



# STATEMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

We acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as Canberra's first inhabitants and traditional custodians of the ACT and Region. We recognise the special relationship and connection to country that the Ngunnawal people have with this area since time immemorial.

Ngunnawal were a thriving community whose cultural practices were and still are core to their physical, social and spiritual wellbeing encompassing all aspects of their livelihoods, cultural practices and families.

The Ngunnawal Nation includes seven clans which bear resemblance to some of the place names across the ACT and region. These place names reflect some of the clan groups of the Ngunnawal Nation. For example clans such as Maloongoola known as Molonglo, the Biyaligee known as Pialligo, the Namitch or Namwitch known

as Namadgi, Cumbeyan known as Queanbeyan, the Toogoranoongh known as Tuggeranong.

There is also the clans Woolobaloah and the Ganberra that lived in the Belconnen area. Kanberri in location was central to the seven clans and the word Canberra comes from the word Kanberri, meaning meeting place.

There are many significant cultural sites around the ACT. These include Kanberri/Belconnen in close proximity to Ginninderra Creek which holds significant cultural relevance in social, spiritual, and historical contexts for the Ngunnawal people. It is recognised in this place through their knowledge, Song Lines, Ceremonial Areas, Corroborees, Women's Business, the Wedgetail Eagle and pathways that connect community.

This statement has been prepared by MurriMatters in consultation with Ngunnawal representatives in February 2021.

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