

# BADJI

## NEWSLETTER

MAY  
2023

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**ABORIGINAL AND TORRES  
STRAIT ISLANDER BUSINESS  
SUPPORT PROGRAM**



**ACT**  
Government

# Message from Julie Jenkins



## BUSINESS SUPPORT CONCIERGE

As winter approaches most of us tend to hibernate. Why not spend a little of your down time taking advantage of all the free online courses available. You can rug up, sit in your slippers, sip a hot chocolate all from the comfort of your own home or our beautiful light filled office space.

What are you waiting for?

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*The BADJI Business Support Program is an initiative by the ACT Government for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the ACT to grow their business and for entrepreneurs to start one up*

We are an ACT majority-owned and managed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander company.

And we have a wealth of lived and learned experience to share with First Nations businesses.



Our Director **Katrina Fanning AO PSM** being presented as an Officer of the Order of Australia at the Government House Investiture Ceremony, 20 April 2023.

Australian Honours and Awards

## WHAT DO WE DO?

### We're here to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses and Entrepreneurs in the Canberra Region

- ✔ We help you with the qualifying documentation for Supply Nation registration.
- ✔ We find the specific Business Mentoring and Coaching services you need.
- ✔ We search available business grants that you could be eligible for.
- ✔ We find opportunities for you to study in an Accelerated Business Program.
- ✔ We can assist you to up-skill your business and IT skills.
- ✔ The Business Support Concierge is here to guide you along the journey to business success.
- ✔ Bring your laptop to use a spacious desk in our Woden workspace with access to wi-fi, printer and phone facilities.
- ✔ We have resources to connect you with everything your business may need.
- ✔ We are available Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm

*The Program was gifted the name "BADJI" by Ngunnawal Elder Caroline Hughes, meaning "Arise" in the Ngunnawal language.*

*Commissioned artwork by Yarrudhamarra Creations.*

**To view or download these previous Newsletters, and to subscribe, visit our website:**

[www.coolamonadvisors.com.au/badji-business-support-program](http://www.coolamonadvisors.com.au/badji-business-support-program)



# BADJI HOSTED LUNCHEON IN OUR OFFICES WITH BUSINESSES AND STAKEHOLDERS ATTENDING




The hosted luncheon held in our Coolamon Advisors office in early May was delightful.

We particularly enjoyed observing one of the Program participant's lively conversation with a service provider. And afterwards to hear that an offer of funding was made for the business to take their great idea to the next level. Of course the participant was ecstatic. A very happy story we were pleased to be a part of. We will watch with great interest how this business progresses.

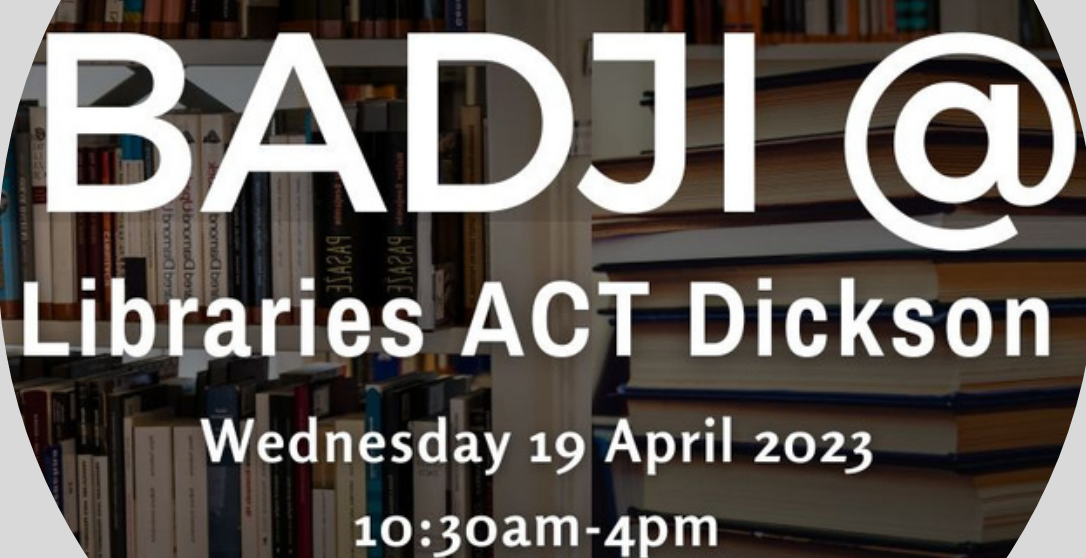
Missed the event?  
We missed you!

Follow us on  
Facebook to be  
sure and catch  
the next one.

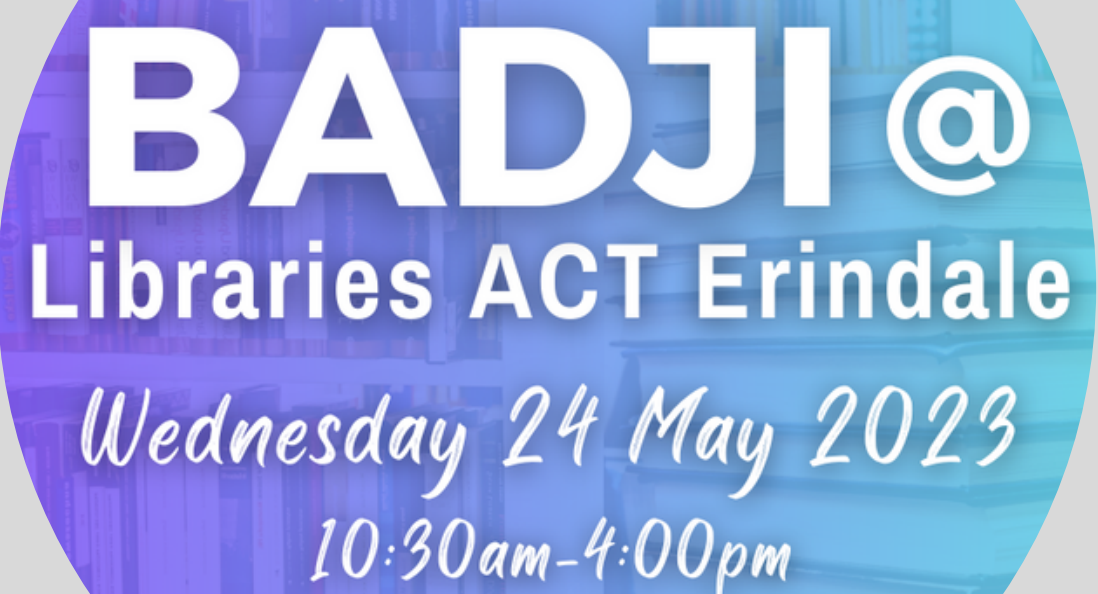
 Coolamon Advisors



**BADJI @**  
Libraries ACT Kippax  
Wednesday 10 May 2023  
10:30am-4:00pm



**BADJI @**  
Libraries ACT Dickson  
Wednesday 19 April 2023  
10:30am-4pm



**BADJI @**  
Libraries ACT Erindale  
Wednesday 24 May 2023  
10:30am-4:00pm


We appreciated the opportunity to bring BADJI as a pop-up stall into three ACT Libraries recently:

Dickson in April, Kippax in early May and Erindale later in May.

We understand how busy life is and for us to have a pop-up presence in various shopping areas added a little convenience for you to get in touch with us.

Now that we've been running the BADJI Business Support Program for almost 12 months, we've met incredibly talented and hardworking business people, and have done our best in connecting them with the resources they need.

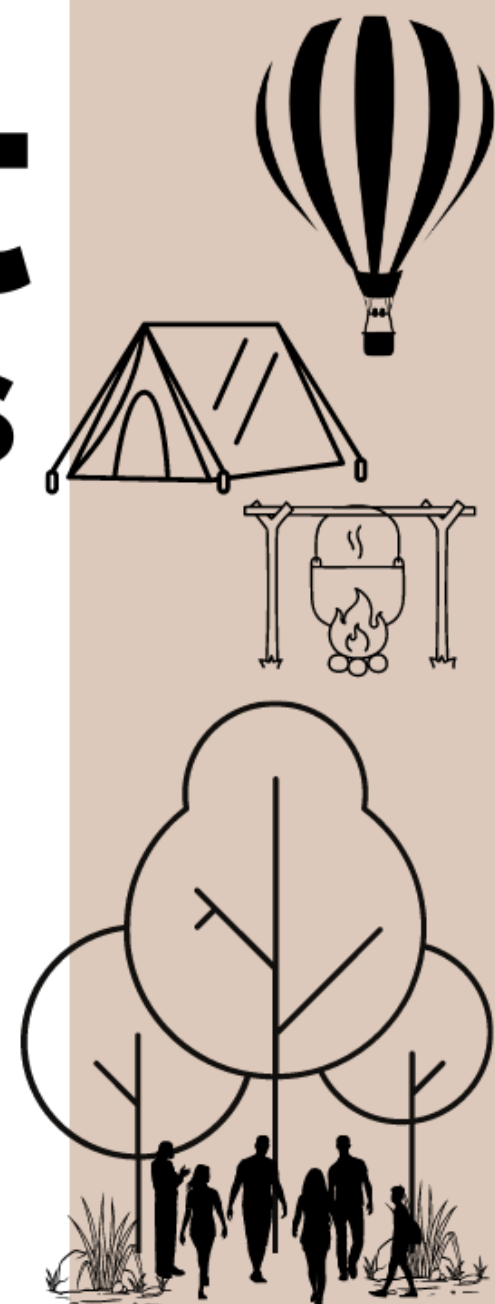
**Let us know where else we should hold a Pop-Up Stall.**

 Coolamon Advisors





# First Nations Tourism Mentoring Program



Read all the details on the First Nations Tourism Mentoring Program website:

[www.fntmp.com.au/s/](http://www.fntmp.com.au/s/)

Apply for free mentoring support and you'll be matched with an experienced mentor who'll work with you, one-on-one, to support your business achieve its goals and flourish.

### Can your business say yes to these eligibility points?

- Tourism sector or associated supply chain.
- First Nations at least 50% owned.
- Currently have products or services for domestic or international tourists.

### Don't miss out!

Round 1 Mentee applications are open now until 16 June 2023. Mentoring begins July 2023. Further rounds will be available later in the year.

# Free Mental Health Coaching

## FOR SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS



### WHAT DOES IT OFFER

It is a free, confidential and convenient guided self-help mental health coaching program.

The mental health coaches are specifically trained and have a small business background so they understand the unique challenges.

Over 6 sessions they'll work with you to manage stress and use straight forward problem solving approaches. No GP referral is required.

### WHO FOR?

If you are over 18 years old, a small business owner or sole trader - small is defined as 20 employees or less - and are not currently seeing a psychologist or psychiatrist.

**Nationwide,  
by phone,  
or video call.**

## Beyond Blue's NewAccess program

Details on their website:

[www.beyondblue.org.au/get-support/newaccess-mental-health-coaching/newaccess-for-small-business-owners](http://www.beyondblue.org.au/get-support/newaccess-mental-health-coaching/newaccess-for-small-business-owners)

LET'S  
TALK  
ABOUT  
MONEY



**FINANCE & FUNDING**  
FOR CANBERRA BASED  
ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER  
BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS

BUSINESS  
START-UP  
FINANCE

• IBA



**FINANCE & FUNDING**  
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BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS

BUSINESS  
LOANS

• IBA



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# SPECIAL ISSUE

**Canberra Region  
Aboriginal and  
Torres Strait  
Islander business  
people, we heard  
you tell us that:**

***"finance and  
funding is the  
number one  
business  
challenge"***

**We listened.**

**In this issue we  
focus on sharing  
opportunities.**

Get your business idea off the ground, while being competitive by minimising high interest borrowing.

## **FEATURES OF THIS FINANCE**

Loan amounts up to \$100,000.  
Loan term maximum 7 years.  
Nil application and line service fees.

A grant component of up to 30% of the loan amount, that you will not need to repay:

- for capital expenditure
- plant and equipment
- fit-outs and
- commercial assets.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

SME's Trading less than 2 years.

Less than \$400k in actual turnover.

Details are here at the IBA website:

<https://iba.gov.au/business/finance/start-finance-package/>

This loan is designed to assist you with working capital requirements, purchase of existing businesses, plant and equipment, and other commercial assets.

## **FEATURES OF THIS FINANCE**

\$10,000 - \$5,000.000  
Maximum 20 years loan term  
Nil application and line service fees

## **CRITERIA**

Commercially viable business model.

Details are here at the IBA website:

<https://iba.gov.au/business/finance/business-loan/>

# GRANT FUNDING UNDER THE IAS



**FINANCE & FUNDING**  
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BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS

Under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS), the Australian Government is working to improve the way it does business with Indigenous Australians.

Grant opportunities are available under the following six programs:

- 1.1 Jobs, Land and Economy
- 1.2 Children and Schooling
- 1.3 Safety and Wellbeing
- 1.4 Culture and Capability
- 1.5 Remote Australia Strategies
- 1.6 Research and Evaluation

## FULL DETAILS

Full details along with current grant opportunities can be found on this NIAA page:

<https://www.niaa.gov.au/indigenous-affairs/grants-and-funding/funding-under-ias>

# 60 SECOND PITCH TO INVESTORS



**FINANCE & FUNDING**  
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BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS

Once a month Canberra Innovation Network hosts an energetic event, called Wednesday Connect that is attended by investors, innovators, researchers and entrepreneurs.

## THE EVENT - IN CANBERRA CITY

A get-together where business people get their turn on stage to enthusiastically pitch their business idea in 60 seconds to all the movers and shakers in attendance in the hopes of attracting an investor or collaborator. There's plenty of time afterwards to meet like minded new associates with drinks and snacks.

## CHECK IT OUT IN-PERSON

Attendance at an event first to familiarise yourself with the lively atmosphere is a must! Afterwards, when you're ready to have a go, let the CBRIN staff know a little about yourself and your idea. They'll be happy to schedule you into the next events pitch list.

Read all the details here:

<https://cbrin.com.au/.../first-wednesday-connect-june-2023/>

## TIPS ON HOW TO DO IT!

<https://cbrin.com.au/general-news/facing-the-pitch/>

Our own experienced pitcher Julie will be happy to support you.

# LOW RATE % MICRO LOANS FOR LOW EARNERS



**FINANCE & FUNDING**  
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BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS

The ACT Microcredit Loan Program provides ACT residents on a low income with interest free or low interest loans to help them start or expand an existing business.

## ELIGIBILITY FOR INTEREST FREE LOAN UP TO \$3,000

A Health Care Card (for at least 6 months), Pension Card or equivalent. A combined family income no higher than \$65,000.

An ACT resident of at least six months.

Setting up a business in the ACT Unable to get finance for your business or business idea from typical financial services.

## ELIGIBILITY FOR LOW INTEREST LOAN BETWEEN \$3,001-\$10,000

A Health Care Card (for at least 6 months), Pension Card or equivalent. A combined family income no higher than \$75,000.

An ACT resident at least 6 months. An existing or semi established business in the ACT.

Unable to get finance from typical financial services.

Full details are available here:

<https://business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/act-microcredit-loan-program>

# ELECTRIC VEHICLE PURCHASING & LEASING SOLUTIONS



**FINANCE & FUNDING**  
FOR CANBERRA BASED  
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ACT-based business or community organisation with at least one vehicle, or plan to purchase a vehicle, or plan to replace your vehicle/s.

## FINANCIAL INCENTIVES

Stamp duty exemption for new Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEVs)

Two years of free registration available for new or used ZEVs  
ZEVs cost less to run, require less maintenance with fewer parts.

## FEATURES

ZEVs purchasing and leasing solutions.

Free site visit or online meeting.

Tailored advice to support business decision-making.

Full details can be found here:

<https://business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/zero-emission-vehicle-zev-business-fleet-advisory-service-act>

# ICON - INNOVATION CONNECT GRANT



**FINANCE & FUNDING**  
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BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS

ICON - Innovation Connect Grant offers funding between \$10,000 and \$30,000.

## OFFERED BY

The Canberra Innovation Network facilitates on behalf of the ACT Government to deliver this grant.

It's designed to offer early stage innovative entrepreneurs and startups matched-funded grants between \$10,000 - \$30,000 to kick start their growth journey.

## WHEN

The next round for expressions of interest opens 5 July 2023.

Put the date in your calendar so you don't miss this great opportunity.

Full details are available here:

<https://cbrin.com.au/icon>

# CSIRO R&D KICK START FUNDING



**FINANCE & FUNDING**  
FOR CANBERRA BASED  
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BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS

CSIRO's program to help start-ups and small businesses overcome funding and lack of technical expertise barriers when trying to research and develop new ideas.

## FEATURES

Access to matched funding between \$10,000 - \$50,000. Matched funding is applied as a voucher used to defray costs of CSIRO's researching and developing (r&d) your idea.

## ELIGIBILITY

You have a new idea with commercial potential, a need for r&d of a novel or improved product or process.

You have less than \$1.5 million turnover or operating expenditure, or less than 3 years trading.

You have an ACN/ICN and GST registered.

Read CSIRO's offer details, plus success stories of the companies they've already supported:

[www.csiro.au/en/work-with-us/funding-programs/SME/CSIRO-Kick-Start/about](http://www.csiro.au/en/work-with-us/funding-programs/SME/CSIRO-Kick-Start/about)

