



# Overview

## TAUNGURUNG DECISION MAKING GUIDES PROJECT

Taungurung Clans Aboriginal Corporation & AIATSIS

### Decision Making Guides Project

Taungurung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (TCAC) has secured funding from Aboriginal Victoria and contracted Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) to develop:

- four easy-to-read decision making guides that help everyone understand the decision making roles of TCAC members, Board, CEO and Chair
- a 'how-to-guide' documenting the process of developing the guides, including template guides, to help other Aboriginal corporations do the same
- new TCAC governance policies associated with good decision making

### Why decision making guides?

Effective decision-making is the key to the success of any organisation. TCAC is concerned to make sure that its decision-making processes work for and are understood by all Taungurung people.

Getting the decision-making processes right can make a big difference, including in managing conflict. The United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples talks about the right to free, prior and informed consent as essential to successful decision-making processes. Confusion around decision-making, including its legal requirements, can cause unnecessary problems and misunderstandings.

### Development of the guides – key stages

- Desktop research - create a register of TCAC decisions and policies, a summary of legislative requirements, as well as pulling together existing decision making tools and references.
- TCAC Board meeting – review desktop research, suggest key topics to be included in the draft guides and the form of information which would be most useful.
- Input from Taungurung people – at the second part of the proposed family meetings
- Draft guides – AIATSIS will review the desk top research, priorities of TCAC board and input of Taungurung families to draft the guides.
- Final guides – the TCAC Board will finalise the guides, they will be designed and distributed to TCAC members and to interested agencies.

### Getting your input

TCAC wants to get Taungurung peoples help to develop the guides. The second part of the family meetings is an opportunity for families to hear about the decision making guides and to discuss questions such as:

- How does TCAC make decisions now?
- Your experience of decision making – What's working well? What's tricky?
- What do you think should be included in the decision making guides?
- What role do Taungurung cultural protocols play in TCAC decision making? What role could culture play? How could TCAC embed culture in its decision making?

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