARINE PARK

The State Government has been undertaking community consultation in order to establish a marine park on the south coast, adjacent to the Fitzgerald National Park, between Bremer Bay and Hopetoun.

SWALSC has worked closely with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) to engage a consultant to undertake 'interim consultation' with Noongar people from the Wagyl Kaip area to ensure that

Noongar interests and values are taken into account during the marine park design phase.

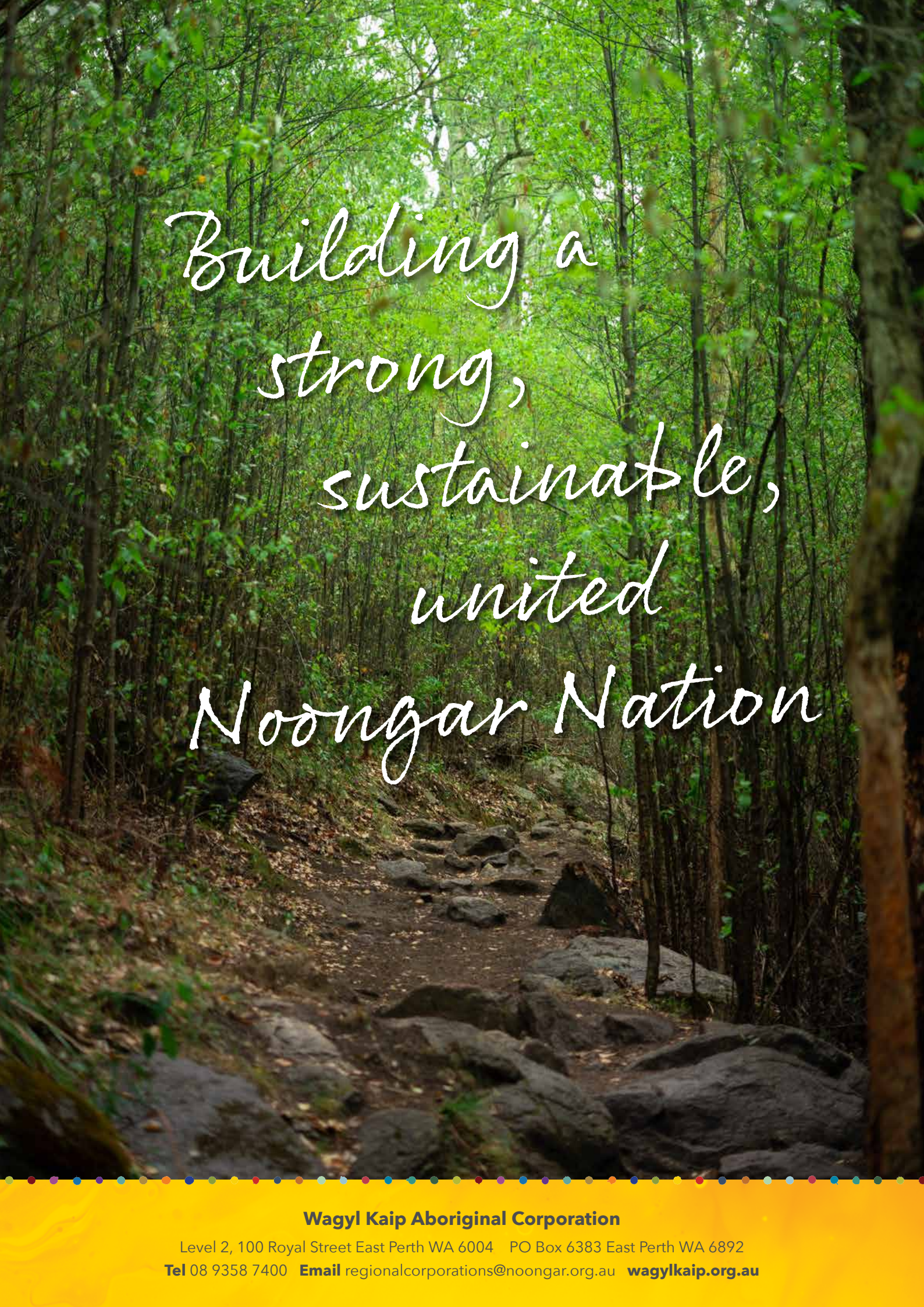
Our cultural advice committee has now selected six senior Noongar representatives to continue to work with DBCA to ensure that Noongar cultural values and interests are protected. It is expected that the new marine park will be jointly managed by DBCA and the Wagyl Kaip Aboriginal Corporation.

Negotiations regarding the protection of Noongar values and joint management of the park are expected to be finalised in 2023.

SWALSC LANDS SUPPORT

The SWALSC land unit is continuing to work with us to help meet our obligations under the South West Native Title Settlement (SWNTS). This will include support around the establishment of the Cooperative and Joint Management Agreements and Committees with DBCA (Parks and Wildlife) to cooperatively manage all of the Conservation Estate; supporting and facilitating the selection, management and activation lands for Noongar social, economic and cultural purposes; and providing ongoing services and advice in regards to all SWNTS land matters including Noongar land access regimes, the protection of Noongar heritage and values and development of Noongar land management capacity.

For more information on these projects contact SWALSC's lands coordinator, Justin McAllister, on 9358 7400 or at justin.mcallister@noongar.org.au.



*Building a
strong,
sustainable,
united
Noongar Nation*

Wagyl Kaip Aboriginal Corporation

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