

UPDATE

Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council

Friday 30 July 2010

DECISION TO DECLINE REGISTERED ABORIGINAL PARTY APPLICATION FROM WADDA WURRUNG ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

The Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council has decided not to register Wadda Wurrung Aboriginal Corporation (WWAC) as a registered Aboriginal party (RAP).

WWAC had applied for an area including Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula, extending south to Cape Otway and north to the Pyrenees, as well as including the Western Plains around Colac.

In May 2009, the Council appointed Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation, now trading as Wadawurrung as a RAP for the majority of the area described. That appointment was made on the basis that Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation had established it was an organisation that represented the Wada wurrung people.

The WWAC RAP application was made on the basis that it was an organisation that represented Wada wurrung Traditional Owners that were not adequately represented by other organisations.

The Council gave careful consideration to all the information provided by the WWAC and took the view that WWAC was not an appropriate organisation to appoint as a RAP.

The Council also considered appointing two RAPs and decided it was not appropriate in the circumstances of the WWAC RAP application.

A record of the Council's decision on the WWAC application will be published on the Council's website. Visit www.aboriginalaffairs.vic.gov.au and follow the links to Aboriginal cultural heritage / the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council / applications declined or withdrawn.