**Araluen Community Reference Group**

**Terms of Reference - 2022**

# Araluen Cultural Precinct

The Araluen Cultural Precinct (**Precinct**) incorporates the Araluen Arts Centre (**AAC**) (with four (4) visual art galleries, a five hundred (500) seat proscenium arch theatre, a multi-purpose hall (known as “Witchetty’s”) and an outdoor performance space), the Central Australian Aviation Museum, Central Craft, Yaye’s Café, Folk Cottage, and Artist in Residence Space encompasses several significant public works of art, a number of Aboriginal sacred sites and a range of heritage properties related to its aviation history. The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory also manages the Museum of Central Australia and the Strehlow Research Centre, which is located on the Precinct.

The Precinct is home to some of the most significant artistic, cultural and historical experiences in Alice Springs and provides a unique visitor experience, encompassing Central Australia’s key cultural institutions and collections. The AAC presents an annual program of exhibitions, theatre, and film, hosting iconic events such as the nationally significant Desert Mob and the world famous Beanie Festival.

# Aims of the Precinct

The Precinct aims to fulfil broad community aspirations across the arts, culture and history fields by creating an integrated visitor experience encompassing the region’s key cultural institutions and collections. The Precinct also acts as an ‘arts incubator’ supporting local visual and performing artists, most recently providing spaces for Guts Dance to work from (the dance studio) and Tjampi Weavers to work from (the artist in residence space).

The Precinct aims to provide local, national and international visitors with opportunities to be informed, entertained and inspired, offering visitors a quality experience and ability to:

* participate in and enjoy all forms of the visual arts, crafts and performing arts;
* learn about and experience the Central Australian region as a unique and fascinating part of the natural world;
* journey through stories about people and places and the lives and times of the Region, in the wider context of Australian history;
* learn about and experience Arrernte culture, including the unique landforms sacred to Arrernte people;
* see, learn about and experience Aboriginal art and Aboriginal cultural traditions in Central Australia; and
* share in the local history of the Precinct within the wider story of Australian aviation history.

# Role of the Araluen Community Reference Group

Through the Department Territory Families, Housing and Communities (**Department**), the Araluen Community Reference Group (**ACRG**) will provide advice to the Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage, in regards to the ongoing development and strategic operations of the Precinct by:

* providing an avenue for community input to the Precinct Director;
* participating in strategic planning processes relating to the Precinct;
* provide feedback to the Precinct Director with regards to annual business planning;
* assist in identifying opportunities that will enhance Precinct’s success.

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# Araluen Community Reference Group Operation and Structure

The ACRG will be chaired by the Director of the Precinct (**Chair**) and meetings will be held three (3) times per year, by teleconference or face to face. The ACRG may also make decisions out-of-session electronically.

The ACRG will consist of six (6) community representatives with a demonstrated commitment to the ongoing development of the Precinct. The Alice Springs Town Council and the Friends of Araluen will nominate one (1) representative each *(Historically this has been the Alice Springs Mayor and the Chair of the Friends of Araluen).*

The ACRG will ideally have the ability to access wide community networks across a range of demographics in order to provide balanced and representative advice. Ideally, members will have a passion for supporting the Precinct and have specific knowledge in one or more of the following areas:

* + sponsorship and marketing;
  + youth engagement;
  + community engagement;
  + the arts, including the visual and performing arts;
  + Alice Springs as a tourism destination;
  + Aboriginal art, culture, history and traditions;
  + infrastructure development.

The appointment of the ACRG will be the decision of the General Manager of the Department.

Appointments to the ACRG are non-remunerated and are for a term of three (3) years. Members can be reappointed for a second term. Members who are absent for two (2) meetings without notice to the Chair, or three (3) meetings with notice to the Chair, will have their appointment with the ACRG terminated.

# How to become an Araluen Community Reference Group member

A brief one-page expression of interest, explaining why you are interested in becoming a member, accompanied by a CV, can be sent to the Director of the Precinct via post:

Director

Araluen Cultural Precinct

PO Box 3521

Alice Springs NT 0871

Or via email: [felicity.green3@nt.gov.au](mailto:felicity.green3@nt.gov.au)

For further information telephone the Precinct on (08) 8951 1120.