



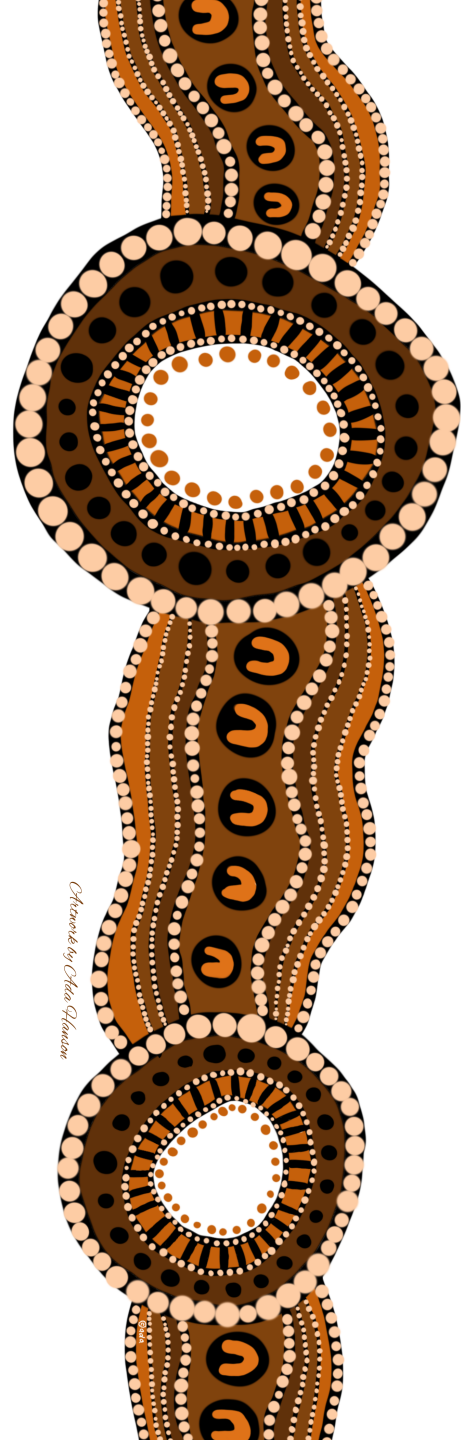
Who Owns My Language?

A call for First Nations' Linguistic Rights

Sue Hanson
CEO / Senior Linguist
Goldfields Aboriginal Language Centre



Wangka kanyira ngalipirniku
PRESERVING OUR LANGUAGES FOR ALL OF US



‘Linguistic Rights protect the individual and collective right to choose one's language or languages for communication both within the private and the public spheres.’

Linguist Rights – Minority Group Rights International

National Indigenous Language Policy 2009

The new National Indigenous Languages Policy is aimed at keeping Indigenous languages alive and supporting Indigenous Australians to connect with their language, culture and country.

Linguist Rights – Minority Group Rights International



Australian Government Language Services Guidelines

All Australians have the right to communicate and engage with the Australian Government and other essential services, irrespective of their first language preference, their English language ability and their cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Australia has a rich cultural and linguistic diversity.

Australian Government Language Services
Guidelines

Universal Declaration of Linguistic Rights

1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights

1966 Convention against Discrimination in Education.

1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

1988 Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

1989 The Convention on the Rights of the Child.

1992 European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

1996 The Universal Declaration of Linguistic Rights.

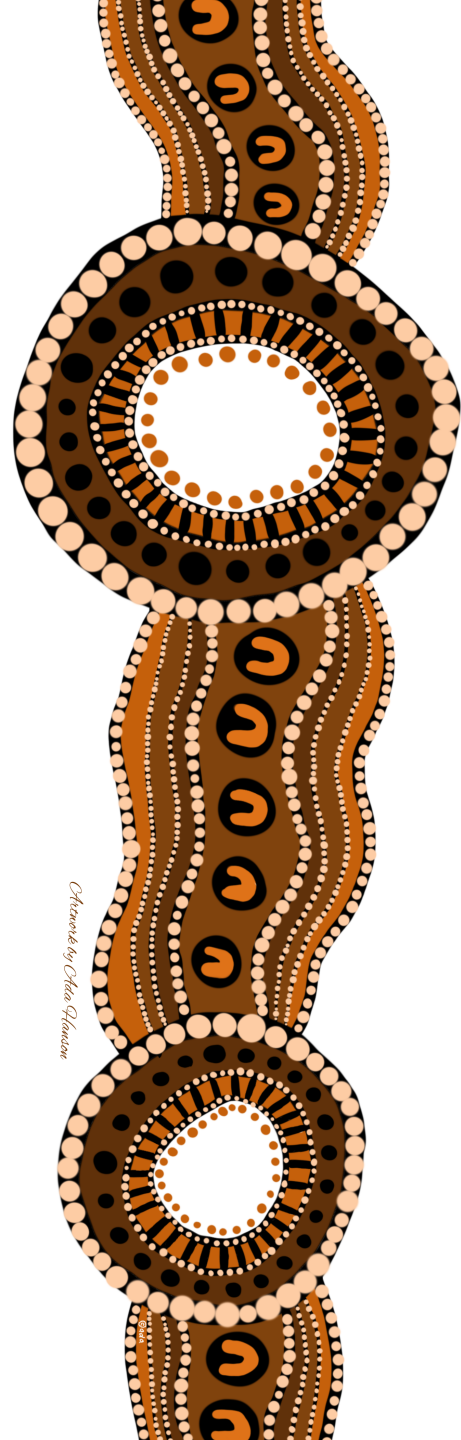
NSW Aboriginal Languages Act 2017





Indigenous Languages: A National Approach 2009

1. National Attention: To bring national attention to Indigenous languages – the oldest surviving languages in the world; and the pressures they face.
2. Critically Endangered Languages: Reinforce use of critically endangered Indigenous languages that are being only partly spoken to help prevent decline in use and to maintain or extend their common, everyday use as much as possible.
3. Working with Languages to *Close the Gap*: In areas where Indigenous languages are being spoken fully and passed on, making sure that government recognises and works with these languages in its agenda to *Close the Gap*.
4. Strengthening Pride in Identity and Culture: To restore the use of rarely spoken or unspoken Indigenous languages to the extent that the current language environment allows.
5. Supporting Indigenous Language Programs in Schools: To support and maintain the teaching and learning of Indigenous languages in Australian schools.



International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022-2032

The five themes the Directions Group will be working on are:

1. Stop the loss
2. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are centre.
3. Caring for Country
4. Intergenerational knowledge transfer
5. Truth telling and celebration.



Closing The Gap – Target 16

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and languages are strong, supported and flourishing.

- *By 2031, there is a sustained increase in number and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages being spoken.*

Language Rights of Linguistic Minorities : A Practical Guide for Implementation 2017

This document aims to:

1. Clarify the various rights of linguistic minorities relevant to language use and preferences;
2. Clarify the obligations of state authorities towards linguistic minorities;
3. Support the development and continuous improvement of effective (including cost-efficient approaches to and practices for, these rights of linguistic minorities; and
4. Promote consistent approaches to the participation and inclusion of minorities in public life and the implementation of their language rights.

The Cost of Linguistic Rights

What is the cost of a pseudo-education in predominating languages which does not capacitate one using them properly?

Universal Declaration of Linguistic Rights



Conclusion

1. National Indigenous Language Policy 2009 does not articulate linguistic rights.

2. Legislative protection

- for language use
- for language enjoyment
- teaching
- learning
- protection
- veneration

3. Scaffolded understanding, commitment and progress towards First Nations language legislation.

Goldfields Aboriginal Language Centre Abor. Corp.

2 Burt St, BOULDER WA 6432

info@wangka.com.au

(08)9021 3788

Wangka Youtube

www.wangka.com.au

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/Wangka.com.au/>

Goldfields

Aboriginal Language Centre

Wangka kanyira ngalipirniku

PRESERVING OUR LANGUAGES FOR ALL OF US