

National Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week 2025 update

Wednesday, 7 May 2025
Reconciliation Committee

Strategic Alignment - Our Community

Public

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on activities planned and supported by the City of Adelaide during National Reconciliation Week (NRW) and NAIDOC Week in 2025.

In 2025, the City of Adelaide (CoA) has a stronger focus on activities during Reconciliation Week aligned with the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 (RAP) commitments to build an inclusive and equitable community.

Initiatives in NRW taking place between Tuesday 27 May and Saturday 3 June include:

- 26 May – NRW Artwork Showcase at Adelaide Central Market
- 27 May – Reconciliation SA Breakfast

Initiatives during NAIDOC Week taking place between Sunday 6 July and Sunday 13 July include:

- 8 July – NAIDOC in the Mall event including performances, storytelling sessions, and interactive activities.
- 9 July – The Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Award.
- NAIDOC Artwork Display in the Mall throughout NAIDOC week.

Both weeks will feature displays of the respective themes "*Bridging Now to Next*" and "*The Next Generation: Strength, Vision and Legacy*" with flags and banners in key public spaces and social media to drive awareness and participation across multiple platforms.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE

1. Notes the City of Adelaide's activities to celebrate National Reconciliation Week between 27 May to 3 June 2025, and National NAIDOC Week, between 6 July to 13 July 2025.
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IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Community An inclusive, equitable and welcoming community where people feel a sense of belonging.
Policy	Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024 – 2027 <i>Action 2.1 Circulate Reconciliation' Australia's National Reconciliation Week (NRW) resources and reconciliation materials to all employees</i> <i>Action 2.5 Register all our NRW events on the Reconciliation Australia website NRW website</i> <i>Action 2.6 The City of Adelaide commits to organising at least one NRW event each year at the Adelaide Central Market or/and Rundle Mall.</i> <i>Action 9.3 Deliver and support employees to participate in NAIDOC Week events in our local area, including: NAIDOC in the Mall, Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Awards, NAIDOC artwork commissioning.</i> <i>Action 9.5 Officially recognise the recipient of the annual Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Award on both the website and social media platforms.</i> <i>Action 9.4 Collaborate with the SA NAIDOC Committee to support celebrations in the CBD including the NAIDOC March and Family Fun Day.</i>
Consultation	Not as a result of this report
Resource	The hosting of multiple events is supported by resources allocated within the annual budget allocation.
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Not as a result of this report
Opportunities	Not as a result of this report
24/25 Budget Allocation	The City of Adelaide 2024/25 Annual Business Plan and Budget allocation for Reconciliation Action Plan delivery includes \$20,000 for NRW 2025 activities. Delivery of the NAIDOC Week 2025 activities is funded through \$54,350 allocated to reconciliation in the City of Adelaide's operating budget.
Proposed 25/26 Budget Allocation	Delivery of the NAIDOC Week 2026 activities will be funded through the City of Adelaide's 2025/26 operating budget.
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Not as a result of this report
24/25 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

DISCUSSION

1. The City of Adelaide (CoA) remains committed to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities through its ongoing initiatives and activities during National Reconciliation Week (NRW) and NAIDOC Week.
2. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on activities planned and supported by the City of Adelaide during National Reconciliation Week (NRW) and NAIDOC Week in 2025.

National Reconciliation Week, 27 May to 3 June 2025

3. The NRW 2025 theme, *Bridging Now to Next*, reflects the ongoing connection between the past, present, and future. It urges us to look ahead and continue moving forward as past lessons guide us.
4. Action 2.6 of the CoA's RAP commits to organising at least one NRW event each year at the Adelaide Central Market or/and Rundle Mall.
5. A summary of events and activities follows and is summarised in the table below:
 - 5.1. CoA is engaging a First Nations artist through an Expression of Interest process. The artist will create an artwork based on the theme of NRW and display it at the Adelaide Central Market and digitally on the screens in Rundle Mall.
 - 5.2. An event at the Adelaide Central Market will be open to the public and showcase our commitment to celebrating NRW.
6. Other activities that CoA will support during NRW include:
 - 6.1. Attendance at the Reconciliation South Australia Breakfast on Tuesday, 27 May 2025 from 6.45 am – 9.00 am, to launch NRW in South Australia. First Nations employees, along with the Reconciliation Committee, Council, and Executive Members, have been invited to attend a table hosted by CoA.
 - 6.2. Flagpole banners will be displayed on King William Street and Gouger Street throughout the week.
 - 6.3. CoA social media posts will share information about Reconciliation Week.
 - 6.4. CoA activities during Reconciliation Week are detailed in the following table:

	Date	NRW Activities	Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 Alignment
1.	10:00 am – 10:30 am Monday, 26 May 2025	An event will be held at the Adelaide Central Market, Community Kitchen to showcase the NRW artwork. Location: Adelaide Central Market, Community Kitchen.	2.6 The CoA commits to organising at least one NRW event each year at the Adelaide Central Market or/and Rundle Mall.
2.	7:00 am -9:00 am, Tuesday, 27 May 2025	Reconciliation SA Breakfast. Table booked for CoA including Reconciliation Committee Members and RAP Working Group Members. Location: Adelaide Convention Centre.	Ongoing commitment.
3.	Tuesday, 27 May to Tuesday, 3 June 2025	Official NRW flagpole and banner displays on King William Street and Gouger Street, Adelaide.	2.1 Circulate Reconciliation Australia's National Reconciliation Week resources and reconciliation materials to all employees.
4.	Tuesday, 27 May to Tuesday, 3 June 2025	External communication of NRW through social media posts. Internal CoA communication via CEO message, and internal communication via employee newsletter 'The Next Edition'.	3.2 Communicate our commitment to reconciliation publicly

National NAIDOC Week, 6 July to 13 July 2025

7. National NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia in the first week of July each year (Sunday to Sunday), to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
8. This year's National NAIDOC Week theme, *The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy*, celebrates achievements of the past and the bright future ahead.
9. To embody the 2025 NAIDOC Week theme, the CoA will embed the theme in the delivery of the activities. This will include:
 - 9.1. In activities, speeches and content creation across the week young people's voices will highlight the vital role and voice of young people. Through storytelling, digital media, and public speaking, we will showcase their achievements, creativity, and connection to Country, ensuring their perspectives are heard and valued.
 - 9.2. Engaging a young and emerging First Nations artist to partner with an established artist to deliver the artwork.
10. The CoA's RAP commits to two annual events during NAIDOC week:
 - 10.1. NAIDOC in the Mall – is a public event that features various Aboriginal businesses, engaging activities for all ages, light refreshments, and entertainment for the duration of the event.
 - 10.2. The Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Award - has been an annual event since 2019. The Award is given each year to a respected member of the Aboriginal community who has made significant contributions to Reconciliation in the City of Adelaide.
11. The 2025 Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Award ceremony will be held in the Adelaide Town Hall, resuming the morning tea format. It will be a Civic Event for members of the award recipient's family, Reconciliation Committee members and other stakeholders involved in delivering the City of Adelaide's Reconciliation Action Plan.
12. In 2024, this event was held in conjunction with the Premier's NAIDOC Awards and the SA NAIDOC Awards, with activities aligned. Due to the significance of the 50 Year Celebration of National NAIDOC Week being hosted in Adelaide in 2024, the organising committees agreed to combine the Awards with one event being held in the Adelaide Town Hall.
13. CoA activities during National NAIDOC Week are provided in the following table:

	Date	National NAIDOC Week Activities	Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 Alignment
1.	Sunday, 6 July to Sunday, 13 July 2025	Official NAIDOC flagpole and banner displays on King William Street and Gouger Street, Adelaide.	Ongoing commitment.
2.	Sunday, 6 July to Sunday, 13 July 2025	Social Media campaign including storytelling content that brings to life the 2025 National NAIDOC theme. Internal City of Adelaide communication via CEO message, and internal communication in the 'The Next Edition'.	3.2 Communicate our commitment to reconciliation publicly
3.	10:00 am – 11:30 am, Wednesday, 9 July 2025	Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Awards. Location: Adelaide Town Hall.	9.3 Deliver and support employees to participate in NAIDOC Week events in our local area, including: - Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Awards - NAIDOC artwork commissioning.
4.	10:30 am – 1:00 pm Monday, 7 July to Monday, 14 July 2025	NAIDOC artwork in the Mall. The CoA, with the support of an Aboriginal artist, will develop an artwork based on the NAIDOC theme to be displayed publicly in Rundle Mall at the	9.3 Support employees to participate in NAIDOC Week events in our local area, including: - NAIDOC in the Mall

	Date	National NAIDOC Week Activities	Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027 Alignment
		NAIDOC in the Mall event and on the CoA website.	- Lord Mayor's NAIDOC Awards - NAIDOC artwork commissioning.
5.	10:30 am – 1:00 pm Tuesday, 8 July 2025	NAIDOC in the Mall. Location: Rundle Mall, Gawler Place Canopy.	9.3 Deliver and support employees to participate in NAIDOC Week events in our local area, including NAIDOC in the Mall.

SA NAIDOC Committee Activities

6.	Monday, 7 July 2025	NAIDOC SA Awards.	N/A
7.	11:00 am – 11:30 am Friday, 11 July 2025	NAIDOC March and Family Fun Day. Location: Tardanyangga to Elder Park	9.4 Collaborate with the SA NAIDOC Committee to support celebrations in the CBD including the NAIDOC March and Family Fun Day.
8.	Date TBC by SA organising committee	SA NAIDOC Ball. Location: Adelaide Convention Centre. Details TBC.	N/A

Next Steps

14. Invites for NRW breakfast have been issued to the Reconciliation Committee via email. Invites to the NAIDOC Week celebrations will be issued closer to the date.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT