# Taungurung Land and Waters Council (TLaWC)





The Taungurung Land and Waters Council (TLaWC) is the corporate representative of the Taungurung people. It was established in 2003 to advocate for Taungurung recognition and for land management rights with regard to traditional Country.

TLaWC was given Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) status in 2009, allowing for Taungurung management of cultural heritage across the Taungurung estate.

2018 saw the culmination of several years of negotiations in an historic Recognition and Settlement Agreement with the State of Victoria, by which TLaWC manages the rights and fulfils the responsibilities set out in the Agreement.

#### **Our Vision**

TLaWC is the voice of the Taungurung people — a people with a strong sense of shared identity, self-determining in the management of Country and culture.

## **Our Values**

- Integrity
- Respect
- Cultural competency
- Accept and grow stronger
- Accountability
- Teamwork
- Leadership



## **Our Ambition**

With the guidance of community, we are rebuilding the Taungurung Nation.

## **Key Functions of TLaWC**

To foster a raised awareness of and respect for Taungurung people and culture in the wider community.

To provide a range of member benefits including employment on Country, cultural transmission and general well-being.

To build a strong investment foundation that ensures economic strength and security for the Taungurung people.

To heal cultural knowledge and facilitate its transmission to the next generation, including reviving language through collaborative community commitment.

To be the primary keeper of shared Taungurung property-land, language, intellectual property, assets and historical research.

To liaise with government agencies, local government, developers, and other stakeholders to ensure best practice in land and water management.

To bring the Taungurung people back to their Country through increased opportunity, shared identity and connection to culture.



## Structure of TLaWC

#### The Board of Directors

The TLaWC Board consists of eight Taungurung People, elected by the members for two-year terms. The Board in turn elects a Chairperson and a Deputy Chair on an annual basis.

The Board also appoints a CEO, who has full delegated management authority for all TLaWC operations, assets and staff.

Other significant elements of the Taungurung group include the Biik Environmental and the Taungurung Charitable Trust. The Elders Advisory Group provides cultural advice to management and to the Board.



Matthew Burns is the CEO of TLaWC and a Taungurung man. He is also an elected member of the First Peoples' Assembly of



Victoria.



# Chairperson

Kaley Nicholson chairs the Board and is a Taungurung woman.





#### **Contact Us**

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## The Four Pillars

# Community

- 1. Strengthening Taungurung Community
- 2. Contributing to Health and Wellbeing
- 3. Improving Connectivity to Community

# Country

- 4. Building our Land
- 5. Managing Country through Traditional and Modern Techniques

### Culture

- 6. Reviving our Language
- 7. Restoring Cultural Knowledge
- 8. Protecting and Preserving our Cultural Heritage

## Corporate

- 9. Strengthening Organisational Capacity
- 10. Ensuring Financial Sustainability
- 11. Building Strong Corporate Partnerships