

Media Statement

Klynton Wanganeen
Commissioner for Aboriginal
Engagement

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Commissioner for Aboriginal Engagement, Klynton Wanganeen has welcomed the recent summary paper released by South Australian Aboriginal film and new media organisation Yaitya Makkitura Inc.

It contains the findings of the first state-wide structured consultation aimed at exploring the Aboriginal community's aspirations in relation to film and new media.

"The 'Summary of *Towards an Aboriginal Film and New Media Sector Strategy for South Australia*' passionately supports the creativity of the state's Aboriginal people," said Mr Wanganeen.

"It faithfully conveys the community's message that local Aboriginal people should have appropriate control of film and new media training and production processes that express Aboriginal world views and cultures and address Aboriginal themes.

"I congratulate Yaitya's multi-agency Reference Committee on producing the foundations of a strategy to develop Aboriginal people's participation and creative influence in this industry.

"Attention to these matters is long overdue; they are fundamental to social inclusion, reconciliation and cultural development in this state."

The full information paper tackles the pivotal issue of 'Aboriginal content' versus 'Aboriginal made' in screen culture and points out the policy vacuum in this regard in South Australia.

"I applaud the paper's statement that 'A unique Aboriginal film identity can only be achieved through Aboriginal people expressing themselves from their own social and spiritual context'," said Mr Wanganeen.

"I congratulate Yaitya Makkitura on continuing to fulfil its community mandate to work for a distinctly Aboriginal film language and culture in South Australia and I thank the Reference Committee for its astute analysis and commitment to empowerment.

"I call on all relevant agencies and industry bodies to respond constructively."

The consultation findings relate to a range of major reports and policy documents including *South Australia's Strategic Plan*, the SA Film Corporation's *Strategic Plan 2012*, Thinker in Residence Peter Wintonick's 2005 report *Southern Screen: Southern Stories - Building a New Screen Culture in South Australia*, and the 2007 report *To Break the Cycle*, by the Commissioner for Social Inclusion, Monsignor David Cappelletti.