



Yamatji Marlpa
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



New Chapter for Historic Geraldton Building Through \$1.4 Million Lotterywest Funding

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Minister Punch, YMAC Co-Chairperson Peter Windie and Caitlin Morgan from Lotterywest mark the announcement of \$1.4 million in Lotterywest funding to support the refurbishment of YMAC's heritage-listed Geraldton office.

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) has welcomed \$1.4 million in Lotterywest funding towards the refurbishment of its heritage-listed Geraldton office, paving the way for the building to become a modern, accessible and culturally safe hub for Aboriginal governance, leadership and community connection.

The funding will support the revitalisation of a significant heritage building on Marine Terrace, ensuring it remains an important part of Geraldton's future while honouring its past.

YMAC Co-Chairperson Yamatji Region, Mr Perter Windie said the project was about much more than renovating a building.

"This investment will help transform a historic building into a place where Aboriginal organisations, leaders and communities can come together to make decisions, share knowledge and strengthen connections," Mr Windie said.



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"The building will become a welcoming and culturally safe space that supports Aboriginal governance, service delivery, training, community meetings and cultural activities for many years to come."

The refurbishment will include accessibility upgrades, meeting and boardroom facilities, modern workspaces and cultural elements that celebrate Aboriginal identity, leadership and connection to Country.

More than 20 Aboriginal organisations are expected to benefit from access to the improved facilities, creating opportunities for greater collaboration, stronger local decision-making and improved service delivery across the region.

Located in Geraldton's CBD, the project will also increase the visibility of Aboriginal leadership and culture within the city, contributing to reconciliation, education and community understanding.

Mr Windie said the project would create a lasting community asset.

"Having a dedicated, culturally governed space in the heart of Geraldton is incredibly important. It will provide a place for Aboriginal people and organisations to gather, collaborate and lead, while also creating opportunities for the broader community to engage with and learn about Yamatji culture and history."

"We are grateful to Lotterywest for recognising the value of this project and for helping us create a facility that will serve Aboriginal communities across the region for generations."

The refurbishment is expected to commence following final planning approvals and project preparations.

YMAC also received additional Lotterywest funding to support its community engagement initiatives, helping to create more opportunities for Aboriginal people and organisations to come together, share knowledge and participate in activities that strengthen culture, governance and community wellbeing. Combined with the building refurbishment, the investment represents a significant commitment to supporting Aboriginal leadership, connection and self-determination across the Mid West and Gascoyne regions.

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Media contact: Tash Gillespie, Acting Communications Manager, email editor@ymac.org.au and tgillespie@ymac.org.au or, mobile 0473 247 657.

About Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) is the Native Title Representative Body (NTRB), delivering native title and other services across the Pilbara, Mid West, Murchison and Gascoyne regions of Western Australia. YMAC is run by a First Nations board of directors, representing several native title groups, each of whom have their own language, culture, traditions and protocols. YMAC services include native title claim and future act representation; heritage services; executive office, community, and economic development assistance; land administration, and natural resource management support.