

Lotterywest Grant helps KAARL Yarning Place project become reality for Katanning.

Kristy D'Aprile Katanning Shire President is thrilled to announce a significant boost to the KAARL Yarning Place project, thanks to a generous grant of \$120,000 from Lotterywest. 'This funding will play a pivotal role in bringing to life a vital community space that has emerged as part of the Katanning Public Arts Trail Strategy and Reconciliation Action Plan.'

The KAARL Yarning Place is a key component of the broader strategy, an integral part of the Public Art Trail Strategy, which encapsulates the community's vision for artworks that enhance the public realm which tells Katanning's unique stories. This project recognises the significance of First Nations people of Katanning.

Members of the Katanning Noongar community expressed a heartfelt desire for a dedicated space – where Noongar people can meet, yarn, share culture, reflect on their past, and envision their future. The KAARL Yarning Place aims to be a hub for sharing, collaboration, and healing, providing a neutral space for Noongar people to enjoy and share culture together and with the wider community.

The construction of the Yarning Place is a significant milestone in our arts and culture project. It acknowledges the importance of Noongar people, fostering respect and pride within the Noongar community of Katanning and the broader community. In a town where 9% of residents identify as Aboriginal, meaningful projects like the KAARL Yarning Place provide tangible evidence of valuing and respecting our First Nations people.

This initiative aligns with key documents, including the Shire of Katanning Strategic Community Plan 2022–2032, Tourism Strategy 2020–2025, and Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan. The KAARL Yarning Place project is the first deliverable from a series of projects the Shire plans to undertake in the coming years to fulfill the community's aspirations.

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