

# Media Release

## Andrew Broad

Member for Mallee

Tuesday 4th July 2017

### **CELEBRATING THIS NAIDOC WEEK.**

This week is NAIDOC week, an opportunity for all Australians to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

To mark this significant week the Australian Government has provided \$1.4 million in grants to support community events happening across Australia and in the Wimmera, Mallee and Mildura region.

Member for Mallee Andrew Broad says it's great to see the Electorate of Mallee receive \$6500 in grants to support NAIDOC celebrations.

Four Mallee organisations have been successful in their grant applications with Budja Budja Aboriginal Cooperation receiving \$1000 for the celebration and revival of Djab Warrung Language in Halls Gap. Robinvale District Health Services will see \$1000 go toward their 2017 NAIDOC Gathering. Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-operative in Horsham have been granted \$3000 to go toward their Wotjobaluk Nations celebration, and Murray Valley Aboriginal Co-operative will see \$1500 for their NAIDOC week events.

"I encourage all local residents to get involved in these events and celebrate our local Indigenous communities," Mr Broad said.

"NAIDOC events are a great opportunity for the people of the Wimmera, Mallee and Mildura regions to gain a better understanding and appreciation for Indigenous art, language, and culture."

The national theme this year is *Our Languages Matter*, aimed at giving recognition to the vital role Indigenous Languages play in our communities.

This investment builds on the \$20 million allocated each year under the Indigenous Languages and Arts programme that aims to address the erosion of an estimated 250 original Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and more than 600 dialects.

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