



WINTA
WORLD INDIGENOUS
TOURISM ALLIANCE

World Indigenous Tourism Summit
Empowering Opportunity Through Tourism
March 13-16, 2023
Perth, Australia

Noongar Indigenous Tourism Research Protocol Declarations and Recommendations

PREAMBLE

The World Indigenous Tourism Alliance (WINTA) was created from the global, collective aspirations of Indigenous interests in tourism. WINTA is an Indigenous initiative that is based on key human Indigenous rights including the rights to self-determination, self-governance, and the right to maintain and develop our own independent institutions, and to develop cross-border relationships critical to maintaining unity and common goals.

WINTA is an Indigenous-led global network of Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples and organizations who seek to give practical expression to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) through tourism. WINTA guards the Larrakia Declaration, created in 2012 that establishes principles for the development of Indigenous Tourism at a global level based on the internationally recognized UNDRIP. The World Tourism Organization recognized and supported the Larrakia Declaration principles through its Executive Council in 2012.

We embrace the rich Cultural, Ethnic, Aboriginal and First Nations backgrounds of people involved in tourism. We understand that research in Indigenous Tourism is an important endeavour to guide projects that respect Indigenous protocols and rights, driving the activity toward decolonizing methodologies, and offering benefits to Indigenous peoples.

This document is divided in two parts; the first establishes a **Declaration** about Indigenous Tourism research protocols and the second part focuses on **Recommendations** for academia or any agency pursuing a research project or gathering data with and for Indigenous peoples.

DECLARATIONS

Declaration 1:

Indigenous communities have worldviews and links to traditional lands and ocean spaces that represent unique and diverse cultural expressions. These cultural expressions provide a clear attractor for visitors seeking to experience different geographic locations and their Indigenous communities.

Declaration 2:

Institutions with research capability in tourism have an important role to play in advancing tourism research to contribute to the understanding of Indigenous Tourism and generate knowledge consistent with best practice requirements of Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Indigenous Data Governance.

Declaration 3:

Indigenous natural and cultural heritage, including Indigenous knowledge systems, have been impacted for centuries by colonization and further threatened by global developments including tourism.

Declaration 4:

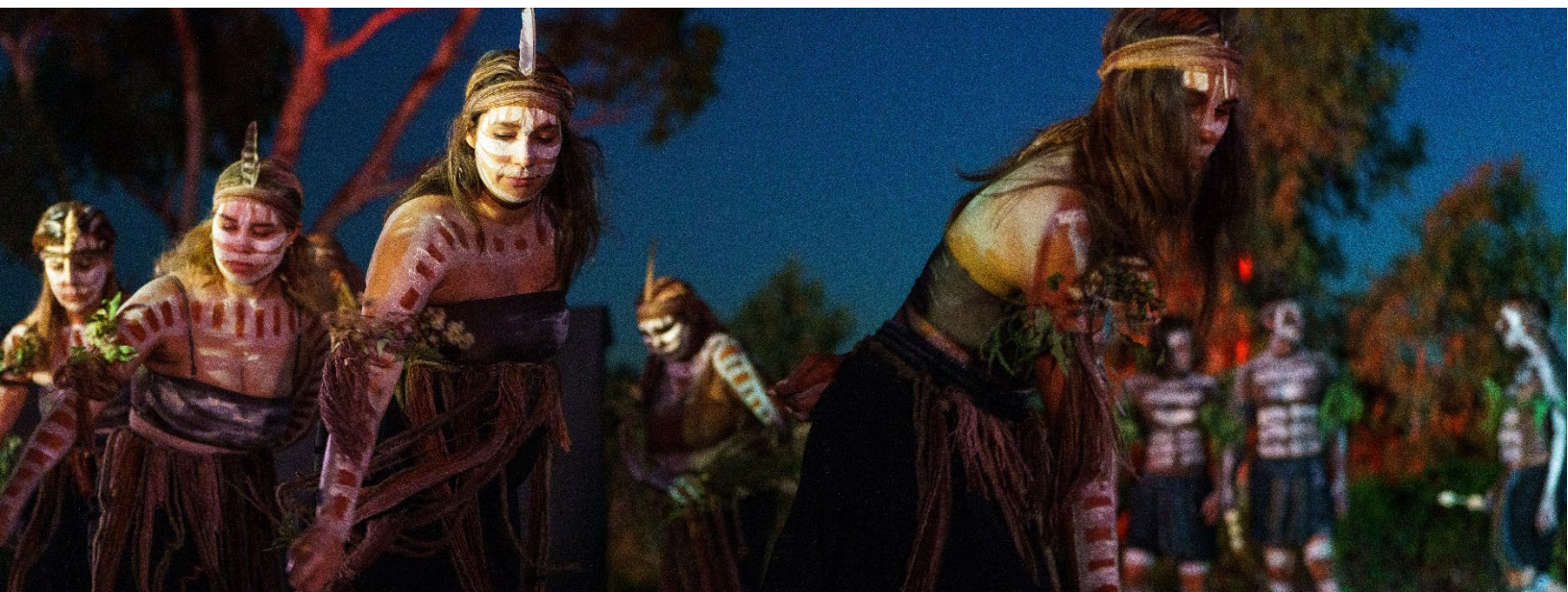
Indigenous peoples have demonstrated that given the opportunity to fully participate in development processes they can share their worldviews, initiate adaptive responses to cope with external influences and produce tourism opportunities which benefit both visitors and their own communities.

Declaration 5:

The evolution of advocacy for protecting the rights of Indigenous peoples, including their knowledge systems, has been accelerated by States and the corporate sector including the tourism industry.

Declaration 6:

There is increasing recognition of Indigenous peoples' knowledge and the requirements for Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Indigenous Data Governance.



It is hereby resolved to adopt the following:

RECOMMENDATIONS

Researchers and research institutions seeking to produce credible research and data to be used in the course of sustainable Indigenous Tourism development should:

1. Ensure that each tourism research project, from start to finish, be carried out in the spirit of equitable partnerships that uphold the tourism rights of Indigenous Peoples as expressed by the Larrakia Declaration and human rights resolutions set out by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
 - a. Commit to partnerships where each project, from start to finish, is built on dialogue, informed consent and respect for Indigenous peoples whose knowledge systems strengthen the vision and value of scientific inquiry.
 - b. Ensure that tourism research enables Indigenous empowerment and rights in sustainable tourism development as expressed by the *Larrakia Declaration*.
 - c. Ensure that tourism research fulfils a duty to protect, serve and contribute to Indigenous human rights as set out by the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.
2. Strengthen conventional ethical research standards, research methodologies and practices with engagement principles that enable culturally respectful, diverse and meaningful Indigenous participation throughout the entire tourism research process.
 - a. Implement research methodologies and engagement principles grounded by respect, reciprocity, and meaningful Indigenous involvement throughout the entire tourism research process.
 - b. Recognise Indigenous knowledge holder intellectual property rights and their cultural practices be incorporated into the processes involved in tourism research.
 - c. Create opportunities for Indigenous capacity building throughout the entire tourism research process to further the development and implementation of Indigenous-driven research now and in the future.
 - d. Promote the joint creation of research methodologies, or incorporate Indigenous methodologies, that generate research projects adapted to the reality of the Indigenous people involved in the process, and that rescue, revitalize and incorporate Indigenous knowledge according to the limits imposed by Indigenous people.
 - e. Encourage the mentoring, remuneration and capacity building of Indigenous researchers and knowledge holders.



3. Strive to generate research outcomes that contribute genuine change towards tourism sustainability needs identified by Indigenous peoples and their Territories, such as ecological, cultural, social, economic, political, and spiritual wellbeing outcomes.
 - a. Present Indigenous people with deliverables that produce lasting impacts for their empowerment in tourism, and their human rights as outlined by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
 - b. Incorporate Indigenous wisdom and insight to define research data needs, as well as appropriate project objectives and timelines to address the complex tourism sustainability challenges faced by Indigenous people now and in the future.
 - c. Action the roles tourism research can play to support the efforts of Indigenous peoples to nurture, regenerate, protect or enrich the lands and waters of our precious Earth.



Ben Sherman, Chairman
World Indigenous Tourism Alliance (WINTA)



Robert Taylor, CEO
Western Australian Indigenous Tourism Operators
Council (WAITOC).

WINTA and WAITOC would like to thank the contributions of:

Johnny Edmonds

Professor Cheryl Kickett-Tucker

Dr Damien Jacobsen

Dr Anna Carr

Dr Freya Higgins-Desbiolles