

UPDATE

Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council

31 January 2012

NEW MEMBER APPOINTED TO THE VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL HERITAGE COUNCIL

The Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council (the Council) will be joined by its newest member when it meets in February.

On 30 November 2011, the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Victoria, the Hon. Jeanette Powell, appointed Ms Jennifer Beer (pictured) as a member of the Council.



The Council was created under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* (the Act) and is the only decision making authority in Australia whose members are all Traditional Owners. With the appointment of Ms Beer, the Council is now made of ten Traditional Owners, who come from across Victoria. Each Council member is appointed for a three-year term.

A resident of Hamilton, Ms Beer brings to the Council 30 years of Koori Education experience and a strong passion for the rights of all to live, breathe and practice their culture. Ms Beer assisted her people to negotiate the first successful Native Title Claim in Victoria in 2005 and 2006. Ms Beer has also been involved in revival and reclamation work of the Wergaia language.

The Council welcomes Ms Beer to her new role and looks forward to working with her in the Council's purpose of working with all Victorians for the protection and enjoyment of Victoria's rich Aboriginal cultural heritage.

For more information about the Council, visit

<http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/indigenous/aboriginal-heritage-council>

or contact the Council on 9208 3243 or at vahc@dpcd.vic.gov.au