

# Aboriginal Advisory Council of WA

## Member Biographies – as at April 2026

### Rani Randall (Co-Chair)

Ms Randall is a Yamatji woman currently living in Geraldton. Her family are Malgana and Nhanda people from the Midwest and Gascoyne region of Western Australia. Ms Randall has demonstrated her passion and strong commitment to Aboriginal Affairs having started her career in the Non-Government Organisation sector working for the Geraldton Women’s Refuge, Crisis Care helpline and assisting Aboriginal families with tenancy and financial counselling support.



Ms Randall has worked for State Government for many years, working in areas such as Youth Justice, Aboriginal Training and Employment, Mental Health, and Aboriginal Health. She has held numerous senior positions within state government and is currently in the position of Regional Aboriginal Health Consultant with WA Country Health Service.

Ms Randall is a member of the Malgana Aboriginal Corporation and served on the board from 2017 - 2024, including the position of Chair for a two-year period. Ms Randall is an active member in the Yamatji community, being an active participant with the Murchison Aboriginal Organisation Alliance and is member of the Midwest Aboriginal Women’s Working Group. She works in partnership with many organisations to address issues which affect the day to day lives of Aboriginal people and is a strong advocate for both caring for country and addressing the social and cultural determinants which impact on the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people.

### Lance Morich (Co-Chair)

Lancel Morich is a Whadjuk–Menang Aboriginal leader whose 25-year service in the Western Australia Police, together with senior roles across industry, underpins a career dedicated to safer, stronger Aboriginal communities.



As CEO of Indigivision Pty Ltd and Director of Ngeebriil Seadragon Consultancy, he champions Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and Indigenous data sovereignty, advancing culturally respectful, non-invasive land, heritage and data practices across Western Australia.

He has authored and implemented cornerstone policies—including Indigenous Cultural Awareness Training, Reconciliation Action Plans and Indigenous Employment Plans—while leading workforce development and youth engagement programs that deliver measurable outcomes.

2025 WA Innovator of the Year finalist for Indigivision’s approach to community-controlled data, he brings strategic thinking, cultural leadership, and a solution focused, ethical approach to collaboration with Elders, government and industry.

## Ashley Councillor

Ashley Councillor is a proud Banjima man with deep ties to the Pilbara and surrounding regions. As CEO of the Pilbara Aboriginal Health Alliance, he brings a powerful blend of cultural knowledge, strategic expertise, and unwavering commitment to Aboriginal empowerment.

Ashley is a passionate advocate for Aboriginal-led approaches to health and wellbeing, grounded in the wisdom of Elders and the strength of community. He is focused on driving meaningful, long-term change that embeds culture, strengthens connection, and enables Aboriginal communities to lead the systems that serve them.



## Jenny Bedford

Ms Bedford is a Nyinyi Jaru and Kija woman from Halls Creek who has extensive experience working in Aboriginal Community Controlled organisations in WA, NSW, and the NT. She has led program and policy approaches related to Aboriginal health at the local and regional level, with respect to the transition of remote health clinics and the integration of new and emerging growth areas to support Kimberley Aboriginal people and communities having access to high-quality, culturally safe health and well-being services.

Ms Bedford is currently the Deputy CEO of the Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services in Broome and was previously the CEO of the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service in Perth.



## Irene Stainton AO

Ms Stainton is a highly respected Noongar Elder. She has over 30 years' experience in the State Public Service and has served as Registrar of Aboriginal Sites and Chairperson of the Aboriginal Cultural Material Committee, in addition to advisory positions at State and national levels. Irene was appointed as inaugural Co-Chair of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Committee.

She was employed as General Manager of one of the largest WA based heritage consulting companies, is a past Member of the Human Rights Committee which developed the 'Bringing Them Home' report and has presented discussion papers to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland as an Australian delegate.



In previous roles, Ms Stainton has worked in the non-for-profit-sector and was employed as the Executive Director of the Family and Domestic Unit in WA.

Ms Stainton was Chairperson of the WA Museum's Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee for 26 years and has contributed to the WA Museum as a Trustee for three separate terms of office.

She is a past member of the National Museum of Australia's Indigenous Reference Group, and in 2019 was inducted into the WA Women's Hall of Fame.

Ms Stainton is a past finalist in the WA Australian Person of the Year Awards and was recently the first Aboriginal woman to be appointed as a WA Museum Fellow.

*2023 OAM: for service to the Indigenous community through cultural leadership, and through health and social welfare organisations.*

## Michael Ogilvie

Mr Ogilvie is a Whadjuk Ballardong and Yamatji man who has lived in Halls Creek for the past 17 years. He returned to Whadjuk Boodja in 2023 to join Social Reinvestment WA. He was the chairperson of the justice reinvestment site Olabud Doogethu in Halls Creek and has a passion to help young people and families, to support reforms in the justice system, and be a part of building better community resources.



Mr Ogilvie has worked with Garnduwa across the Kimberley in the sport and recreation area for several years. Through his travels, Michael has gained a great deal of experience in community networking, having established job connections and friendships throughout the Kimberley, Southwest, and Midwest regions.

Mr Ogilvie has completed studies at TAFE in Community Development, Employment Services and Career Development. Additionally, he has studied towards a Bachelor of Education at Edith Cowan University.

## **Anthony Hansen**

Mr Hansen is a Traditional Custodian and a nominated spokesperson for the Wardandi and Bibbulmun people of the Southwest with additional connections with the Minang and Wilman people of Wagyl Kaip. Mr Hansen is a current Director of Karri Karrak Aboriginal Corporation Native Title group.

Mr Hansen was born in Katanning in 1967 and at age three was forcibly removed from his family and placed into Marrbank Mission Institution for the next fifteen years. He was released from Native Welfare in 1985.



Mr Hansen has utilised his lived experiences as a Stolen Generations man and as a senior Traditional Custodian to commit to Aboriginal advancement in matters surrounding Closing the Gap reforms at the local, regional, State and national levels for three decades. He has held roles with government agencies, including Western Australia Police Department, Human Services, Department of Communities Child Protection, and local government as well as advising and managing Aboriginal services in a range of non-government corporations.


Mr Hansen is currently Co-Chair of the Bringing Them Home Committee WA, Deputy Chair of the West Australian Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation and is also a WA nominated Member of the Healing Foundation Stolen Generation Elders Reference Group Committee on a National Platform, advocating on all matters relating to Stolen Generations people and their families nationally and as an Advisory Member of the National Centre for Action on Child Sexual Abuse, Queensland.

## **Maureen Kelly (MK)**

Ms Kelly has paternal cultural connections from one of the biggest families in the Pilbara, the Lockyer family, of Yinjibarndi and Ngarluma descent. She has cultural links to Woodbrook lore ground which her family members have been part of for generations. Her maternal links are from Turkey Creek to Beagle Bay in the Kimberley as her mother is from the Stolen Generations.

Ms Kelly has had a broad ranging State public sector career over 38 years, working across Aboriginal affairs, justice, cultural heritage, land and Native Title negotiations,





education and training, domestic violence prevention, alcohol and drug intervention and Aboriginal women's issues amongst others.

Her aim as a recognised leader is to empower others, be generous in success and recognised for an inspiring lifetime of commitment to individual and community enhancement to provide high level and expert advice to the WA Government on key policies and priorities, based in a deep regard for the contributions of all people.

## **Damien Parriman**

Damien Parriman is the Chief Executive Officer of KRED Enterprises Pty Ltd and the Ambooriny Burru Foundation Group. Mr Parriman has worked in the Native Title and Indigenous sectors in the Kimberley for 20 years through various roles with the Kimberley Land Council, Walalakoo Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC, Aarnja Ltd and KRED Enterprises.

Through these roles Mr Parriman has been directly involved with numerous large scale native title processes across the West Kimberley including Land Settlement and Resource Access Agreements.



Mr Parriman's role at KRED includes establishing a sustainable economic base for members and ensuring that engagement with third party stakeholders under complex legal frameworks is consistent with the aspirations and objectives of the Members, whilst balancing the traditional cultural values that underpin our member's Native Title Rights and Interests.

A Yawuru and Jabirr Jabir man, Mr Parriman has traditional connection to the Broome and surrounding areas in the Kimberley region of Western Australia. Damien attended Secondary School in Perth where he also graduated from the University of Western Australia with a Bachelor of Laws.

## Kelsey Smith

Kelsey Smith is a Banjima woman from the Pilbara, Western Australia with over 10 years' experience across stakeholder relations, community engagement and operational leadership.

She brings a strong cultural foundation and a deep connection to Country, alongside extensive experience working with local communities, industry, and government. Kelsey is the Founder and Managing Director of Birunji, a business that combines sustainability with culturally grounded knowledge to create meaningful solutions.



She is committed to advancing culturally informed, community-led outcomes for First Nations people across Western Australia.

## Robert Taylor


Rob Taylor is a proud Nhanda man from the Yamaji nation and the Chief Executive Officer of the Western Australian Indigenous Tourism Operators Council (WAITOC). With more than 36 years of experience across hospitality, tourism, business development, and community advocacy, Rob brings deep cultural insight and a proven track record of elevating Aboriginal voices within the Western Australian tourism landscape.



As the first Aboriginal CEO of WAITOC, Rob has led the organisation through a period of significant growth and transformation—helping shift WAITOC from a predominantly marketing body into a strong business development organisation supporting Aboriginal enterprises statewide.

He has overseen programs that have established dozens of Aboriginal tourism businesses and created hundreds of jobs, while advocating for major State and Commonwealth investment to expand economic opportunities for Aboriginal people.

Rob has contributed to key frameworks such as the Jina Aboriginal Tourism Action Plan and secured more than \$6 million in funding for statewide business skills programs. His leadership is grounded in cultural integrity, community empowerment, and practical governance experience, and is strengthened by his MBA.



Rob is also the inaugural chair of the First Nations Visitor Economy Partnership (FNVEP), which has been set up to create a First Nations national tourism body to help build the Aboriginal tourism sector on a national level. Rob also sits on several state and national tourism bodies to help advocate for a stronger First Nations tourism sector in Australia.

## Patricia Hargreaves

Patricia is a Ngarinyin/Jaru descendant from the East Kimberley region of WA.

A visit to Perth in the mid-seventies presented endless opportunities for employment and raising a family, this prompted the decision to settle in Perth. Patricia worked for the Aboriginal Medical Service and a Women's Refuge in East Perth prior to joining the Australian Public Service (APS).



Patricia recently retired after a forty-year career in the APS working across Perth and Southwest areas of WA, making many connections with local Whadjuk Noongar people. Extensive experience in program management in Aboriginal employment and community and economic development and varied social issues.

A Ngarinyin/Jaru woman, Patricia has traditional connections to the East Kimberley and surrounding areas in the Kimberley region of Western Australia, Patricia attended Secondary School in Perth where she also graduated from Curtin University with a Bachelor of Social Work.

Patricia is a Director of Nyaliga Aboriginal Corporation and regularly makes the journey back to Wyndham to attend board meetings.