

First Circles members kick start their leadership program

A new group of emerging Aboriginal leaders' gathered in Alice Springs last month for their first workshop as part of the 2024 First Circles Leadership Program.

This year's First Circles members represent communities from across the Territory, including; Kalano, Tennant Creek, Jilkminggan, Beswick, Alice Springs, Maningrida, Yuendumu, Galiwinku, Gapuwiyak, Waruwi, Binjari and Wurrumiyanga.

The Program will provide members the opportunity to develop and expand their leadership skills, increase their personal capabilities and learn more about the NT Government and how to best influence change on matters impacting their communities.

Members will attend workshops and regional engagement sessions throughout 2024, with the final workshop including a meeting with Northern Territory Cabinet Ministers.

Workshop One

The workshop focused on new members getting to know each other, learning about the First Circles Program and group discussions including mind mapping activities.



Members also learnt about the NT Government's Aboriginal Affairs priorities, such as:

- The National Agreement on Closing the Gap
- Closing the Gap – Priority Reform areas and Socio-Economic Outcomes
- *Everyone Together* Aboriginal Affairs Strategy
- Local Decision Making Policy
- Regional Network Group

Members discussed community issues of importance during the workshop, and started thinking about particular projects and learnings that they want to focus on in upcoming workshops, along with building their profiles for the First Circles annual booklet.



Alumni mentor 2023 – Kevin Collins

Kevin Collins, Alice Springs resident and 2023 Alumni member, shared his First Circles journey with members. Kevin discussed his passion surrounding the need for more housing in homelands and described how he conveyed this through his presentation to Cabinet Ministers.



Members visit ANZAC hill

First Circles

Supporting Aboriginal leaders from across the Territory

Aboriginal Leadership & Governance Forum and Treaty Symposium

First Circles members had the opportunity to attend the Aboriginal Leadership and Governance Forum and the Treaty Symposium. Members took part in the 'truth-telling' recordings of Treaty Symposium attendees to better understand Aboriginal perspectives on history, heritage and Treaty in the NT.



First Circles Program - 10th anniversary!

This year marks the 10th Anniversary of the First Circles Leadership Program. The Program was developed in 2014 to help identify, mentor and support emerging Aboriginal leaders from remote communities across the Northern Territory. There will be celebrations later in the year to mark this milestone.....Watch this space!

Regional engagement sessions

Over the coming months, the Office of Aboriginal Affairs and Regional Network Offices will work with First Circles members to ensure that members have the best support they can to attend, learn, and grow throughout their First Circles Leadership journey. Regional Member Engagement Sessions will commence on 21 May with Central and Barkly members traveling to Alice Springs.

May/June 2024

Member Engagement Sessions in the Regions

Central Australia & Barkly

21 May - Alice Springs

Big Rivers

4 June - Katherine

Top End & East Arnhem

12 June - Darwin

FirstCircles

Supporting Aboriginal leaders from across the Territory

2024 First Circles Members



Alec Bidwee
Kalano



Sally Sena
Alice Springs



Tristin Maroney
Binjari



Cecilia Lake
Jilkminggan



Suzanne Munkara
Wurrumiyanga



Cecilia Gaykamangu
Galiwinku



Sean Wilson
Yuendumu



Kingsley Murphy
Maningrida



Geraldine Narul
Warruwi



Jermaine Wunungmurra
Galiwinku



Edith Wunungmurra
Gapuwiyak



Deanna Kennedy
Beswick

Nelnita Morrison – Tennant Creek (Photo Unavailable)