

BRISBANE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



Brisbane's
**RELATIONSHIP
BUILDING**
Program
2021

BRIS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES

Brisbane Economic Development Agency acknowledges and pays respect to all our Elders past, present and emerging from the Traditional Custodians on whose Country the Relationship Building Program activities will be delivered on, and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters, and culture.

Brisbane Economic Development Agency is committed to actions that contribute to a just, equitable and reconciled Australia. We extend our acknowledgment to each presenting business that forms part of the program and recognise the important role they play in Queensland's Tourism Industry and the broader community in sharing knowledge, wisdom and truth.

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING PROGRAM

PRESENTERS AND EXPERIENCES



NYANDA CULTURAL TOURS
Presenter:
Madonna Thomson
Hosted Tour, Bush Foods Luncheon & Cultural Awareness Workshop
Program Learning Experience 1



YURA TOURS
Presenter:
Elisha Kissick
Island Luncheon & Sand Beneath My Feet Cultural Walk
Program Learning Experience 8



BLACKCARD CULTURAL TOURS
Presenter:
Yarraka Bayles and Cassy Saunders
Hosted Aboriginal Public Art Tour and Murri Menu Bush Foods Luncheon Platters
Program Learning Experience 2



SEALINK CULTURAL EXPERIENCES
Presenter:
Matthew Burns
Private Goompi Trail Tour and Cultural Artefacts Talk
Program Learning Experience 9



SPIRITS OF THE RED SAND
Presenter:
Uncle Eddie Ruska
Evening Show & Dinner Cultural Awareness Workshop Tribal Challenge
Program Learning Experience 3, 4, 5



DREAMTIME KULLILLA-ART
Presenter:
Michael Connolly
Indigenous Art & Importance of Art IP Talk, Tour of Art Gallery & Retail Gift Store
Program Learning Experience 10



BIRRUNGA GALLERY & DINING
Presenter:
Birrunge Wiradyuri
Birrunge Talk, Guided Gallery Tour and Bush Food Luncheon
Program Learning Experience 6



JINIBARA TOURS
Presenter:
Jason Murphy
Caboolture to Woodfordia Cultural Tour and Experiences
Program Learning Experience 11



MINJERRIBAH STUDIO
Presenter:
Delvene Cockatoo-Collins
Hosted Goompi Tour & Weaving Workshop
Program Learning Experience 7



ABORIGINAL ART CO.
Presenters: Troy Casey & Amanda Hayman
Founders Journey Talk Guided Gallery Artist and Fish Lane Indigenous Public Art Tours Art Workshop
Program Learning Experience 12



Nyanda Cultural Tours



PROGRAM FOUNDATIONS

Over the past seven years, BEDA has worked closely with the region's **First Nations community**, leading to a united focus on the development and growth of First Nations tourism experiences.

To further this work, BEDA facilitated the **Relationship Building Program** in the Year of Indigenous Tourism, aligning with the **Queensland First Nations Tourism Plan**.

The program is founded on the **Larrakia Principles**, whereby it is emphasised that Indigenous Peoples will determine the extent and nature of, and organisational arrangements, for their participation in tourism, and that governments and multilateral agencies will support the **empowerment of First Nations People**.

BEDA recognises that for First Nations Tourism to be **successful and sustainable**, it needs to be based on traditional knowledge, cultures and practices, and it must contribute to the well-being of First Nations communities and the environment.

BEDA **recognises** that whilst tourism provides a strong driver to restore, protect and promote First Nations cultures, it has the potential to diminish or destroy those cultures when improperly developed.





Delvene Cockatoo-Collins

UNIQUE & NEW

- 100% of participants had not participated in a program like this before, and **would recommend** it to others
- Series of **Cultural Awareness, Truth Telling, and Immersive Cultural Experiences** for non-Indigenous tourism businesses
- Participants experienced **4-6 program learning activities over an eight week period** in May and June 2021
- Inaugural program in 2021 with **12 Indigenous business presenters and 15 non-Indigenous business participants**



Spirits of the Red Sand

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- Recognised and deepened the understanding of local Aboriginal culture and history, in turn **showcasing and strengthening** our growing cluster of Indigenous tourism businesses.
- Provided the region's non-Indigenous tourism businesses the opportunity to establish **culturally appropriate and respectful practices**.
- Provided an **inclusive space** within which to learn, engage and build positive and effective relationships.
- Addressed the challenge of lack of knowledge, awareness, and **collaboration** between Indigenous and non-indigenous tourism businesses

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

PARTICIPANTS

"...an **incredible initiative**...this should be a regular program to help build better awareness and recognition of our rich cultural heritage and the amazing opportunities that abound."

"...fantastic opportunity to experience and learn about Brisbane from a perspective that is too often ignored or under-appreciated. I have been pleasantly surprised at the **depth and variety of opportunities** already in Brisbane."

"...exposed me to Indigenous culture in a very **positive learning** format...opened my eyes to...the challenges...and how I can improve and make a positive contribution."

"The experiences, while naturally exposing some quite dark content, were very enjoyable - a **great balance** by the hosts."

PRESENTERS

"...**great exercise to develop new tours** with [BEDA] and to proudly deliver them under Uncle Eddie's guidance."

"...absolute pleasure to participate. Working with BEDA is one of my favourite partnerships...**rewarding and enriching**."



Dreamtime Kullilla-Art