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**STRONG WOMEN  
STRONG BUSINESS**  
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CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The design of our new brand was inspired by artwork from Indigenous artist Penny Evans.



**STRONG WOMEN  
STRONG BUSINESS**

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF KAURNA NATIVE TITLE  
TRADITIONAL OWNERS**  
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James Ashton, Australia, 1859 – 1935, Where reeds and rushes grow, c.1899, Adelaide, oil on canvas, 100.3 x 202.0 cm; Elder Bequest Fund 1903, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide.

Gathered here on *Pattawilya Yerta* (Kurna homeland Pattawilyangga/ around the Patawalonga River) today in the *Kurna Kowiandilla Yerta* (Glenelg to Yerta Bulti/ Port Adelaide coastal region) of the *Kurna Meyunna* (People) Native Title, Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) acknowledges all the traditional owners of all the lands across Australia. We pay our deep felt respect to the Kurna Elders past, present and future. We respect and honour the Kurna Meyunna of the Kurna Nation, particularly the Kowiandilla Meyunna as the *Kurna Warrabanna* (speaking) of the Kurna Nation, who are living traditional owners of Pattawilya Yerta on which we are gathering today.

We acknowledge we are meeting on the Kurna Yerta homeland of the Kurna Meyunna, the Kurna Native Title holders, being Kurna Traditional Owners in an ongoing occupation and enjoyment of all *Kowiandilla Yerta* under the Aboriginal Title of these lands by right of the South Australian 1836 Letters Patent.

We respect their continuing spiritual relationship with these their ancestral lands and all their Cultural and Heritage beliefs, which remain as important today to the living Kurna Nation *of the Kurna Warrabanna Meyunna, as they always have been.*

Kurna Meyunna spirituality recognizes the living connection between people, culture and stars, the animals and plants. The very land is still alive with the connections of Kurna Dreaming ancestors here in Pattawilya Yerta, Pattawilyangga and *putpo* (north) in Kowiandilla Yerta from the gateway to the *patpa* (south) of the Meyu, Tjilbruke, to *marrata* (east) to *Ngangki* (women) *Namatyi Yerta* (Kurna women's heritage) of *Tarntanyangga* (central Adelaide city).

*Nartadlu Kurna warra, miyurna, yarta tampadlu. Warra Kaurnapira tirrkadlu!* (Let's recognise Kurna language, people and land. Let's learn the Kurna language!)

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Welcome

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**Thank you for attending the Strong Women, Strong Business Conference – the first of its kind, exclusively for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.**

The next few days are set to be a fantastic array of activities that include keynote speakers, panel discussions and networking events that will provide you with the resources, networks and inspiration you need to start, improve or expand your business.

We are excited to be a part of this event that will enable Indigenous women who are passionate about being in business to connect, develop relationships and draw inspiration from peers.

We hope that the next three days provide you with ideas, insights and encouragement to secure the sustainable future you want for you, your family and community.

*Kerryne Liddle, Shirley McPherson, Aileen Shannon  
IBA Board Directors*

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**Stamford Grand**  
**1 - 3 May 2018**  
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# It's all about you

The Strong Women Strong Business Conference is hosting over 180 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women from across Australia, who are looking to start, improve, or expand their business.

Over these three days in Adelaide's beautiful Glenelg, the Strong Women Strong Business Conference will provide you with the resources, networks and inspiration you need to start, improve or expand your business.

This unique event is bringing together Indigenous business women as speakers and participants from remote, regional and urban Australia, across all stages of business and all industries, to achieve a true cross-section of the strong Indigenous women who are in business today, and will be tomorrow.

## This is what we hope for you:

- **Hear inspiring, real stories** from other Indigenous business women about the challenges they have overcome, and what it's like to juggle family, community and cultural responsibilities whilst being strong in business.
- **Develop** mentorship, peer and network **relationships and support** with fellow Indigenous business women.
- **Receive practical advice** on how to start and operate your business and information on the resources and support available to assist you.
- **Leave this conference inspired, instructed, supported and networked!**

# Get Social!

## Make sure you:

- **Follow our Strong Women Strong Business Facebook page** to stay up to date with what's going on during and after the conference. The conference is just the beginning of what we have in store to support you and your business. So make sure to hit Like and be in the know!

<https://www.facebook.com/strongwomenstrongbusiness/>

- **Join our private Strong Women Strong Business Facebook group.** This is a safe space for you to support each other, ask for advice, share tips, test ideas, network, seek collaborations, celebrate the wins, share the pains, learn from each other and give back (and perhaps share a funny meme or two, too!)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/strongwomenstrongbusiness/>

- **If you're posting on social media during the conference:**

#strongwomenstrongbusiness

#swsb

- **If you're posting photos, videos, live streaming, or making a status update** with an insightful learning during the conference, we'd love the opportunity to share what you've posted.

Simply use the #strongwomenstrongbusiness or #swsb hashtags, whether on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or LinkedIn, and we'll find your post and know you are happy for us to repost too.



## Live Polling

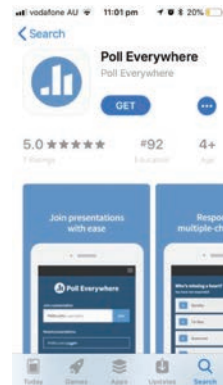
**We will be using live polling during our conference.** It's an amazing way for us to gather your feedback, receive your questions for the speakers, and for you to provide comments and insights throughout the conference.

So please make sure your phone is charged! If you don't have a smart phone, don't worry, we will have back up iPads on each table, and it is also possible to engage through texting.

You can access the Live Polling through your browser or in the App. For ease of access, we highly recommend installing the app on your phone now!

### To Access the App:

Search for **"Poll Everywhere"** in the App Store or Play Store, and download it. Once downloaded, enter "swsb" into the username section, and hit join.



### To Access via a browser on any device:

- **pollev.com/swsb**
- **Enter: pollev.com/swsb** into your web browser address bar (not into Google search or any other search engine).
- **Once you see our logo you are all set to go.** When the presenter announces a poll, go to the app or page and you will see the poll live on your screen. It's super easy to participate, and your interaction with our sessions will make them all the more powerful and valuable.



# Day One, 1 May 2018

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
<b>8:00 – 16:00</b>	Arrival, check-in and registration	
<b>17:30 – 18:30</b>	Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony <i>(followed by canapes and drinks)</i>	Aunty Lynette Crocker Uncle Major 'Moogy' Sumner
<b>18:30 – 21:00</b>	Welcome Dinner <i>(will be live streamed)</i>	
	MC	Mayrah Sonter <i>Sydney, NSW</i>
	Kaurna Traditional Owner	Aunty Lynette Crocker <i>Adelaide, SA</i>
	Conference opening by IBA	Kerrynne Liddle <i>Adelaide, SA</i>
	Keynote speaker	Terri Janke <i>Sydney, NSW</i>
	Musician	Hannah Yates <i>Adelaide, SA</i>

## PROGRAM

# Day Two, 2 May 2018

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
9:00 – 9:30	Keynote speaker <i>(will be live streamed)</i>	Dorinda Cox <i>Noongar, WA</i>
9:30 – 10:30	Table discussion: What does it mean to be an Indigenous woman in business?  <i>Our innate strength to overcome the hurdles</i> <i>(will be live streamed)</i>	Mayrah Sonter <i>to introduce topic</i>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Morning tea</b>	
11:00 – 12:15	Panel discussion: Why our women are innovators <i>(will be live streamed)</i>	Kristal Kinsela <i>Port Macquarie, NSW</i> Dionne Connolly <i>Mt Isa, QLD</i> Jahna Cedar <i>Perth, WA</i> Gill Mailman <i>Cairns, QLD</i>
12:15 – 13:15	<b>Lunch</b>	
13:15 – 14:30	Breakouts: Location-based challenges:  1. Remote 2. Regional 3. Urban	REMOTE Cheryl Thompson <i>Barcaldine, QLD</i> Deanella Mack <i>Alice Springs, NT</i> Rita Gutchen <i>Thursday Island, QLD</i>  REGIONAL Aileen Shannon <i>Quorn, SA</i> Alana Kennedy <i>Townsville, QLD</i> Shirley McPherson <i>Perth, WA</i>  URBAN Jenny Khan <i>Sydney, NSW</i> Karen Seage <i>Underwood, QLD</i> Rachelle Towart <i>Jerrabomberra, NSW</i>

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
14:30 – 15:30	Breakouts: Sector-based opportunities and challenges:	MINING AND CONSTRUCTION Amanda Heally <i>Perth, WA</i> Triscilla Holborow <i>Karratha, WA</i>
	1. Mining and construction	BUSH FOOD AND MEDICINE Josie Alec <i>Karratha, WA</i> Serena Bara <i>Groote Eylandt, NT</i> Rayleen Brown <i>Alice Springs, NT</i>
	2. Bush food and medicine	
	3. Creative industries	CREATIVE INDUSTRIES Rebecca Wessels <i>Adelaide, SA</i> Brianna Enoch <i>Cairns, QLD</i> Jodie Bell <i>Broome, WA</i>
	4. Professional services	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES Glenda Pastoor <i>Mt Isa, QLD</i> Janine McDonald <i>Darwin, NT</i> Leah Cameron <i>Cairns, QLD</i>
5. Hospitality and tourism	HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM Aunty Beryl Van-Oploo <i>Redfern, NSW</i> Helen Martin <i>Bremer Island, NT</i> Margret Campbell <i>The Rocks, NSW</i>	
15:30 – 16:00	<b>Afternoon break and networking</b>	
16:00 – 16:45	Table discussion: <b>All about mentorship</b> <i>(will be live streamed)</i>	Intro by <b>Rebecca Wessels</b> as “Mentor” and <b>Alana Kennedy</b> to respond as “Mentee”
16:45 – 17:00	Wrap up on learnings from the day <i>(will be live streamed)</i>	Mayrah Sonter and Kia Dowell
17:55 – 18:30	<i>Tram to Adelaide city centre</i>	
18:30 – 20:30	<b>Dinner at La Boca</b>	
20:30 – 21:00	<i>Tram to hotel</i>	

# Day Three, 3 May 2018

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
<b>7:00 – 8:30</b>	<b>Mentor Connect and picnic breakfast</b> Glennelg Beach	<i>Mentor Connect session</i>
<b>8:30 – 9:00</b>	Keynote speaker <i>(will be live streamed)</i>	Christine Ross <i>National NAIDOC Women's Conference</i>
<b>9:00 – 10:15</b>	Panel discussion: Let's get practical: navigating the resources and service providers available to you <i>(will be live streamed)</i>	Natasha Abbott <i>NT Government</i> Debbie Barwick <i>First Australians Chamber of Commerce &amp; Industry</i> Stella de Cos <i>IBA</i> Deborah Lewis <i>Prime Minister and Cabinet</i> Sue Pangaris <i>South Australian Government</i>
<b>10:15 – 10:45</b>	<b>Morning break and networking</b>	
<b>10:45 – 11:30</b>	Panel discussion: Panel session: Ideas on balancing authenticity and achieving scale <i>(will be live streamed)</i>	Triscilla Holborow <i>Karratha, WA</i> Serena Bara <i>Groote Eylandt, NT</i> Kylie-Lee Bradford <i>Adelaide, SA</i>

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
11:30 – 12:00	Keynote speaker <i>(will be live streamed)</i>	Alison Page <i>Coffs Harbour, NSW</i>
12:00– 12:45	Panel discussion: New technologies and disruptive models <i>(will be live streamed)</i>	Julie-Ann Lambourne <i>Cairns, QLD</i> Lauren Ganley <i>Alice Springs, NT</i> Leesa Watego <i>Brisbane, QLD</i>
12:45 – 14:00	<b>Working lunch</b> Table discussion: Where to from here?	Mayrah Sonter <i>to introduce topic.</i>
14:00 – 14:45	Closing address: Themes and learnings. IBA: Where to from here? <i>(will be live streamed)</i>	Shirley McPherson <i>IBA Board Perth, WA</i>
14:45 – 15:30	<b>Closing canapes &amp; drinks</b>	



## **Mayrah Sonter**

*33 Creative, Sydney NSW  
Master of Ceremonies*

Mayrah is a proud Wiradjuri woman who grew up in Redfern, an inner-city suburb of Sydney.

Mayrah is a communications specialist with more than a decade's experience in producing events and media for corporate and government organisations. She is an events manager and public relations and media specialist with a reputation for envisaging the big picture while tackling the details.

Mayrah is also an accomplished presenter and producer for television and radio, and a journalist.

## **Kerryne Liddle**

*IBA, Adelaide SA  
Conference opening*

Kerryne is a proud Arrernte woman, who was born in Alice Springs and currently lives in Adelaide. She has previously worked in the private sector as a journalist, in public affairs, and in stakeholder and community engagement mostly in the resources industry. Kerryne has also run a successful small business for more than a decade.

Kerryne has a Master of Business Administration, a Bachelor of Arts (Management) and a Diploma from the Australian Institute of Company Directors. She is a Vincent Fairfax Fellow from the Centre for Ethical Leadership at Melbourne University.

Kerryne is a member of the IBA Board and the Council of the University of Adelaide. She has been Chair of Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, a member of the Council of the University of SA, and a member of the boards of the SA Housing Trust, Aboriginal Hostels Ltd and other boards across a range of sectors.

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# **SPEAKERS**

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## **Terri Janke**

*Terri Janke Lawyers, Sydney NSW  
Keynote speaker – Day 1*

Terri is a proud Wuthathi and Meriam woman from Cairns. Terri advises on legal matters, including incorporation, joint venture, procurement, governance, employment and engagement. She is an international authority on Indigenous cultural and intellectual property (ICIP) and has written leading ICIP protocols and models in the film, arts, museum and archival sectors.

Terri is also a valued mentor, an advocate for Indigenous business, an accredited mediator, and a governance expert.

## **Dorinda Cox**

*Inspire Change Consulting Group,  
Perth WA, Keynote speaker – Day 2*

Dorinda is a proud Noongar woman from the South West region of Western Australia. A champion for Aboriginal women in business and leadership, she advocates for changes in systems and policy to effect real change.

Dorinda has over 20 years' experience working in the government and community sectors at the local, state and national levels. She is Managing Director of the Inspire Change Consulting Group and delivers presentations and training on gender equality.

Dorinda's international experience includes representing Australia's non-government sector at the United Nations in 2013. As a member of the Australian Government delegation to the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Women and the Economy Forum in 2016, she was Australia's first Aboriginal woman to attend the forum.

Dorinda is also as a member of the Everywoman Everywhere Coalition, and participates in its expert Indigenous women's group working on a global treaty on preventing violence against women. Dorinda offers unique insights into being an Indigenous business woman in the 21st century.





## **Kristal Kinsela**

*Indigenous Professional Services,  
Port Macquarie, NSW*  
*Panel member– Why our women  
are innovators*

Kristal is a proud descendent of the Jawoyn and Wiradjuri nations. She has more than 14 years' experience in education and training, organisation and workforce development, and supplier diversity, working across government, corporate and not-for-profit sectors.

Kristal is a partner and director of Indigenous Professional Services, a majority Indigenous-owned management consulting company that assists clients to increase their productivity, performance and Indigenous engagement through strategic leadership, research, coaching, training and facilitation.

Kristal is also a director of the Holiday Coast Credit Union, the National Aboriginal Sporting Chance Academy and Worthwhile Ventures. Kristal volunteers as a mentor for Inspiring Rare Birds and an ambassador for Indigenous Women in Business.



## **Dionne Connolly**

*Western Labour Hire, Mt Isa Qld*  
*Panel member– Why our women  
are innovators*

Dionne is a proud Kalkadoon woman. In 2009, Dionne and her partner Adrian established a small mobile welding business in Cloncurry. The business quickly grew into a 17-person boilermaking team, with associated labourers, apprentices and trades assistants, that serviced large mine operations around north-west Queensland.

The business has continued to evolve as a labour hire firm, providing services to the mining and construction industry. Through partnerships with other local businesses and Traditional Owners, the company combines industry and local knowledge to meet the needs of clients and regional communities.

In 2014, Dionne's contribution to her community was recognised by the Queensland Parliament through the Queensland Inspiring Women—Speaker's Awards.



## **Jahna Cedar**

*Gumala Aboriginal Corporation,  
Perth WA*

*Panel member– Why our women  
are innovators*

Jahna is a proud Nyiyaparli and Yindjibarndi woman from the Pilbara. A strong Indigenous community leader, she has worked for over 18 years as an advocate for equal rights and reconciliation. Jahna has represented her people at the United Nations, with regard to children's rights and equal access to employment, education and training for women.

Jahna is Executive Officer of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation, and a board member of Pilbara Aboriginal Corporations and Enterprises, IBN Corporation, WA Country Arts and the Curtin University Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee.

Jahna was recently awarded the 2017 Telstra Business Women Award for purpose and not for profit winner for WA, the "first amongst equals" in the Business News 40 under 40 awards for 2017 and was the youngest person to be elected into the West Australian International Women's Day Hall of Fame in 2012.



## **Gillian Mailman**

*Fibre Optics NQ, Cairns Qld*

*Panel member– Why our women  
are innovators*

Gillian is a proud Bidjara woman with over 25 years' experience in the telecommunications industry, from project management to design.

Gillian is a trailblazer who sets, rather than follows, trends. This started at a young age, when she became the first Aboriginal woman to qualify as an electrician, the first to represent companies in the telecommunications industry, and the first to successfully establish a company in the telecommunications industry (Fibre Optics NQ).

Gillian is an entrepreneur driven by her passion for improving the lives of disadvantaged people through economic development and empowerment. Her innovative approach has made her the leading business woman she is today.



## **Cheryl Thompson**

*Trackers Queensland, Barcaldine Qld*  
*Panel member– Location-based challenges: Remote*

Cheryl is a proud Yiningai woman from Barcaldine in the Central West region of Queensland. Her entrepreneurial career began with the establishment of her company Trackers Queensland.

In 2010, Cheryl left a teaching career to grow her company full time. She took Trackers Queensland back on country and began to develop several business ideas, beginning with the Ridgee Didge Café and Coolamon Coffee.

When Cheryl saw the lack of quality education available to Aboriginal students, she established Queensland's first privately owned and operated Aboriginal student hostel. The Trackers Queensland businesses provide school-based traineeships and weekend work for students attending school, and post-schooling employment on country.

This year Cheryl is launching the Desert Dreaming Centre, a tourism arm for the business that will help educate the wider Australian community. Cheryl sees business as a way to express her creativity while providing an income for others through employment rather than welfare dependence. This is her Dreaming.

## **Deanella Mack**

*Cultural Connections NT,*  
*Alice Springs NT*  
*Panel member– Location-based challenges: Remote*

Deanella is a proud Arrernte woman who was born and raised in Alice Springs. As the owner and founder of Cultural Connections NT, she works with organisations, businesses, groups and individuals to deliver a wide range of cultural services such as cultural awareness programs, tours, mentoring and educational experiences.

Having worked across many industry sectors in Alice Springs, Deanella has a wealth of experience and knowledge that will benefit those who simply want to gain insight into local culture, or organisations that are working towards delivering culturally appropriate services within the region.

Deanella brings a fresh, modern perspective to cultural awareness training and support. She is passionate about sharing vital cross-cultural information to improve and enhance culturally safe environments and interactions.



## **Rita Gutchen**

*AJ's Car Rentals, Thursday Island Qld  
Panel member– Location-based  
challenges: Remote*

Rita is a proud Torres Strait Islander woman. She is a single parent and the owner-manager of a small business, AJ's Car Rentals, based on Thursday Island.

AJ's Car Rentals was established in 2010, and was named after Rita's son, Ashley James (AJ). AJ's Car Rentals provides a wide range of quality cars and utes as rentals for locals, visitors and business sector and corporate customers.

After working for 18 years in the Queensland public service, Rita saw an opportunity to create a lifestyle that is rewarding for both her and her son. Rita is committed to the success of her business and looks forward to further expanding, growing and evolving in the future.



## **Aileen Shannon**

*Wiltja Constructions, Quorn SA  
Panel member– Location-based  
challenges: Regional*

Aileen is a proud Adnyamathanha and Yankunytjatjara woman from the Flinders Ranges and north-western pastoral areas of South Australia. Aileen began her career in the South Australian public sector in 1990, progressing to roles assisting state and federal members of parliament within the portfolios of agriculture, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs, and foreign affairs.

In 2011, Aileen and her husband established their construction company, Wiltja Constructions. The company has a strong vision to create an Indigenous enterprise and is committed to generating employment opportunities across the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands.

Aileen is a member of the IBA Board. She is also a member of the South Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council, which provides high-level confidential advice to government ministers and senior public servants across all areas of government.



## **Alana Kennedy**

*Ochre Bloke, Townsville Qld*  
*Panel member– Location-based challenges: Regional*

Alana is a proud Waanyi and Kalkadoon woman from north-west Queensland, who is embarking on a new start-up venture in the cosmetics industry. Alana has had an 11-year career in sales and marketing, and worked for five years as a regional vice-president with Arbonne International.

Alana is a member of the board of the Townsville Region Indigenous Business Network, driving the Women Into Business chapter, which focuses on developing the personal and professional skills of Indigenous women in the marketplace.

Through her dynamic, self-driven appetite for success and her effervescent nature, Alana has inspired many women to build the lives they have dreamed of. She strongly believes that economic development and Indigenous traditional values are the keys to addressing the challenges that Indigenous communities face.



## **Shirley McPherson**

*AFL SportsReady, Perth WA*  
*Panel member– Location-based challenges: Regional*

Shirley is a proud Yamatji and Nyoongar woman from the Perth and Murchison regions of Western Australia. She has experience in program delivery and business development at the regional, national and international levels of government.

Shirley is a chartered accountant and has held senior positions in the private, government and university sectors. She is currently National Business Development and Engagement Manager for AFL SportsReady.

Shirley has been a consultant to the mining industry in negotiating land use agreements in Western Australia and held roles as Group Manager of Indigenous Strategy and Business with Leighton Contractors. She was a member of the Australian Government delegation to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Shirley is a member of the IBA Board. Her previous appointments include Chair of Ngarda Civil and Mining and the Indigenous Land Corporation and board member of the McArthur River Mining Community Benefits Trust.



## Jenny Khan

*The Unexpected Guest, Sydney NSW*  
**Panel member– Location-based challenges: Urban**

Jenny is a proud Ngemba Wailwan woman from Warren in the Central West region of New South Wales. She has worked as an Aboriginal liaison officer for the Australian Government Department of Social Services and was a teacher with TAFE NSW for 15 years before starting her business.

Jenny is the owner of Wambool Dreaming, trading as The Unexpected Guest. The Unexpected Guest was established in 2010 and was purchased by Wambool Dreaming in 2016.

Jenny purchased The Unexpected Guest because of the quality of its exceptional breakfast products. Of the company's five products, three are Australian made and certified organic, including the famous Gourmet Freestyle Granüesli.

Jenny is committed to promoting beautiful products for all Australians to enjoy, and hopes to increase her product range in 2018.



## Karen Seage

*Snap Underwood, Underwood Qld*  
**Panel member– Location-based challenges: Urban**

Karen is a proud Noonuccal woman from Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island), Queensland. The Noonuccal people are the traditional custodians of Quandamooka Country.

Karen is the owner of Snap Underwood, which is a Supply Nation registered design and print business providing print, design, and web services. Snap printing services also include graphic design, identity branding, mobile, websites, smartphone apps, promotional material and corporate gifts.

Karen started in production at Snap, then offered the Snap franchise at Underwood five years ago. She was more than ready to take on the challenge. It was then that Karen started to realise the impact she could have in the Indigenous community by being an Aboriginal business owner.



## **Rachelle Towart**

*Pipeline Talent, Jerrabomberra NSW*  
*Panel member– Location-based challenges: Urban*

An Indigenous woman with a powerful personal story of the effectiveness of leadership development, Rachelle has elevated awareness of the importance of Indigenous leadership and governance capacity to the national stage.

After building friendships and experience in a range of public service roles, Rachelle uncovered her natural capabilities for leadership and development through the support of mentors and a strong network of extended family.

As Chief Executive Officer of Pipeline Talent, Rachelle is committed to providing training and support so that Indigenous people can be appointed to senior corporate and government roles on merit and have ongoing reference points and support to help them thrive.

## **Amanda Healy**

*Warrikal, Perth WA*  
*Panel member– Opportunities and challenges: Mining and Construction*

Amanda is a proud Koori woman from the Wonnarua nation, the Traditional Owners of the Hunter Valley region of New South Wales.

In 2017, Amanda founded Warrikal a Mechanical Maintenance business, providing professional support to the resources sector. Amanda has had more than 35 years' experience in the mining industry in Australia, Africa and Canada, working for blue chip companies such as BHP, Rio Tinto and Western Mining Corporation.

In 2004, Amanda founded an engineering business in the Pilbara, Maxx Engineering, which was sold to a large international company in 2015.

Amanda is also the founder of Kirrikin, a social enterprise digitally printing Aboriginal art on to scarves and ties. Employing 'at risk' youths to manage the process, and working with women in prison to develop opportunities for post release employment.

In 2014, Amanda received the Indigenous in Business award at the Ethnic Business Awards (for Maxx Engineering), and was a finalist in the Telstra Business Women's Awards.



## **Triscilla Holborrow**

*Real Employment for Aboriginal People, Karratha WA*

*Panel member– Opportunities and challenges: Mining and Construction, Panel member– Ideas on balancing authenticity and archiving scale*

Triscilla is a proud Yaburara and Yindjibarndi woman from the Pilbara. She is Chief Executive Officer of Real Employment for Aboriginal People, a company which she founded in 2010 out of a desire to help Aboriginal people make the most of their opportunities and find real employment.

Triscilla has more than 25 years' experience in various roles, including managing large earth-moving teams, working as a consultant to Aboriginal organisations, developing and deploying safety and risk management strategies, and delivering and developing training programs.

She is passionate about helping Aboriginal people to obtain meaningful, long-term employment by engaging and upskilling communities for a better future. She has also won several awards relating to Aboriginal employment and business achievements.

## **Josie Alec**

*The Jummi Factory, Karratha WA  
Panel member– Opportunities and challenges: Bush food & medicine*

As part of the last Stolen Generation, Josie was taken out of Roebourne and grew up with a white family in Karratha. Her life story is about walking in two cultures, overcoming the challenges along the way, and managing to thrive.

Josie started selling traditional bush remedies as part of her art and culture business, The Jummi Factory. She crafted a range of natural creams, washes and oils from Indigenous healing plants that can assist with skin and body ailments, drawing on natural solutions that have been used by her ancestors for thousands of years.

The Jummi Factory aims to bring people to a deeper understanding of the complexities of Aboriginal culture, teaching anyone who wants to learn.





## Serena Bara

*Bush Medijina, Groote Eylandt NT  
Panel member– Opportunities and challenges: Bush food & medicine,  
Panel member– Ideas on balancing authenticity and archiving scale*

Serena is from the Angurugu community on Groote Eylandt. She is Chairwoman of Anindilyakwa Services Aboriginal Corporation and Coordinator of Bush Medijina.

Serena was born in Darwin and raised at the Umbakumba community, east of Angurugu. Serena moved to Angurugu at the age of ten, then went to boarding school for four years. After finishing high school she began studying to become a teacher, but she later decided to get a job instead.

Serena worked as a receptionist on Groote Eylandt and Bickerton Island Enterprises, and has built her career from there. Serena was the youngest director to sit on the Angurugu Community Government Council and has been a member of numerous boards within her community.



## Rayleen Brown

*Kungkas Can Cook, Alice Springs NT,  
Panel member– Opportunities and challenges: Bush food & medicine*

Rayleen Brown is descended from the Nanggiwumerri and Arrente people.

Rayleen's catering business, Kungkas Can Cook, was the innovation of Rayleen and her friend

Gina Smith. Chatting over a cup of tea, the two women discussed the idea of starting a catering business that provided healthy food and would better serve the needs of Indigenous people.

Well before Kungkas Can Cook was established Rayleen was already dedicated to providing healthy food, low in fat, sugar and salt, to customers at the café she operated in Alice Springs.

Rayleen now owns the business by herself. She has remained committed to helping the Indigenous community, through employing Indigenous staff and using other Indigenous businesses.



## **Rebecca Wessels**

*Ochre Dawn Creative Industries, Adelaide SA, Panel member– Opportunities and challenges: Creative Industries*

Rebecca is a proud Ngarrindjeri and Peramangk woman of the Stolen Generations. She is the founder and Managing Director of Ochre Dawn Creative Industries, a business that is 100 per cent Aboriginal owned and operated. Ochre Dawn provides a vast range of creative services to help clients around Australia share their stories with the world.

Rebecca is passionate about inspirational and visually captivating work that celebrates culture, embraces authenticity, encourages collaboration and facilitates long-term business partnerships.



## **Briana Enoch**

*Jarawee, Cairns Qld Panel member– Opportunities and challenges: Creative Industries*

Briana, also known as Jarawee, is a proud Kaantju and Nhugee woman from Queensland.

Briana has been in business for seven years, since launching her first venture, Din Din Arts, in 2011. Din Din Arts promotes, nurtures and creates a professional platform for young Aboriginal artists from local and regional areas, enabling them to sell artworks in a professional manner.

In 2013, Briana started a new business venture, Jarawee, which provides rich and innovative Aboriginal artwork on fashionable items. Jarawee's products have graced the stage at Melbourne Fashion Week, the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair fashion show, the Cairns Regional Indigenous Fashion and Textile Showcase, and the Black Bold & Beautiful Indigenous Women's Luncheon in Brisbane.



## Jodie Bell

Goolarri Media Enterprises,  
Broome WA, *Panel member–  
Opportunities and challenges:  
Creative Industries*

Jodie is a proud Butchella and Jagera woman from south-east Queensland. She has been with Goolarri Media Enterprises, a community-owned Indigenous media company, since 2008.

Through Goolarri Media, Jodie has produced short films such as *Telling Our Story*, *In the Air*, and *Maap Mordak*, which was nominated for a Western Australian Screen Award; and documentaries such as *Marrimarrigun*, *Characters of Broome*, and the award-winning *Naji*.

Jodie has also produced shorter form pieces for broadcast on Goolarri Media's community television station, GTV, including *Talking Country*, *Bran Nue Leg* and *Catch and Cook 3*.

Jodie has been a Director of Bandaral Ngadu Pty and KRSP Pty Ltd and is a Director on the Board of RAMU Productions Pty Ltd, Goolarri's Production Company and the National Indigenous Radio Service (NIRS) Ltd.



## Glenda Pastoor

Phoenix Security Services Pty Ltd,  
Mt Isa QLD, *Panel member–  
Opportunities and challenges:  
Professional Services*

Glenda was born in Brisbane and grew up in Nanango in the South Burnett region of Queensland. Glenda moved to Yandina on the Sunshine Coast as a teenager, then moved to Brisbane to start a career.

After working for Kmart for over ten years, Glenda moved to Mount Isa to work as a temporary bookkeeper. She started working for Solar Security Services in 2009, and in 2011 became the owner of Phoenix Security Services.

Over the years, Glenda's hard work and dedication to customer service have allowed her company to become the most reliable and respected security company in the area, supplying services from Camooweal to Hughenden and as far away as Normanton.

Glenda believes that she was meant to be in business, as her work ethics and choices have led her to where she is today.



## **Janine McDonald**

*All Aspects Recruitment & HR Services, Darwin NT*

*Panel member– Opportunities and challenges: Professional Services*

Janine grew up in Port Augusta; her family are Arabunna people from Marree, in far north South Australia. After working in Indigenous affairs in South Australia she relocated to Western Australia, where she travelled extensively in remote areas in the Western Desert and Wongatha regions for several years, supporting the elected arm of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission.

With 30 years' experience in the Australian Government, Janine relocated to the Northern Territory as a specialist in human resources services.



## **Leah Cameron**

*Marrawah Law, Cairns Qld*

*Panel member– Opportunities and challenges: Professional Services*

Leah is a proud Palawa woman from Tasmania. She is the owner of Marrawah Law, Queensland's only Supply Nation certified Indigenous legal practice. .

Leah is a regular contributor to the national Talk Black radio program, presenting on topical legal issues. The passion Leah has for her work is unwavering and has assisted her in achieving many Native Title determinations.

Leah received the Queensland Law Society's First Nations Lawyer of the Year award for 2018, and the Queensland Attorney General's Indigenous Legal Practitioner of the Year award for 2017. Her other accolades include Tasmanian Young Achiever of the Year award for Trade and Career Achievement (2008) and the Centenary Medal of Australia.

Leah's greatest honour was negotiating and repatriating her ancestors' remains from the British Museum on behalf of her community.



## **Aunty Beryl VanOploo**

*National Centre of Indigenous Excellence, Sydney NSW*

*Panel member– Opportunities and challenges: Hospitality & Tourism*

Beryl is an Elder of the Gamillaroi people from north-west New South Wales. When she was 16 years old, Beryl's Elders sent her to Sydney to be educated. She has lived and worked in Sydney for over 50 years since then.

In 2006, Beryl started Job Ready, a course of training, mentoring and employment in the hospitality industry, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. In 2014, she based the course at the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence in the heart of the Redfern community.

Beryl's focus and passion is bush tucker. She is currently involved in a catering business run by her partner and is about to open a cafe in Redfern.

## **Helen Martin**

*Banubanu Beach Retreat, Bremer Island NT*

*Panel member– Opportunities and challenges: Hospitality & Tourism*

Helen is a proud Arrente woman who was born in Alice Springs. She is Managing Director and co-founder of Banubanu, an eco-tourism beach retreat on Bremer Island. Over the past 15 years, Helen has worked in the tourism industry and has been heavily engaged with the East Arnhem Land community.

Helen's career includes 20 years' experience working in Aboriginal affairs in remote Indigenous communities in northern Western Australia and the Northern Territory. She has a Bachelor of Social Work and is a graduate of the MURRA Indigenous Business Master Class at Melbourne Business School.

Helen is a member of the Tourism NT Board of Commissioners, Chair of the NT Aboriginal Tourism Advisory Council, co-founder and Director of Women On Country, Vice-chair of the East Arnhem Land Tourism Association, and a director of the Centre for Appropriate Technology.



## **Margret Campbell**

*Dreamtime Southern X,  
The Rocks NSW*

*Panel member– Opportunities and  
challenges: Hospitality & Tourism*

Margret is a proud Dunghutti Djirrinjah woman who lives in Sydney. Margret has over 40 years' work experience in community governance board frameworks and translating her family's cultural knowledge into school curricula and adult learning across New South Wales.

Margret is Chief Executive Officer of Dreamtime Southern X, a 100 per cent Aboriginal-owned cultural tourism business that operates Aboriginal cultural experiences, including walking tours, coach tours and training workshops, in Sydney.

The company is a certified member of Supply Nation, a member of the NSW Indigenous Chamber of Commerce, and a champion of Tourism Australia's Discover Aboriginal Experiences.

Margret is also a teacher and a founding member of the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group and the NSW Aboriginal Tourism Operators Council.

## **Kia Dowell**

*Indigenous Business Australia,  
Perth WA*

*Wrap up– Day 2*

Kia is a proud Gija woman from Warmun Community (Turkey Creek) in the East Kimberley. Her traditional Aboriginal name is Wadjbarreyal and her skin name is Nangala.

Kia joined IBA in October 2017 from Codeswitch, an Indigenous strategic advisory and consulting firm that she co-founded. Kia is passionate about working to support the growth of profitable and sustainable organisations that serve a greater social purpose for Aboriginal communities.

Kia holds a Master of Business Administration in International Business and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Business Management.

As Executive Director of IBA Strategy and Innovation, Kia oversees the development, implementation and performance of IBA's strategic plan, market research and insights, impact measurement and evaluation, thought leadership and advocacy, and strategic partnerships.



## **Christine Ross**

*Christine Ross Consultancy,  
Perth WA, Keynote Speaker – Day 3*

Christine is an Arrernte and Kaytetye woman, who was born in Alice Springs but grew up in Darwin. Christine's career began as a teacher in the Northern Territory, where she was employed by the Department of Education for 14 years.

Christine moved to Perth in 2002. She worked in the resources sector of Western Australia for a number of years, as an Indigenous employment superintendent for Leighton Contractors Mining Division and the Manager of Indigenous Relations for Laing O'Rourke.

Christine is Managing Director of her own consultancy business, specialising in Indigenous employment programs, training and mentoring and facilitating conferences and forums. She is also Project Manager of the National NAIDOC Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Woman's Conference to be held in Sydney in 2018.

Christine is a member of several boards, including those of Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities WA and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Alliance.



## **Alison Page**

*Zakpage, Coffs Harbour NSW  
Keynote Speaker – Day 3*

Alison is a proud descendant of the Walbanga and Wadi Wadi people of the Yuin nation of New South Wales. She is an award-winning creative at the forefront of the contemporary Australian Aboriginal cultural movement.

Alison is a leading force in the Australian design scene, championing the creative expression of Aboriginal identity in interiors, public art, jewellery, installations and film. She was inducted into the Design Institute of Australia's Hall of Fame in 2015.

Alison was a regular panellist on the ABC TV show *The New Inventors* for eight years. Recently, she has worked as a producer with media company Zakpage, making innovative cultural documentaries and dramas.

Alison is an adjunct associate professor at the University of NSW, a councillor of the Australian National Maritime Museum, and Chairperson of the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence.



## **Kylie-Lee Bradford**

*Kakadu Tiny Tots, Margate, QLD  
Panel member– Ideas on balancing  
authenticity and achieving scale*

Kylie-Lee is a proud Murrumburr woman and a traditional owner of the Kakadu National Park in the Northern Territory. She is the founder of Kakadu Tiny Tots, an Indigenous owned company specialising in hand-painted, certified organic cotton babywear and Australian-made organic gifts.

Kakadu Tiny Tots is about to launch a technology platform that allows an individual to customise their own babywear designs using Indigenous hand-painted art from all over the world.

Kylie-Lee has blended her passions for her culture and art, creating 100 per cent organic babies' and children's clothing and accessories that feature artwork by her mother and other Aboriginal artists from the Northern Territory.

## **Julie-Ann Lambourne**

*CEO enVizion Group Inc, Cairns QLD  
Panel member– New technologies  
and disruptive models*

Julie-Ann Lambourne is a proud Torres Strait Islander woman with connections to Mabuiag Island and Erub (Darnley) Island. She is CEO and founding member of enVizion Group, an Indigenous owned and operated training provider that uses cutting-edge technologies to complement traditional practices in delivering meaningful and creative solutions. Established in 2013, enVizion Group has assisted more than 6,500 people to realise their potential.

Julie-Ann's experience includes over 20 years of state and federal government roles in education, employment and training, including work in social services areas such as homelessness, social welfare and youth services. Her areas of expertise include community development, social engagement, cultural mentoring and project management.

Julie-Ann develops programs for community and individual capacity building. She is passionate about developing Indigenous businesses and leaders, and working with marginalised people to overcome adversity.





## **Lauren Ganley**

*Desert Knowledge Australia,  
Alice Springs NT  
Panel member– New technologies  
and disruptive models*

Lauren is a proud descendent of the Kamilaroi people and was raised in Darwin. She is Chief Executive Officer of Desert Knowledge Australia, which works to improve the lives and livelihoods of regional and remote desert communities.

Prior to running her own business, Lauren had a distinguished career with Telstra. She was the General Manager of Telstra's National Indigenous Directorate, overseeing leasing programs and business activities that made a positive difference for Indigenous communities across Australia.

Lauren has extensive experience in commercial and cultural strategies, policy and program development and delivery, and community stakeholder engagement.

## **Leesa Watego**

*Iscariot Media, Brisbane Qld  
Panel member– New technologies  
and disruptive models*

Leesa was born and raised in Brisbane. She is Managing Director of Iscariot Media, a creative agency, and Nyumba, which creates Indigenous education resources. Iscariot Media works in areas such as health, education and small business, providing services in graphic design, web design, business training and support, and IT and digital support.

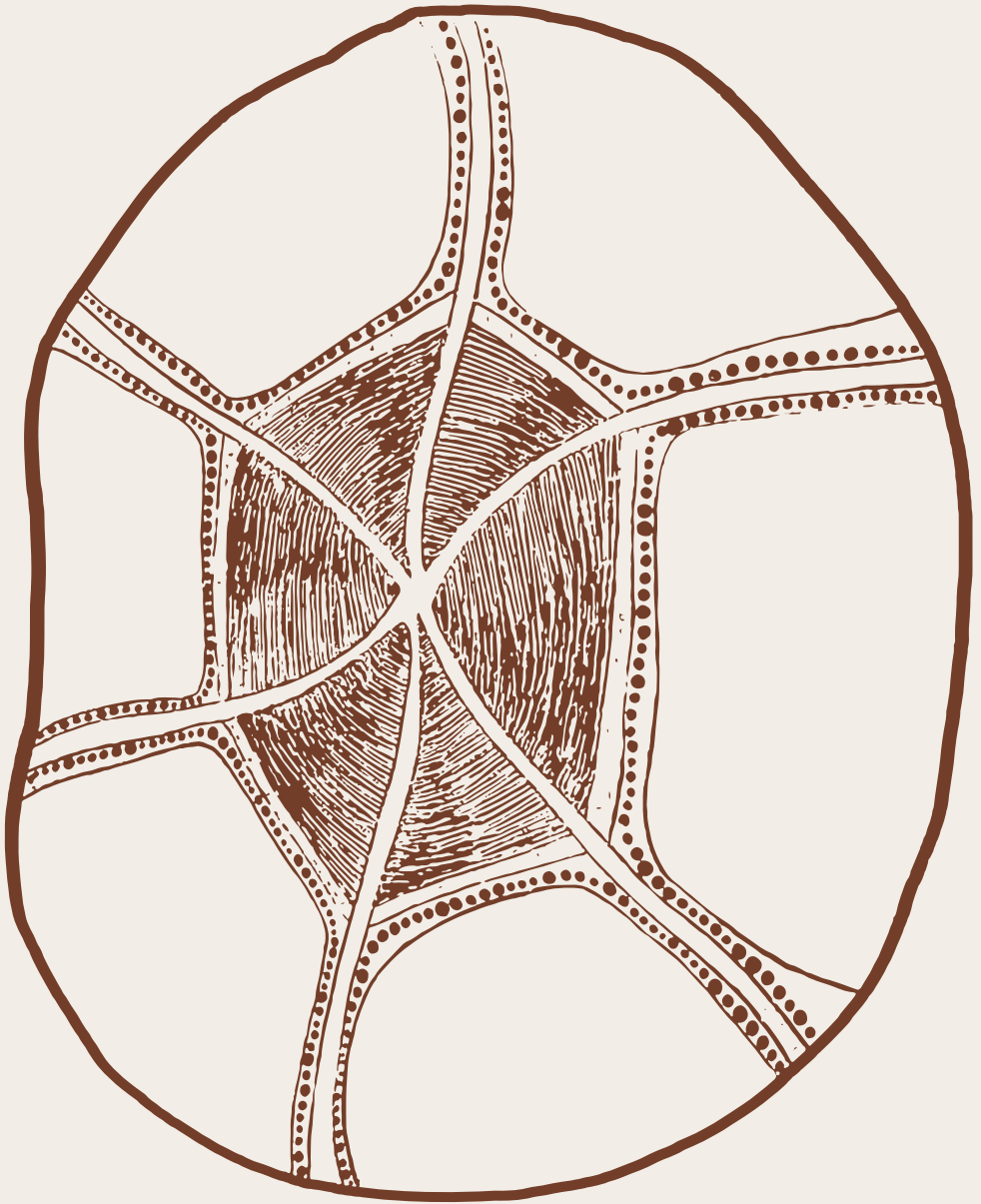
Leesa is also the President of the South East Queensland Indigenous Chamber of Commerce, a co-founder of Indigenous Business Month, leading the establishment of a state wide body representing Indigenous business in Queensland, and a co-founder of Black Coffee.

In 2016, Leesa was appointed an Advance Queensland Community Digital Champion and an inaugural member of the Queensland Government's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business and Innovation Reference Group.

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## NOTES

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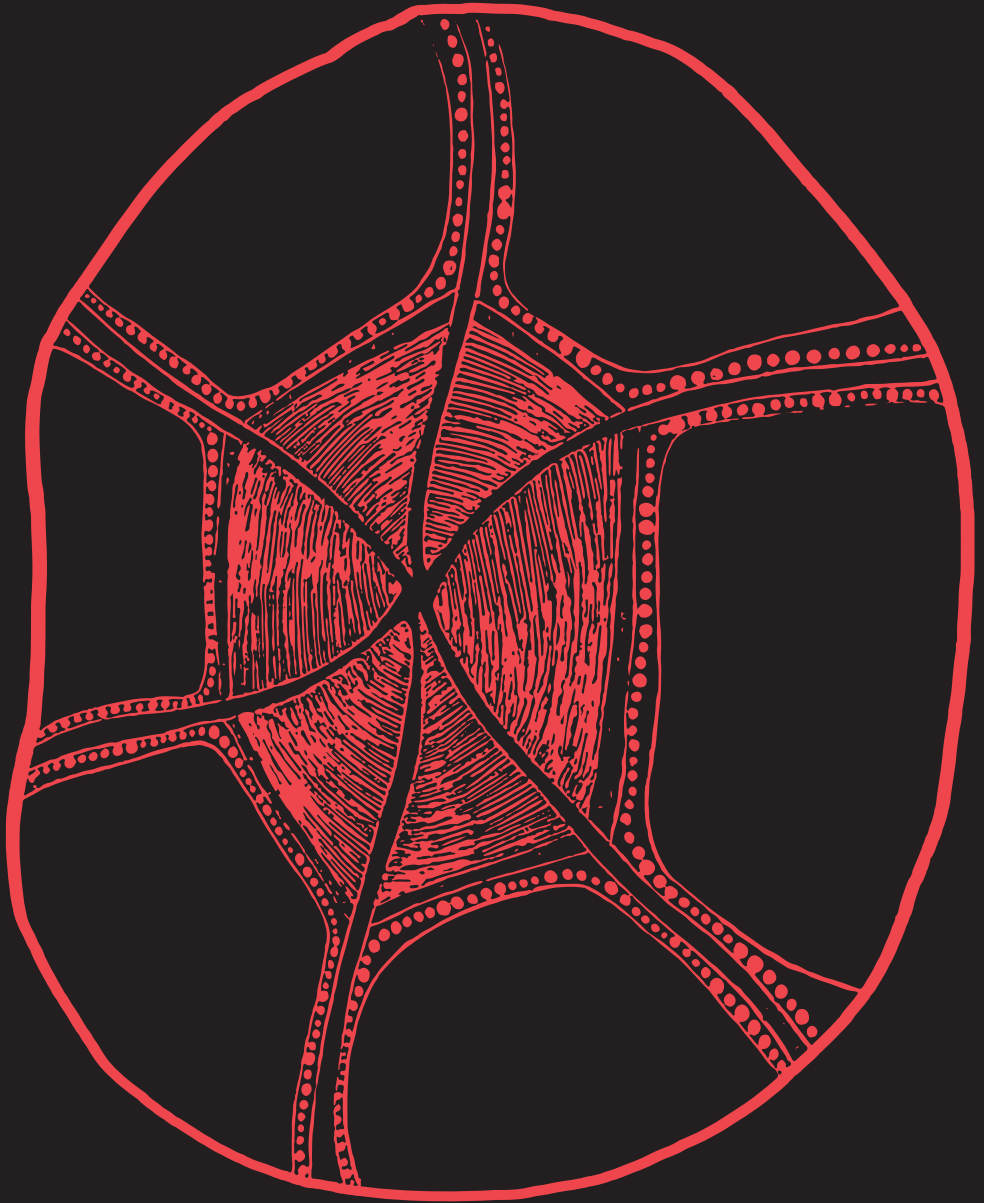
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