

## TRADITIONAL OWNER SERVICES

Dja Dja Wurrung people recognise and respect our Ancestors' spiritual and physical association with the land. Many thousands of years have seen many thousands of Dja Dja Wurrung people walk, live and work the land.

This association has left the Dja Dja Wurrung people with a legacy, connection, obligation and responsibility for country that is an ongoing cultural inheritance.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* the DDWCAC is the Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) for the Central Loddon Mallee region of Victoria which includes the Central Goldfields area.

DDWCAC's Cultural Heritage Fact Sheet describes how the Dja Dja Wurrung protects and celebrates its cultural heritage. Cultural heritage work and fees are developed pursuant to the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* (Victoria).

### **REGISTERED ABORIGINAL PARTY**

Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) are recognised in the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* (the Act) as the primary guardians, keepers and knowledge holders of Aboriginal cultural heritage. The Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council appoints RAPs as the parties who hold primary responsibility for cultural heritage decisions at a local level. Once appointed, RAPs have formal functions in the management and protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage, as well as being the contact people for general enquiries relating to cultural heritage in the appointed RAP area.

A RAP has an overarching duty to act in good faith in the carrying out of all of its functions and exercising its powers under the Act. RAPs are able to charge fees for their participation in their various consultation, assessment, recommendation and advisory roles under the Act. The Victorian Government has published<sup>1</sup> recommended fees and conduct guidelines rates for this work.

### **Office of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria: Protocols for Recognising Traditional Owners**

In addition to the legal functions of RAPs set out under the Act, the Office of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria (OAAV) publishes guidelines and protocols for everyone to follow in order to properly recognise the Traditional Owners when holding a function or event. These guidelines recommend:

- The giving of an Acknowledgement of Country at the commencement of an event and provides a suggested form to take for the Acknowledgement
- That event organisers find out who the Traditional Owners are in the area, by referring to OAAV's map and table of RAPs (which lists the name and contact details of each Registered Party)
- Consulting with Traditional Owners to perform a Welcome to Country and other cultural ceremonies in appropriate circumstances
- Negotiating fees with the Traditional Owners performing a Welcome to Country and ceremonies such as traditional dance or smoking ceremonies.

### **Example: Acknowledgement of Country**

*'To start the official proceedings, I would like to acknowledge that we are meeting on Jaara (people) Country of the Dja Dja Wurrung Community. We acknowledge that their forebears are the Traditional Owners of the area we are on and have been custodians for many centuries and have performed age old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal. We acknowledge their living culture and their unique role in the life of this region.'*

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<sup>1</sup> DDWCAC has developed fees for service in line with the *Fees and Conduct Guidelines for Registered Aboriginal Parties*, 2008, Aboriginal Affairs Victoria, Department of Planning and Community Development, Melbourne.



**CULTURAL HERITAGE FEES [current as at: July 2015]**

SERVICE	RATE (EXCLUDING GST)
General Consultation and mandatory meetings (per hour with a two hour minimum)	\$300.00 for 1 <sup>st</sup> hour (\$150.00 p.h. thereafter)
Cultural Heritage Induction	\$500.00
Preliminary Assessments, Written Report and Report Reviews	\$150.00 per hour
<b>Half Day Rates (between 8.00am and 12.00pm)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Assessments: Surveys, complex assessments, salvage and implementation works</li> <li>▪ Site leaders / RAP Project/Program Manager</li> <li>▪ On site meetings / inspections</li> <li>▪ Presentations / workshops / training sessions</li> </ul>	\$600.00
Field Representatives and general site visits	\$500.00
<b>Full Day Rates (between 8.00am and 5.00pm)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Assessments: Surveys, complex assessments, salvage and implementation works</li> <li>▪ Site leaders / RAP Project/Program Manager</li> <li>▪ On site meetings / inspections</li> <li>▪ Presentations / workshops / training sessions</li> </ul>	\$1200.00
Field representatives and general site visits	\$1000.00
<b>Travel Rates:</b>	
Reimbursement of train/bus fares or mileage at rate of 0.75c per kilometer (km) to a maximum of 500kms applies:	0.75c per kilometre
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ From home base and return to home if work booking is for a single day</li> <li>▪ Where multiple days are booked and overnight accommodation is required travel reimbursement also applies only to travel from accommodation site to work site and return to accommodation each day</li> <li>▪ If required additional travel to pick up Field Representatives each day from/to home</li> </ul>	
<b>Meal allowance:</b>	
Plus Accommodation costs where required	\$40 per full day
<b>Ceremonial Events:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Traditional Welcome to Country</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Class A - Welcome in language, includes:</b></li> <li>➢ Some general cultural information</li> <li>➢ Timeframe: Up to 10 minutes.</li> <li>▪ <b>Class B – Welcome in language, includes:</b></li> <li>➢ Information from Class A</li> <li>➢ Specific information relating to link between event and Dja Dja Wurrung culture.</li> <li>➢ Timeframe: Up to 20 minutes.</li> <li>▪ <b>Class C - Welcome in language, includes:</b></li> <li>➢ Information from Classes A and B</li> <li>➢ PowerPoint presentation, lecture and/or demonstration (e.g. Native Title journey, Cultural Heritage)</li> <li>➢ Timeframe: 20 – 60 minutes.</li> <li>▪ <b>Traditional Smoking Ceremony</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Combined Welcome (Classes A, B &amp; C) and Smoking Ceremony</b></li> </ul>	<p>\$400.00</p> <p>\$500.00</p> <p>\$600.00</p> <p>\$500.00</p> <p>Additional \$300.00 to Classes A, B &amp; C</p>
<b>Presentations:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provision of presentation sessions on Dja Dja Wurrung culture and cultural heritage, including public presentations (to a two hour minimum)</li> </ul>	
Plus Travel Rate of \$150.00 and Accommodation costs where required	
<p><u>After Hours work:</u> Where DDWCAC representatives are required to work more than an 8 hour full day, rate is levied at \$150.00 per hour or part thereof, for e.g. 8 ½ hours worked will attract additional \$150.00.</p> <p>When overtime worked beyond an 8 hour full day reaches over 2 hours, rate is then levied at \$200.00 per half-hour thereafter.</p> <p><u>Cancellation/Postponement Fee:</u> A fee of 50% of the confirmed booking request will be charged and applied if the activity is cancelled or postponed within 48 hours of commencement of the booking. This fee covers payment to DDWCAC representatives and administration costs.</p>	

For further information please contact:

Cultural Heritage Office

Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation

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