

Koondee Woonga-gat Toor-rong Charter

Creating community legacies with First Nations-led philanthropy



Acknowledgement of Country

The Koondee Woonga-gat Toor-rong Board

The Board of Koondee Woonga-gat Toor-rong acknowledges the Wurundjeri Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we do our work. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge their continued connection to land and water, and for sharing their Country with us.

We also acknowledge Traditional Custodians of other Kulin Nations, we pay respects to their Elders past and present, and acknowledge their continued connection to land and water. We also acknowledge the wider Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Victoria, we pay our respects to your Elders and to your ancestors.



Artist Acknowledgement

We wish to acknowledge the kind gift of the artwork 'Give Together', by First Nations artist Terori Hareko-Avaivilla. Parts of the artwork is used throughout this charter, inclusive of our logo.

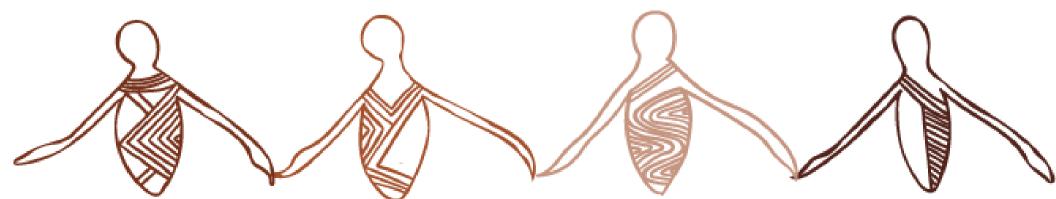
Images or photos used are stock photos.

Woiwurrung Language Acknowledgement

The Board of Koondee Woonga-gat Toor-rong acknowledges the use of language from the Wurundjeri Nation. Koondee Woonga-gat Toor-rong in Woiwurrung means 'To Give Together'.

This is reflective of KWT's work with and support from kind hearted allies who want to give back to the First Nations communities across Victoria.

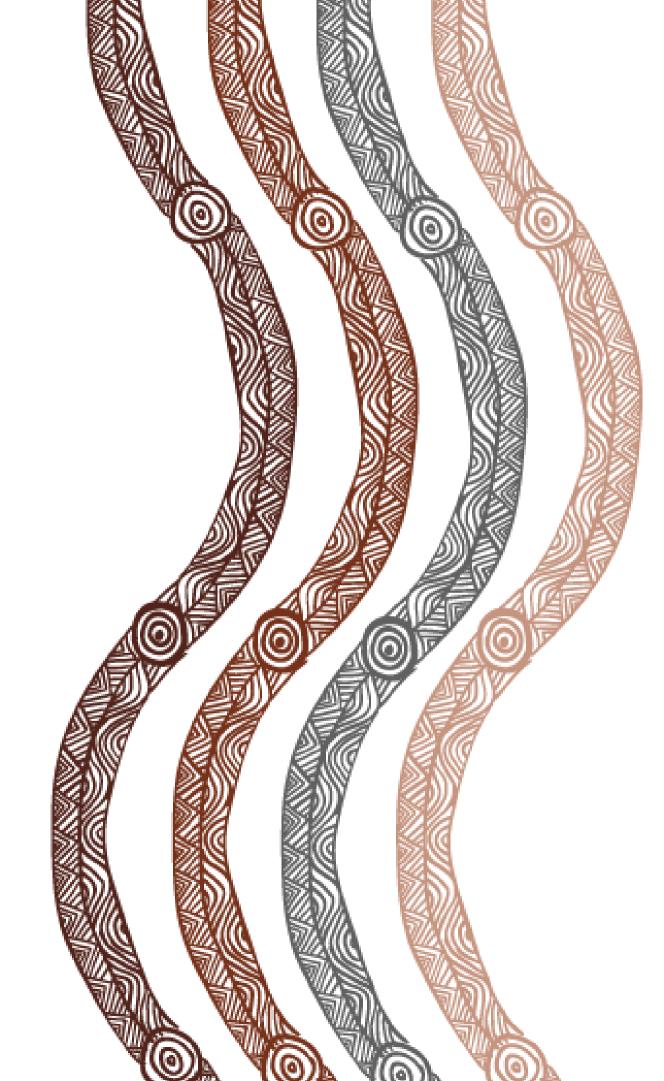
We acknowledge Aunty Di Kerr for her support and guidance with the use of the Woiwurrung language.





Koondee Woonga-gat Toor-rong Charter

The Board of Koondee Woonga-gat Toor-rong believes that every single Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person is a gift to their family and community. This is how it always was, and how it will always be. Just like the Dreaming, we are here always, in all ways. With our hearts filled with stories from our past and our vision set firmly on our futures, this Charter acknowledges the plight of First Nations' people, and joins with others to achieve abundance and prosperity for all who live, play and work on our lands and in our waters.





Through First Nations-led philanthropy, every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person living in Victoria can rightfully expect Koondee Woonga-gat Toor-rong to:





Bring into our practice First Nations principles of knowing, being and doing, and political strategies embedded in our rich history of resistance to co-create a safe, just and inclusive society for First Nations' people living in Victoria.



Ensure the funds made available to First Nations' people align with our custodial responsibilities to care for Country, for the beings with whom we share Country and for all people belonging to our community.



Build coalitions of partners and allies who are capable of facilitating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's self-determination through philanthropy, and to support them in guiding others to provide educational opportunities, mentoring and cultural experiences of reciprocity.





Recognise the unique gifts, challenges and opportunities of people living with different abilities by promoting inclusivity in accessing funds and delivering outcomes for Koondee Woonga-gat Toor-rong grants.



Commission projects that recognise and respond to community-centred excellence, initiate empowerment, and value community responsibilities, pride and connectedness by investing in aspirations, healing and hope, both now and for the future.



Implement First Nations-led models of philanthropy that privilege the strength, resistance and persistence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to protect and engender our ways of knowing, being and doing.





Inspire our young people, our parents and extended family members, our Elders and communities through promoting trauma-informed practices, engaging with like-minded and like-hearted others, operating with integrity, and ensuring safety in the process of accessing and utilising funds.



Trust that our partners and allies are willing to grow their knowledge of First Nations' wisdom and lived experience, and are invested in decolonising wealth.



Ensure that our representations are synonymous with respect for communities, invested in processes that can transform our systems to meet the needs of our partners and allies, and are evaluated to demonstrate the impact of First Nations' models of philanthropic gifting.





Action responsive and inclusive governance in ways that represent the unconditional love we have for our people, our places and our totems, our lands, our waterways, our songlines and our stories.

Our Charter is aimed at creating enduring legacies — ones that speak to our past and our future, and are reinforced by the circular nature of our breath. We will breathe life into promoting sustainability and creating opportunities for all of our community to shine, particularly those whose voice is often unheard, whose choice of identity is theirs alone, and whose true character is not yet understood and often unseen.











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