



# The Australian Curriculum

Knowledge and Understanding of Aboriginal Australia  
- Foundational to curriculum priorities

Wednesday 26th February 2014, 10am – 3pm.

Worawa Aboriginal College, 60-80 Barak Lane, Healesville, Mel 278 A9

The Australian Curriculum Priorities will require Schools to audit their curriculum provisions and implementation strategies. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures Priority provides an ideal opportunity for Schools to review and renew the place of the organising ideas within their program. On the land of the Coranderrk Aboriginal Station and within the cultural environment of Worawa Aboriginal College, participants will learn about Australia's Aboriginal past and also be exposed to the realities of the present and hopes for the future. They will be introduced to reviewing and renewing processes and will be provided with the opportunity to explore curriculum approaches and teaching strategies for the three priority organising ideas of Country and Place, Culture and People.

The challenge for Curriculum leaders is to ensure that:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives feature in all school curricula especially in schools which do not have a significant Indigenous enrolment
- Significant curriculum opportunities are available to students to engage with contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities as strong, resilient, rich and diverse



**Dr Mauri Hamilton** Education Consultant Mauri Hamilton, conducts seminars to assist schools in their implementation of the Australian Curriculum at Independent Schools Victoria (2010-2013). Mauri will workshop ways of embedding the Cross Curriculum Priority: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Histories and Cultures and the General Capabilities: Ethical understanding and Intercultural understanding into a school curriculum.



**Pam Russell** Pam was Honorary Fellow at The University of Melbourne (2004-2010), in the Faculty of Education. She is a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators and was Chair of the Education sub-committee for the Churchill Fellowships (Victoria) 2005-2011. She has been President (Victoria) of the Australian College of Educators and National Director of Tournament of the Minds. Through the Worawa Professional Learning Institute Pam has been involved in programs for Educators on Indigenous Perspectives across the curriculum.



**Lois Peeler** Lois' childhood was spent on orchards in the Goulburn Valley after her family moved from the Cummeragunja Aboriginal Reserve near Barmah. These experiences have shaped the lives of Lois' family who have been very active in Aboriginal community development. Lois' mother Mrs. Geraldine Briggs AO was awarded for her work in this field. Lois' sister the late Hyllus Maris was a visionary and writer who wrote *Women of the Sun* and established Worawa Aboriginal College in Healesville. Lois has had a varied career, which includes being the first Aboriginal model, the first Aboriginal person to work in television, and a member of the singing group 'The Sapphires' – the story of which is now a smash hit film written by nephew Tony Briggs. Lois has extensive experience in Aboriginal Affairs having worked in the Aboriginal community sector, the State and Federal public service sector and in the corporate sector.

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**Investment \$195 - includes lunch and all handouts**

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