

Media Release

The Hon Gabrielle Williams MP
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
Minister for Prevention of Family Violence
Minister for Women



Monday, 20 July 2020

INVESTING IN ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

The Victorian Government is helping build stronger Aboriginal communities through new infrastructure and repairing or improving existing buildings.

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Gabrielle Williams today announced the opening of round four of the *Aboriginal Community Infrastructure Program*, with \$3.2 million available for eligible projects.

Since its inception in 2017, the program has supported 38 Aboriginal groups which have shared in a total \$11.7 million to build, upgrade or repair infrastructure projects.

The Government recognises that improving Aboriginal community infrastructure is fundamental to the advancement of self-determination, as well as social and economic development.

To meet the emerging needs of Aboriginal Victorian communities, grants of up to \$1.5 million are available for projects of their own design, to build new infrastructure, or to repair and expand existing infrastructure.

Round four funding is available under two categories for 2020, including:

- **Category 1:** Repairs and Minor Works funding (up to \$150,000 plus GST) is available for maintenance and minor building works to improve the functionality, environmental performance, safety and accessibility of existing buildings.
- **Category 2:** Capital Works and Upgrades funding (\$150,000 to \$1,500,000 plus GST) is available to improve existing facilities to support service delivery needs or to construct new purpose-built facilities that respond to the needs of Aboriginal communities.

Applications will close at 2pm on Monday, 14 September 2020. For more information on eligibility or to apply, visit: aboriginalvictoria.vic.gov.au/aboriginal-community-infrastructure-program.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Gabrielle Williams

"We believe in strong communities – a key goal of this program is to empower Aboriginal organisations across Victoria to identify, design and develop their own infrastructure projects."

"During these challenging social and economic times, it is vitally important that we support Aboriginal organisations in the work they do providing essential services to Aboriginal Victorians."

"We know that Aboriginal Victorians have been especially impacted by the coronavirus pandemic – this is why we are backing the organisations that help them."