

## Aboriginal Advisory Committee

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, 22 August, 2023

**Location:** Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra

## Minutes Attachments

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Planning for the Far North Collector Road Network has involved Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments and Council will continue to work with Gadhungal Marring on naming the bridge that crosses Bomaderry Creek. This area is a site of importance with evidence of Aboriginal heritage unearthed during archaeological investigations for the project.

#### **Road naming opportunity**

Under Council's Road & Place naming policy, a relationship to the locality e.g., Aboriginal, historical etc. is desirable.

In September 2022, we asked the community to suggest road names that consider Aboriginal significance and reflect our rich local culture. Unfortunately, there were few submissions and no suitable entries.

After talking with the NLALC earlier this year, it was suggested that Council pursues names in the local dialect of Dharrawal. Our internal Community Capacity officer referred us to Jacob Morris who is a language teacher in southern Dharrawal and consultant from Gadhungal Marring.

The Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council Board is happy with the road naming proposal below.

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#### **Road name proposal by Jacob Morris, Gadhungal Marring - Bannada Way**

Jacob Morris is the great grandson of Lena Chapman née Carpenter, the last fluent speaker of the local dialect of Dharrawal, and is one of the most referenced people when it comes to south coast Language revival from Sydney to Eden.

Jacob is the lead language teacher and consultant for Gadhungal Marring and has been teaching language, Traditional Song and Dance at Nowra East Public School for 4 years and Nowra Public School for 2. Jacob's Language Programs - created and delivered alongside Joel Deaves and Drew Longbottom - are supported by their Families and organisations such as the NSW Aboriginal Language Trust.

For the naming of the new road connecting Cambewarra Road and North Nowra, he has chosen the word "Bannada".

The word Bannada is southern Dharrawal for the Bomaderry Creek or Running Water.

Banna is the word for rain up and down the coast and is even a reference to water as far Qld. "-Da" or "-Ḍa" is a suffix for past tense, therefore "Bannada" or "Bannaḍa" translates to "rained". The reason "Bannada" or "Bannaḍa" is the name for Bomaderry Creek is it's a reference to how the Creek flows after rain.

"Bannada Way" I believe is the perfect name for the connecting road between Cambewarra Rd and North Nowra, as it crosses the Creek and Bannada is in Bomaderry and North Nowra; and it's also a little play on words, when asked which way to North Nowra someone can reply "go Bannada Way". - **Jacob Morris**  
Gadhungal Marring.

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