

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Support

From Little Things Big Things Grow: Acknowledgement of Country

AccessEAP would like to share a little bit of our story of including Acknowledgement of Country as a regular part of our business. Our journey at AccessEAP started about 4 years ago by adding Acknowledgement of Country to our email signatures and opening our main business meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country which soon grew to become a regular practice.

This encouraged an earnestness to strengthen our cultural awareness with the introduction of ongoing Arrilla Cultural Competency training for all employees. The significance of including these practices into all business and team meetings gradually took on an organic process of its own with a stronger and more visceral meaning in relationship to the very values of our business.

- Respect
- Collaborate
- Curiosity
- Integrity
- Accomplish

An acknowledgement of respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples on the Country on which we work and meet has a reciprocal of process. As the story of Vincent Lingiari is told in the song line "..from little things big things grow" (Paul Kelly) so too has our cultural responsiveness. Acknowledgement of Country is now practised throughout all our offices in Australia. A key component is the practice Acknowledgement of Country with sincerity. Best practice and good business need connection with a strong solid foundation: the culture and country on which we live and work.

To ensure our commitment is ongoing we have embarked on a RAP with Reconciliation Australia. To guide us throughout the process is our cultural advisor Aunty Gail Daylight a proud Kamilaroi Elder, who sits with us on our Reconciliation Working Group.

This reciprocity is now demonstrated in the Cultural Calendar by celebrating the many anniversaries such as Sorry Day, Bringing them Home Report, MABO Day, National Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC 3-10 July 2022. From these simple practices of respect and recognition for the First Nations Peoples (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples) and the country on which we live and work, our cultural awareness and relationship is enriched within our business, workplace culture, internal processes, respectful ways of engagement, cultural sensitivity, customer relations and personal lives.

AccessEAP acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land we work on and their continuing connection to land, culture and community. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

CONTACT

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This is an ongoing commitment forever evolving in the provision of holistic services and resources that support the needs of our rich cultural heritage, the most ancient surviving culture on the planet, supporting business 'Supply Nation' as well as the individual, family and community. In the spirit of reciprocity WE move forward together, side by side.



If you are interested to find out more on including Acknowledgement of Country into your business, we encourage you to jump onto the links below. Let us know how you go!

- https://www.reconciliation.org.au/acknowledgement-of-country-and-welcome-tocountry/
- https://aiatsis.gov.au/explore/welcome-country



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