

NATIONAL FIRST PEOPLES GATHERING ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Communique from the fourth Steering Committee meeting

11 May 2020

The National First Peoples Gathering on Climate Change (NFPGCC) aims to celebrate, learn from and enhance First Peoples-led climate change action.

It will build on earlier meetings held in 2012 and 2018 hosted by Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation on their country. The report from the 2018 meeting is available on the [Earth Systems and Climate Change Hub website](#).

The NFPGCC Steering Committee held its fourth meeting online on 11 May 2020 to discuss the progress of arrangements for the NFPGCC in the face of ongoing COVID-19 disruptions.

Attendees

Steering Committee participants in attendance were:

- Djarra Delaney
- Samarla Deshong (Qld)
- Bianca McNeair (WA)
- Damian Morgan-Bulled (Vic) – meeting chair
- Jamie Graham (Lutruwita/Tas)
- Jason Wilson (NSW)

Apologies were received from Josh Gilbert (ESCC Hub Steering Committee).

Mandy Hopkins, Rowena Bullio, Marian Sheppard and Karen Pearce from the Organising Committee were in attendance, along with Taha Cowen from the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources.

Steering Committee membership

The Organising Committee is still in the process of identifying representatives from South Australia and the Northern Territory.

Branding

Keisha Thomson from [Leon Design](#) presented three design concepts to the Steering Committee for branding of the NFPGCC and other Indigenous engagement activities facilitated by the ESCC Hub.

The favoured concepts conveyed (1) pathways for moving forward and defining the future and (2) layers of knowledge, experience and history to provide the foundations to a sustainable future. A design will be selected before the next meeting.

Gathering dates

Uncertainty remains surrounding the resolution of COVID-19 disruptions, so a decision on timing has again been held over. March/April 2021 is still a possibility, the timing may affect the location.

Location

The Steering Committee has received information from the Biliya Koort Boodja Centre in Northam, Western Australia to allow them to consider this as a possible location for the Gathering. The Steering Committee also decided they need to have a number of location options on the table, to accommodate post-COVID disruptions and logistics, and that ideally potential locations would have a Steering Committee member on the ground to make organising logistics easier.

Djarra will look at options on Quandamooka/ Stradbroke Island (although he is currently in Melbourne) and Jamie will look at Lutruwita/ Tasmania. Both will put out feelers and come back to the group at the next meeting. Darwin is another option the Steering Committee would like to explore.

Next meeting

The next Steering Committee meeting will be on 22 June, via videoconference.

The National First Peoples Gathering on Climate Change is being supported through the Earth Systems and Climate Change Hub of the Australian Government's National Environmental Science Programme.

For more information contact Mandy Hopkins on 03 9239 4649 or mandy.hopkins@csiro.au