

NEWSLETTER

April
2025

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- Indigenous Rangers Program Expansion Round 2
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OTHER

- Helpful Business Guides, Tools & Links

Hi my name is Malcolm Towney, Proud Wiradjuri Man from Peak Hill, Central West NSW, home of the Red Dust Mob.

I moved to Canberra/Queanbeyan in 1990 for Rugby League and the Australian Public Service. My children grew up in Queanbeyan and now my Grandchildren are doing the same.

It's been a busy but productive couple of months, and I'm thrilled to bring you a few exciting opportunities for local artists and businesses in the Canberra Region. Details are outlined in the following pages.

I strongly encourage all businesses to take advantage of our offer to promote your business through our "Featured Business" section of our newsletters and in our social media at no cost. Get in touch for assistance to link with opportunities in this newsletter. This can include me coming along to support you.



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

We have a wealth of lived and learned experience to share with First Nations businesses"



Office Desk Space

We welcome all who would like to work from one of our spacious desks. Bring your laptop and enjoy high speed Wi-Fi, printer facilities, a great kitchen, tea and coffee.

WHAT DO WE DO?

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

- ✓ We help you with the qualifying documentation for Supply Nation registration or certification.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ Our Business Support Concierge is here to guide you along the journey to business success.
- ✓ Bring your laptop to use a spacious desk in our workspace with access to high speed 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.

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.

Get in touch with us to book your desk space and find out how we can help your business:

✉ malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au

☎ 02 5154 2300



For more information, to view or download previous Newsletters, and to subscribe, visit our website:

coolamonadvisors.com.au/badji-business-support-program



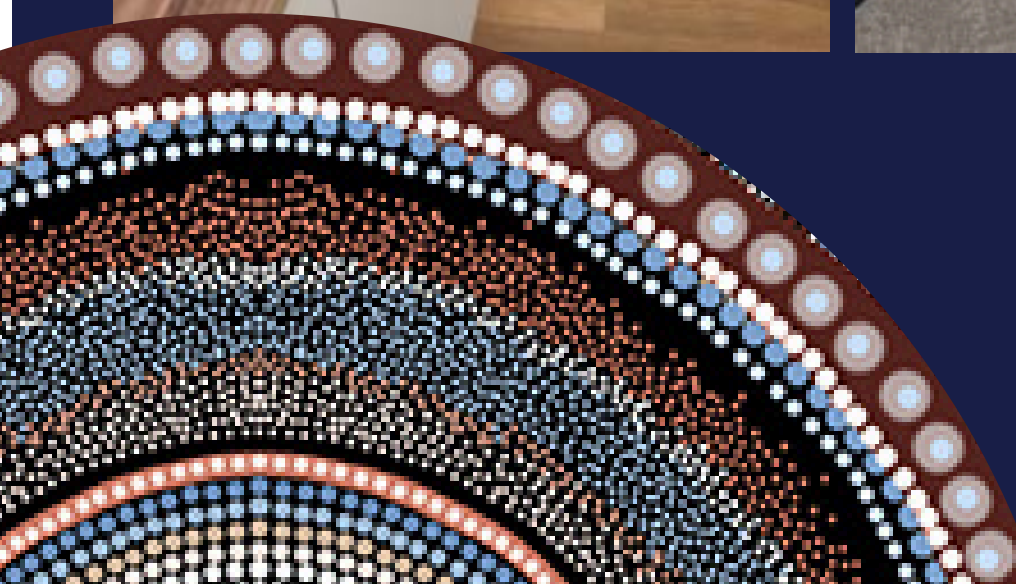
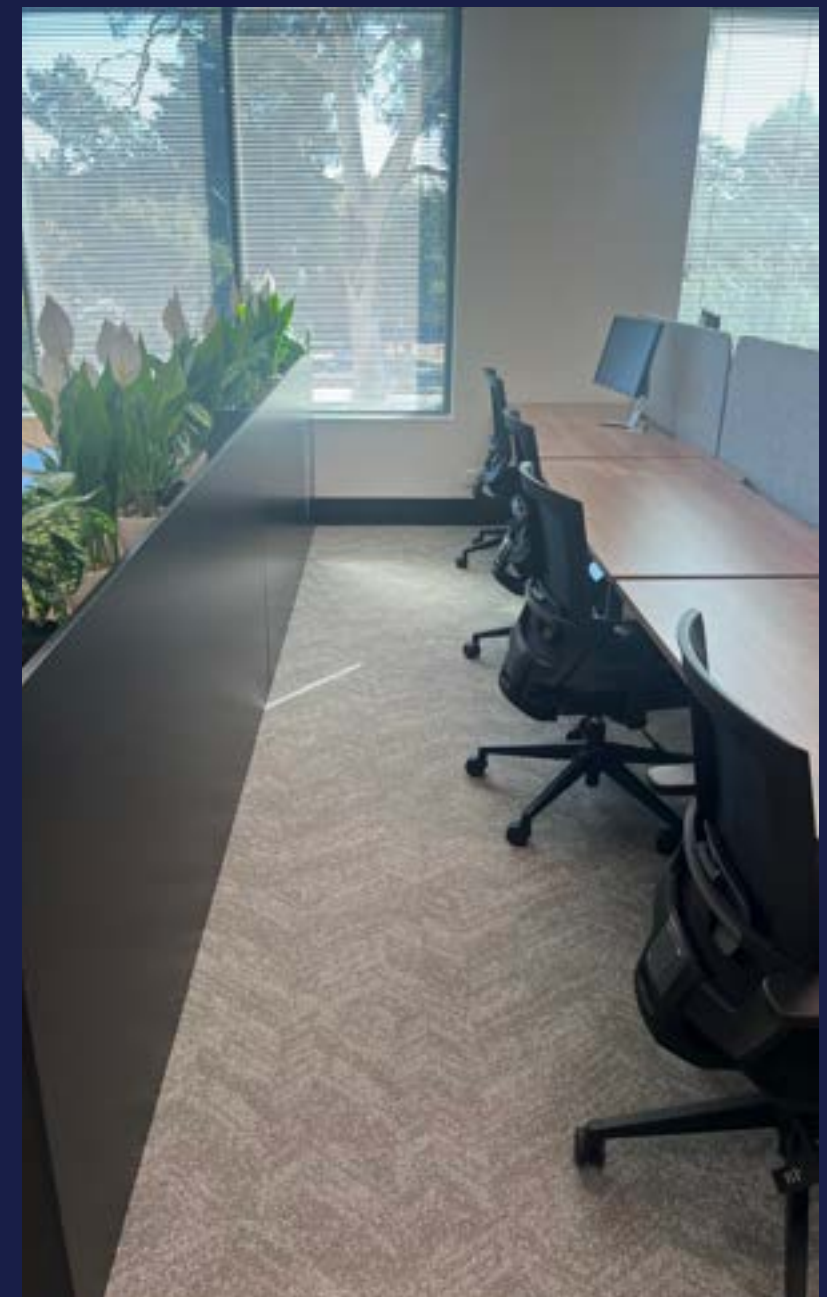
**Have you
visited
Coolamon Advisors
new office yet?**

Get in touch to visit and
book use of Badji desk spaces
or the conference room.

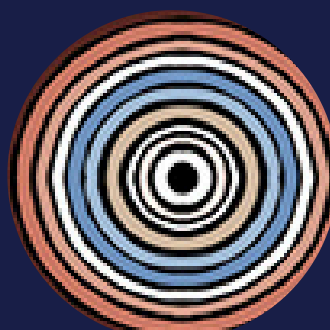
malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au

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Level 1
86-88 Northbourne Avenue
BRADDON ACT 2612



Home of the



BADJI BUSINESS
SUPPORT
PROGRAM



Featured

BUSINESSES

THE CONNECTED PURPOSE



Justin Church

The Connected Purpose is an Aboriginal owned and operated outreach counselling and wellbeing service based in Canberra. They provide services such a 1:1 counselling, relationship counselling, cultural supervision (for Indigenous & non-Indigenous clients) and professional debriefing (group and individual).

- admin@theconnectedpurpose.com
- theconnectedpurpose
- theconnectedpurpose



MARRAWUY JOURNEYS



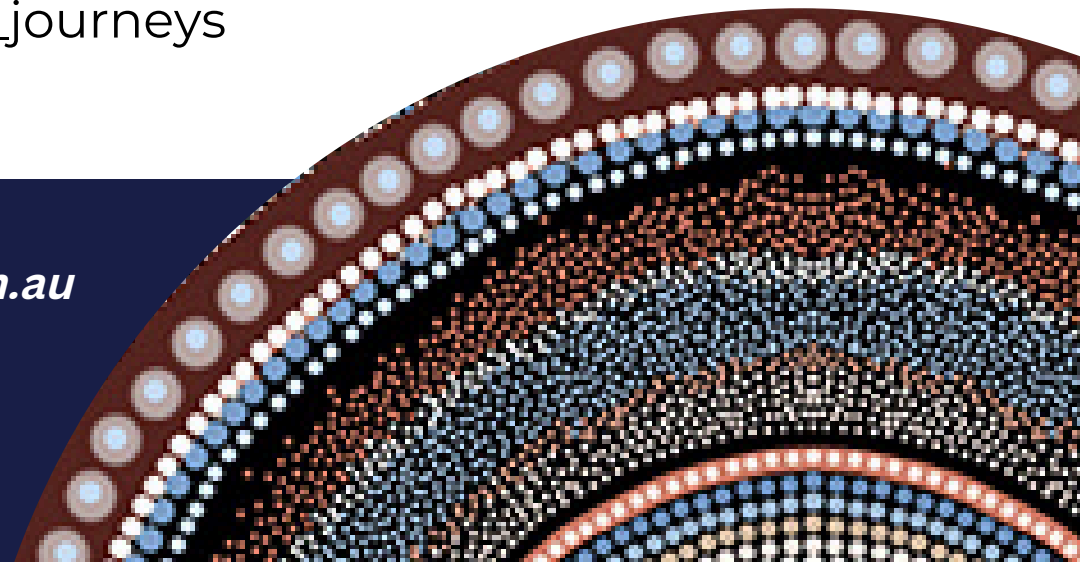
Sarah Richards

Marrawuy Journeys weaves contemporary Aboriginal art with culture, healing, and resilience. Led by Ngiyampaa woman Sarah Richards, each piece and program inspires connection, growth, and forward momentum through creativity, storytelling, and shared journeys.

- www.mjourneys.com.au
- info@mjourneys.com.au
- MarrawuyJourneys
- marrawuy_journeys

Would you like assistance to link with these businesses? Get in touch with Malcolm, Badji Co-ordinator

- malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au
- 02 5154 2300



BUSINESSES

Featured



ARROW FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Djali Bloomfield

Arrow FM is a Supply Nation certified electrical contracting business based in Canberra with the ability to deliver services for all levels of government and corporate organisations within the ACT and throughout NSW.

-  Arrowfm.com.au
-  Djali.bloomfield@arrowfm.com.au







CULTURE ON THE MOVE

Ronnie Jordan



CULTURE ON THE MOVE

A weaver, painter and cultural facilitator, Ronnie shares culture with everyone from childcare centres to Government agencies. Using traditional weaving techniques, Ronnie specialises in contemporary Aboriginal artworks using natural fibres, on canvas, murals and group workshops.

-  cultureonthemove.com
-  cultureonthemove@gmail.com
-  [CultureontheMove](https://www.facebook.com/CultureontheMove)
-  [ronnie_the_weaver](https://www.instagram.com/ronnie_the_weaver)

Would you like assistance to link with these businesses? Get in touch with Malcolm, Badji Co-ordinator

-  malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au
-  02 5154 2300

News



The Bob Huddleston Memorial Golf Day

The Huddleston family have been hosting the Golf Day for over 17 years. Bob was an advocate for Indigenous Affairs in ACT and promoted a healthier lifestyle through sport and education. Bob's journey with diabetes prompted him to become an advocate for diabetes awareness, and his work enabled many men to have tough conversations and engage with health care in a way that would not be possible without his leadership.

This year Malcolm attended and was proud to receive a second place trophy. Trophies were designed and manufactured by Badji participants, Dale Huddleston and Buddy Martin. These were fabulous trophies!



Top photo: Badji client Ronnie Jordan and her team came out winners on the day. Ronnie, with her natural talent, also picked up Player of the Day and must be noted that she is the first female to win the prestigious award. Congratulations Ronnie!

Bottom photo from left: Malcolm Towney, Bill Russel, Rob Clarke, Jordan Clarke.

Marketing Fundamentals Workshop

Online on 19 March 2025

Creating a Lean Business Plan Workshop

Online on 25 March 2025

Register here for upcoming workshops at

IBA.gov.au

IBA INDIGENOUS BUSINESS AUSTRALIA

IBA Workshops

Malcolm Towney, Badji Coordinator, attended these two IBA online workshops and was joined by Badji participants who reported finding the workshops very helpful. IBA presents a fantastic series of workshops designed specifically for Indigenous Businesses from start up to mature businesses. Upcoming online May 2025 workshops are listed below and if you'd like Malcolm to attend with you, please let us know.

Procurement Workshop	7/05/2025	5:30pm - 8:30pm AEDT
Create a Lean Business Plan	8/05/2025	11:00pm - 1:30pm AEDT
Your Business & IBA	13/05/2025	5:30pm - 8:30pm AEDT
Building Blocks for Business Success	15/05/2025	11:00am - 2:00pm AEDT
Create a Lean Business Plan	21/05/2025	11:00am - 2:00pm AEDT
Marketing Fundamentals	22/05/2025	11:00am - 2:00pm AEDT
Budgeting and Finance Strategy	27/05/2025	11:00am - 2:00pm AEDT

Would you like us to join you at an event or to talk more about it? Get in touch with Malcolm, Badji Co-ordinator

 malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au
 02 5154 2300

News



Experience Innovation Collaborative Event

Hosted by Veracity Innovation on 13 March 2025

This event was an interactive experience, a deep dive into innovation, creativity, and practical strategies for change, tailored for the small business sector.

The team from Veracity Innovation works to encourage participants to think about pushing boundaries and embracing discomfort to transform their work. This allows for elevated team performance, resilience building and enhanced communication and collaboration.

From left: Rob Fuller, Director of Veracity, Malcolm Towney, Badji Coordinator and Jordan Campbell, Director of Veracity.



SME Breakfast

Hosted by CBRIN on 20 March 2025

Malcolm Towney and Badji participant Blake Edwards attended the March CBRIN SME (Small Medium Enterprise) Breakfast to engage with a wonderful networking opportunity designed for SME business owners. The breakfast was held at CBRIN headquarters which allowed Malcolm and Blake to see the wonderful facilities offered.

From left: Craig Davis of CBRIN, Blake Edwards and Malcolm Towney .

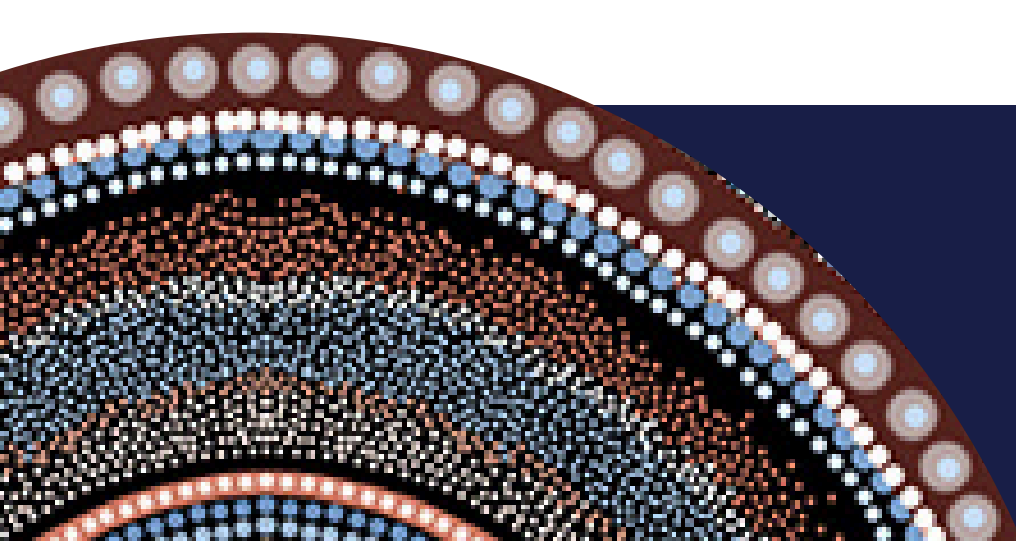
Would you like us to join you at an event or to talk more about it? Get in touch with Malcolm, Badji Co-ordinator



malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au



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Save the Date

ALL FIRST NATIONS AWARDS 2025

12 September 2025, 6:00pm

The Rex Hotel
150 Northbourne Avenue
BRADDON ACT 2612

Details

All First Nations Awards 2025 is an Annual celebration of Indigenous excellence and achievement. At All First Nations, we are dedicated to empowering Indigenous businesses, services, products, education, and events.

Through this initiative, we reaffirm our commitment to uplifting and acknowledging the invaluable contributions of Indigenous businesses. Stay tuned for updates and be a part of our journey towards a more empowered future!

Status

Nominations open. **Closing soon**
 Recipients notified by **12 July 2025**



[allfirstnations.com.au/awards/...](https://allfirstnations.com.au/awards/)

For more information and to
 nominate, email:

julie@allfirstnations.com.au



Julie Okely

"Understanding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and culture and taking it to another level, is a key element to reconciliation.

I believe in Reconciliation and the elements that positive leadership can provide.

I believe in the bringing together of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Non- Indigenous Australians as we all deserve equal value, quality, and education.

I am a proud Kamilaroi woman and I believe in the respect of culture and heritage of all of our Indigenous communities and the need to keep cultural education current in the eyes of all. It's a collective process that as Australians, we can all take a part in..."



Would you like us to join you at an event
 or to talk more about it? Get in touch
 with Malcolm, Badji Co-ordinator



malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au



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WORKSHOPS

Coming Soon



Trades Helping Trades

May 2025

HOSTED BY SELECT ELECTRICAL

Venue to be confirmed

Empowering and integrating Indigenous Business Networks within the ACT into the Trades Helping Trades initiative, with collaboration opportunities, leading to improved business skills and capacity for long-term economic sustainability and growth.

Market Expansion: Provide tailored marketing support to help eligible businesses reach new customers and industry partners in the ACT.

Capacity Building: A focus on business development, financial management, and industry-specific skills to enhance the competitiveness of Indigenous businesses.

Networking Opportunity: A space where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business owners can connect with industry leaders, potential clients, and collaborators.

Business outcomes will include advanced visibility and strengthened market access within the trades and construction sectors.

For more information or to sign up, email:
josh@selectelectricalonline.com.au



Women's Entrepreneur Germination Program

May 2025 and June 2025

HOSTED BY KIRRIBILLI PARTNERS & BURBIRRA

Venue to be confirmed

A business germination program focusing on supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in our local Canberra region community to identify ideas that can be commercialised to achieve economic independence.

This program is a proactive approach to assist with:

- gaining clarity of ideas for a business
- how to access culturally safe services
- how to access funding
- pathways into the ACT business ecosystem

Each participant with a viable idea will be supported with individual coaching sessions to continue development of idea clarity.

This full day workshop will be fully catered and no cost to eligible applicants.

For more information or to sign-up, email:
jodie@kirribillipartners.com.au

Would you like us to join you at an event
or to talk more about it? Get in touch
with Malcolm, Badji Co-ordinator

 malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au
 02 5154 2300

Don't Miss This

ARTS IN THE BLACK Cultural Intellectual Property (IP) Workshop



17 May 2025, 10:00am - 2:00pm

Burrnju Aboriginal Art Gallery
245 Lady Denman Drive
Yarramundi Ridge ACT



Burrnju
Aboriginal Art Gallery

**Do
you
need?**

Advice on:

- **how to protect your artwork**
- **Intellectual Property (IP)**
- **Copyright**

This in-person workshop, co-designed with the Arts Law Centre of Australia, will focus on Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property rights.

The aim is to create greater awareness and guidance in protecting our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artistic businesses in the Canberra region.

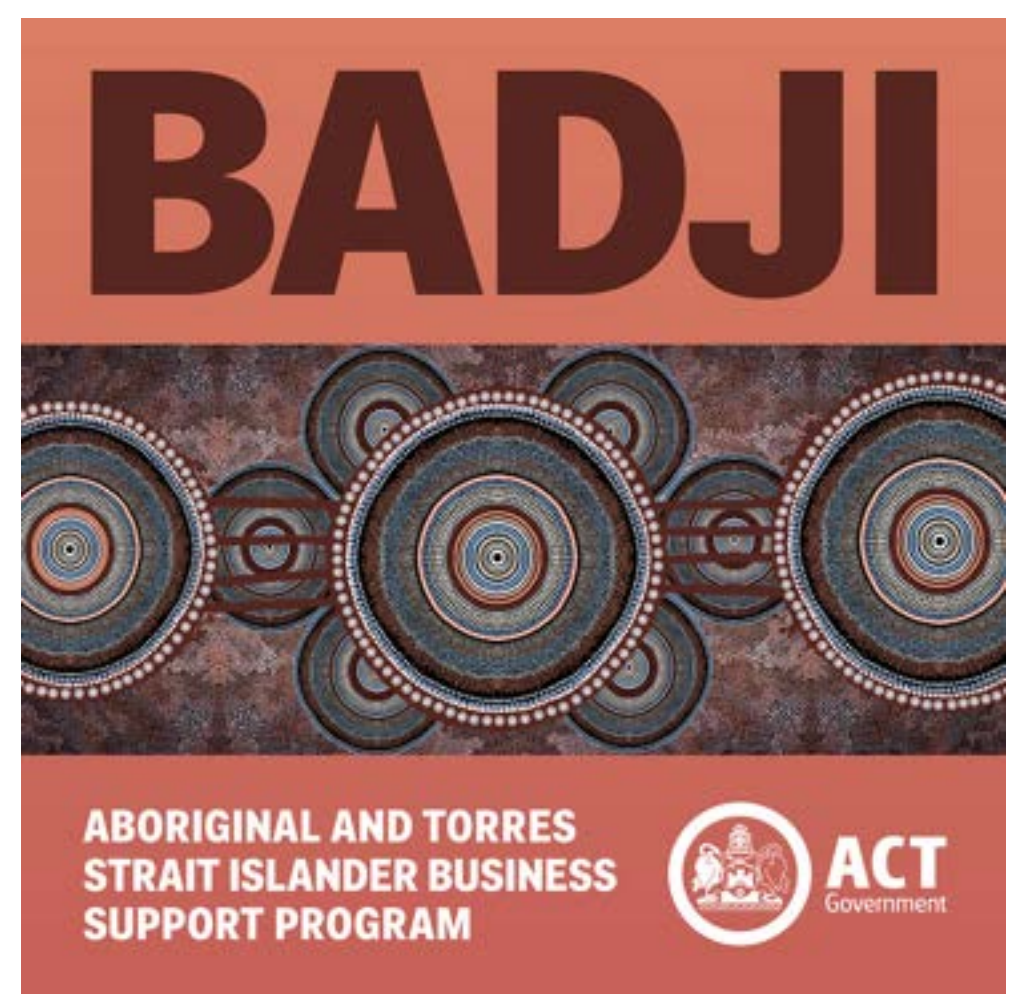
The program will draw on and enhance expertise within our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

It will deliver a bespoke education in:

- Arts Law 101
- Introductory session to Arts Law Centre services
- Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property
- A breakdown of Copyright laws and your rights
- Wills: an introduction to planning your estate

Light refreshments and lunch will be provided

Status Open. Registrations close **9 May 2025**



For more information on this no-cost workshop and to register, email or phone Malcolm:

malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au

02 5154 2300

Malcolm will be attending this workshop with you all. Get in touch with Malcolm, Badji Co-ordinator

malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au
 02 5154 2300

WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

Upcoming



First Wednesday Connect

7 May 2025, 5:00 - 6:30pm

ANU Research School of Physics
60 Mills Road ACTON ACT 2601

Hear from Canberra's emerging entrepreneurs as they take the stage in the high-intensity pitch blitz.

Learn about groundbreaking innovations that are pinning Canberra on the map for The City of Innovation.

Each month offers diverse learning experiences, fresh perspectives, and unique connections and explore different industries.

It is free to come along, although registrations are essential!

[View details](#)

cbrin.com.au/fwc



Female Founders Mentor Roundtable

13 May 2025, 12:15 - 1:30pm

Canberra Innovation Network
Level 4, 1 Moore Street CANBERRA
ACT 2601

Connect with industry specialists during our dynamic lunchtime session! Move between expert-led tables spanning HR, Marketing, Legal, Governance, Finance and Wellbeing to address your specific business challenges.

Here, you'll discover more than just networking—find lasting friendships and share valuable advice and experiences with like-minded individuals who truly understand the entrepreneurial journey.

[View details](#)

cbrin.com.au/female-founders



Business Accelerator - One Day Intensive

28 May 2025, 9:00am - 5:00pm

Canberra Innovation Network
Level 5, 1 Moore Street
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Join a cohort of business peers for a full day of intensive work on growing your business faster.

Facilitated by growth experts at CBRIN, you'll work on evaluating and refining growth opportunities.

You'll challenge your plans and apply new entrepreneurial methods to your business with the aim of accelerating your growth.

[View details](#)

cbrin.com.au/events/business-accelerator-one-day-intensive-may-2025/

Would you like us to join you at an event or to talk more about it? Get in touch with Malcolm, Badji Co-ordinator

malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au

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Upcoming



International Social Marketing Conference - Social Marketing in the Age of Disruption

13-15 June 2025

QT Canberra

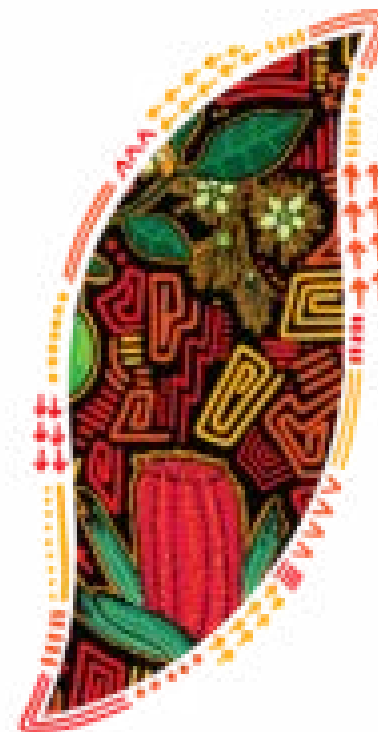
The field of social marketing is constantly evolving due to a number of disruptive forces; technological advancements, changing consumer behaviour, regulatory changes, shifting economic conditions, changing societal and cultural values.

These disruptive forces can be described as volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous (VUCA) and represent both challenges and opportunities as they reshape the landscape of social marketing.

By understanding and adapting to these factors, social marketers can develop effective strategies to drive positive behaviour change and achieve lasting impact.

[View details](#)

socialmarketing.org/event/2025-international-social-marketing-conference/



NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2025

Bridging Now to Next

Reconciliation Day

2 June 2025

Commonwealth Park

Commonwealth Park will host this annual family-friendly, no cost event and will feature live music, cultural performances, conversations, and food, celebrating and showcasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

Are you looking for some gifts? Or something for yourself? Come and see the amazing artwork, fashions and gain some cultural skills, making weaving products with our Badji business stallholders:

- Blaklabel fashion
- KaBu
- Burrunju Aboriginal Art Gallery
- MJ's Handcrafted Aboriginal Artefacts & Designs

[View details](#)

reconciliation.events.canberra.com.au

Would you like us to join you at an event or to talk more about it? Get in touch with Malcolm, Badji Co-ordinator



malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au



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CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

Funding

**GRANT
G07656**

INDIGENOUS RANGERS PROGRAM EXPANSION ROUND 2 National Indigenous Australian Agency (NIAA)

Indigenous Rangers use traditional knowledge and cultural practices, and Western science, to manage land, river and sea Country and deliver environmental, cultural, social and economic development outcomes for First Nations communities.

Details

Are you eligible?

- can you provide evidence of cultural authority and legal access to land?
- do you have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- where relevant, are you registered for the purposes of GST
- do you have an account with an Australian financial institution

Each project or activity representing different and distinct Traditional Owner groups and locations will require separate applications and will be assessed separately.

Status

Open. Closing **5 June 2025 2:00pm**



niaa.gov.au/indigenous-affairs/environment/indigenous-rangers-program

**GRANT
G07655**

JUNIOR RANGERS EXPANSION National Indigenous Australian Agency (NIAA)

Junior ranger activities will support primary and secondary students to engage with their schooling through a combination of classroom and on-Country learning. NIAA is undertaking a targeted competitive grant opportunity in priority locations, to select new providers in every state and territory. Initial funding agreements will be for up to 2.5 years and may be extended.

Details

Preference will be given to local First Nations providers, including Indigenous Ranger Groups or First Nations providers with relationships with Indigenous Ranger Groups, where relevant. Applicants should also demonstrate support from Traditional Owners and partner schools to deliver activities.

Status

Open. Closing **19 May 2025 12:00pm**



grants.gov.au/.../environment/indigenous-rangers-program

Would you like assistance to link with these opportunities? Get in touch with Malcolm, Badji Co-ordinator



malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au



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BUSINESS GUIDES, TOOLS & LINKS

Helpful

business.gov.au

A guide to take you through each step of starting a business.

[Guides to help your business | business.gov.au](#)

Search grants, funding and support programs from across government.

[Grants and programs finder | business.gov.au](#)

This tool will help evaluate a new business idea, set some goals for the year ahead and keep your business on track.

[Business plan tool | business.gov.au](#)

This tool will help work out your business structure and basic registrations.

[Work out your business registrations | business.gov.au](#)

Regional Development Australia

A conduit to jobs, investment and innovation in Southern NSW and ACT.

[rdasna.org.au](#)

Indigenous Employment Australia

A marketplace to connect employers with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander job seekers.

[atsijobs.com.au | For Employers](#)

Canberra Women in Business

A supportive community with regular events.

[cwb.org.au](#)

Canberra Innovation Network

A collaboration that offers networking, educational programs, connection to investors and business grants.

[cbrin.com.au](#)

Would you like assistance to link with these opportunities? Get in touch with Malcolm, Badji Co-ordinator

 malcolm@coolamonadvisors.com.au

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