

9.2.7

NSW 2025 NATIONAL TRUST AWARDS: DHULUNY: 200 YEARS OF WIRADYURI RESISTANCE

FILE NO: 20.00123

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

REPORT:

On behalf of the Wiradyuri Traditional Owners Central West Aboriginal Corporation (WTOCWAC), Council entered the Dhuluny: 200 Years of Wiradyuri Resistance events into the 2025 NSW National Trust Awards.

Dhuluny (a Wiradyuri word meaning the direct or gospel truth) was a series of events commemorating the 200-year anniversary of the Declaration of Martial Law on 14 August 1824 and the ensuing frontier violence. The project was developed by the Wiradyuri Elders group in the Bathurst region to commemorate the bicentenary. The August activities were part of a week-long event that celebrated the resilience of the Wiradyuri people and included:

- Possum-Skin Cloak making workshops led by local Wiradyuri Elders and knowledge holders
- Weaving and Cultural Artefact making workshops facilitated by master weavers and experienced artefact makers
- A Corroboree Ceremony involving over 100 dancers from all over NSW
- The Dhuluny conference at Charles Sturt University
- Dhuluny Aboriginal Art Markets and a music concert showcasing Artists from all over NSW
- A Community Film Festival and Author Talks
- An exhibition open from 6 July to 8 September 2024 "Dhuluny – the war that never ended"

Council engaged with and supported WTOCWAC with its program of events as well as engaging with and supporting all local Aboriginal groups in programs and events that they may have planned to commemorate the Declaration of Martial Law throughout 2024.

The NSW National Trust awards were held on Friday 16 May 2025 in Sydney. Dhuluny: 200 Years of Wiradyuri Resistance won the Aboriginal Heritage category. Council representatives accepted the award as WTOCWAC members were unable to attend. The award is appropriate recognition of an extensive program of events that sought to share a very important and confronting story of the history of the region in a culturally safe and inclusive way.

A copy of the award is provided at **Attachment 1**. **Attachment 2** provides background information from WTOCWAC that supported the making of the application.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Council funded the entry of the application (\$185) as well as the cost of staff attendance at the award ceremony (\$410.65) from within existing budgets.

BATHURST COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN – OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES:**Strategic Direction 1: Building a Strong Local Economy**

Outcome 1.4 The Bathurst Region offers and supports diverse and evolving cultural and tourism experiences.

Strategic Direction 4: A Caring and Resilient Community

Outcome 4.1 Our community are proud of where we live and our identity.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

01 **Inform** - to provide the public with balanced and objective information to help them understand the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. NT Award certificate [9.2.7.1 - 2 pages]
2. Dhuluny series of events [9.2.7.2 - 106 pages]

MINUTE

RESOLUTION NUMBER: ORD2025-178

MOVED: Cr J Underwood SECONDED: Cr B Fry

RESOLVED:

That the information be noted.