Collaborate to share information on the Strategy

Inspire collaborative relationships among the public library network to share information on Indigenous services

Targets

- Staff across the public library network share information and experiences on how to develop better services for Indigenous peoples
- Create a network of professionals, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to develop good practice for Indigenous services in public libraries.

Key strategies

- Facilitate connections and conversations across the public library network, through the use of the State Library website, online collaborative tools and social media channels.
- Promote champions in improving and providing services for the local Australian Indigenous population, and celebrate these inspiring stories among the public library network.
Resources for public libraries

- SOCIAL MEDIA
- EMAIL LISTS
- MAGAZINES
- TRAINING
- PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS

SOCIAL MEDIA

Getting started

Is your library interested conducting programs with the local Indigenous community – but you don’t know where to start?
Does your library organise innovative programs with community and you want to share these successes with other libraries?

Professional collaboration is the way to go – the following are a few tips that may help.

Working together

Many institutions contribute across the whole range of social media forums such as:
Twitter

Collect followers and follow others to be exposed to an enormous number of people and organisations who have similar interests. Retweeting is simple and this creates a “news ticker” feel to your outreach. Here are a few hashtags that might help:

- #PublicLibrariesIndigenous
- #ALIA
- #slnsw
- #nswpubliclibraries
- @HistoryNSW

Pinterest

Pin individual photographs of events, books and services to create a connection with the outside world to your library. Some boards that may be of interest are:

- SLNSW
- Public Library Services
- Indigenous Spaces in Library Places

Facebook

This is more of a conversational forum where you can post multiple photos and a short paragraph describing your event or program. Many institutions, professional organisations and individuals have a Facebook page and they include:

- AIATSIS
- SLNSW
- History Council NSW
- IndigenousX
- ABC Indigenous
- Indigenous Digital Excellence
- Indigenous Archives
- Boomali
- Terri Janke and Company
- ABC Speaking Out
- UTS Junbunna
- First Languages Australia
- Miromaa Language
- National Centre for Indigenous Excellence
- The Guardian
- Indigenous.gov.au
- Indigenous Literacy Foundation
- National Indigenous Times
- National Indigenous Television
- Aboriginal Studies Press
- Anita Heiss
Tumblr

This is a forum that reaches the younger audience, this easy to use blogging tool encourages sharing and re-blogging of other people's content. You could start by visiting Indigenous Services Tumblr [30].

Tips: have you thought of:

- ask other libraries to take a "shelfie" of their labelled Aboriginal collection? using #PublicLibrariesIndigenous [1] and #Shelfie [31] (using Twitter and Instagram)
- Pin a board of Indigenous YA fiction, Fiction or Non-Fiction and share it with the Indigenous Spaces in Library Places [8] board (using Pinterest)
- Host a public libraries NSW online trivia quiz with questions such as: "How much do you know of NSW Indigenous history?" or "How much do you know of Indigenous peoples in your collections?" (using Twitter, Facebook and Tumblr)

EMAIL LISTS

Getting started

Email lists are designed to work as a learning community encouraging library staff to share information and experiences. The e-list that SLNSW administers is found at indigenous-services@libraries.nsw.gov.au [32] and is for public library staff who are interested in ideas for the provision of services for Indigenous people in their libraries and communities.

MAGAZINES

Getting started

You may want to consider contacting Indigenous media outlets or local publishers to share stories or showcase your programs. The State Library's print and online media channels also provide opportunities for you to share information on your programs.

Some examples of Indigenous media outlets are:

- Koori Mail [33]
- National Indigenous Times [34]

The Library publishes the Public Library News [35] bi-annually in both print and PDF format. The magazine features case studies and in-depth articles on innovation and new ideas in libraries.

TRAINING

Getting started

All kinds of subject specific training could help with ideas for sharing information between professionals. The obvious would be Cultural Competency, but how to research Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family history or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages training are just as effective.
PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Getting started
Collaboration with like-minded professionals can also be achieved by joining a professional organisation. Some examples of associations that you might be interested in connecting with are:

- Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) [36]
- New South Wales Public Libraries Association (NSW PLA) [37]
- Professional Historians Association [38]
- Australian Society of Archivists [39]

CASE STUDIES

- **Transcribe-a-thon**

Transcribe-a-thon

Public library staff members during a Transcribathon with the Library during NAIDOC week 2017.
The State Library of NSW holds over 200 language lists of Indigenous Australian languages in its collections. The language lists were collected by early nineteenth century Europeans who were in conversation with Indigenous people. These language lists have been digitised but they are often really hard to read.

For NAIDOC Week we held a *transcribe-a-thon* with staff in public libraries across New South Wales, from Wiradjuri country to Dharug. Together we transcribed a series of handwritten language lists into typed transcripts so they can be easily read and searched for words.

The public libraries joined us and other staff from the State Library via video conference at 11am on Wednesday 5 July and we began transcribing. We had lots of fun deciphering the handwriting of nineteenth century surveyors and even had to decode some words for body parts! Our transcripts are now available online and can be viewed by people from across the globe.

Transcribing is part of the Library’s crowdsourcing initiatives, and an easy and fun way of engaging public with our collections.

Choose your strategy objective

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**Welcome**

[40]

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Include
Reach
Overview
Other resources for your library

Download Resources
Collaborate to share information on the Strategy
Published on State Library of NSW (https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au)

Share your stories
Our Protocols
About the strategy