



**Yamatji Marlpa**  
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



## <Agreement one step closer to being realised>

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**MEDIA RELEASE: 11 December 2019**

**YMAC provides the following statements in response to Minister Ben Wyatt media statement of 11 December 2019**

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) is extremely happy with the very high level of interest and positive support shown for the in-principle Agreement known as the Yamatji Nation Southern Regional Agreement. Run over two days, the authorisation meeting was the biggest turnout of claimants ever experienced by the organisation.

YMAC oversaw coordination and delivery of the meeting which incorporated a format that enabled claimants to consider information about the Agreement in a number of different ways. This approach significantly increased the opportunity for claimants to participate and have their questions answered ahead of decision making.

An authorisation meeting like this one could not happen without enormous collaboration and hard work, and YMAC is very proud of the enormous efforts of its staff in supporting this critical part of the negotiations.

YMAC has provided support in several ways to the negotiation of the Yamatji Nation Southern Regional Agreement (YNSRA) since 2017. The organisation is also privileged to provide legal services to members of the Yamatji Nation Claim, and to the Southern Yamatji, and Hutt River groups.

The organisation looks forward to the next stage of this significant negotiation, when the Agreement will be executed and submitted for registration. YMAC is very excited about the benefits that will flow as a result of the Agreement to the Traditional Owners.

As mentioned in the Minister's release, details of the Agreement, are under Court ordered mediation and will remain confidential until it is executed and registered with the National Native Title Tribunal.

*All quotes to be attributed to Mr Simon Hawkins, CEO Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation.*

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### **About Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation**

Proudly celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2019, Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) is the native title representative body for the Pilbara, Murchison, Mid West and Gascoyne regions of Western Australia. YMAC has a representative area of over one-third of WA and represents over 20 Traditional Owner groups - all with their own language, culture and traditions. YMAC is a not-for-profit organisation run by an Aboriginal Board of Directors and provides a range of services to its members including claim and future-act representation, heritage protection services, community and economic development and natural resource management.

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