

Strategic Plan

2022-27



**NORTHERN
LAND COUNCIL**

Our Land, Our Sea, Our Life

Our Vision

For the rights and responsibilities of every Traditional Owner in the NLC region to be recognised and respected. For Aboriginal people to benefit economically, socially and culturally from the secure possession of their lands, seas, waters and intellectual property.

Our Mission

To ensure Aboriginal people in the seven regions of the NLC acquire and manage their traditional lands, seas and waters, through strong leadership, advocacy and management.

Our Values

Consult

- With Traditional Owners
- Present and explain options to Traditional Owners to enable them to make decisions and choices with free, prior and informed consent
- Engage in two-way communication to actively listen and explain meaning

Be Responsive

- To Aboriginal peoples needs and effectively advocate for their rights and interests
- Provide effective services to the people we represent and other stakeholders
- Complete actions and tasks in a timely way, be accountable to the people we represent

Respect

- Aboriginal law, culture and tradition
- Our stakeholders and those who we work with
- Act with integrity, honesty and fairness
- Act in a manner that is appropriate and sensitive to cultural differences

Social Justice

- Promote the rights and participation of Aboriginal people to achieve equity, fairness and opportunity
- Demonstrate strong leadership and advocate on behalf of Traditional Owners

Strategic Goals

Strategic Priorities

1. Proactively manage country

Acquire, manage and protect traditional lands and waters in accordance with statutory functions.

2. Opportunity & empower

Create real opportunities for Aboriginal People and Traditional Owners

3. A strong NLC

Be a culturally rich and trusted organisation that gets things done and our community can be proud of

4. Advocate

Be a voice for Aboriginal people

1. Give strong support to Traditional Owners by maximising resources and benefits from land and sea management, ensuring strict compliance with agreements and developing long term plans with Traditional Owner free prior informed consent.
2. Enforce and advocate for better protection of heritage areas, sacred sites and permits for access to Aboriginal Land, water and sea country.
3. Activate land rights by harnessing pride and strength in Aboriginal culture, innovation, creativity, skills, employment, intellectual property, economic development and entrepreneurship.
4. Create opportunities for self-determination through Traditional Owner decision making, community consultations, Ranger programs, Learning on Country, Aboriginal-led township leasing, planning and development.
5. Create stronger NLC regions with more NLC staff and more support for Aboriginal people by implementing our Regionalisation Strategy 'Building the Bush'.
6. Build on improvements already made in NLC governance, leadership, communications and support systems for Council Members and staff.
7. Raise issues and influence policy in critical areas of interest including agriculture, pastoral, mining, tourism, carbon economy, homelands and essential services, water rights and security, remote housing and infrastructure like road, bridges and communications.
8. Be a strong voice for the next generation, tomorrow's leaders, constitutional recognition and the Voice to Parliament, implementation of the Uluru Statement of the Heart in Full and the Northern Territory Treaty process.