

Speech by Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP
Unveiling Kwidjar Booroongor, Manning Park
Monday, 15 February 2021

Kia, Wunju, Wunju, Beeliar Boogah

Hello and welcome to the land of the Beeliar People

My wife Patricia and I are delighted to join you this morning for the unveiling of Kwidjar Booroongor in the delightful setting of Manning Park; and in particular under the shade of this magnificent tree.

I acknowledge the Whadjup people of the Nyungar Nation the traditional custodians of the land on which we have gathered today and I pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

And I extend that respect to Aboriginal people with us today.

I acknowledge:

Karoline Jamieson, Manager Community Development;

Joan DeCastro, Children's Development Officer;

Cassandra Cooper, Arts & Cultural Coordinator;

Shelley Farmer, Aboriginal Community Development Officer;

Froggy Playgroup staff Vesna Milanovic and Lucy Reeve;

Nyungar/Yamatii Artist Lance Chadd (Tillungoo) and his partner Trish Robinson;

Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Carers and children.

We are in the tenth anniversary year of Froggy's Fun on the Green, a free family friendly mobile outdoor play program for children from 0 – 5 years of age.

I know my wife Patricia enjoyed the many times she brought our granddaughter Brooke down to Manning Park to join in the fun activities provided in this wonderful natural setting.

Today is a very special day as we get to see some friendly frogs join us to make our visits even more fun in the future.

I must admit my wife and I came down to Manning Park to say hello to the frogs a few days ago and tried the 'leap frog' activity – perhaps it was our age as we laughed at each other attempts to jump over the frogs.

Opportunities for the children to look at, touch and climb on the frogs during their time with the playgroup will be probably one of the first things they'll do on arrival.

Importantly, we are honoured to have such a well-renowned artist's work in Manning Park, which has a rich Aboriginal heritage.

Congratulations to artists Lance Chadd (Tillungoo) for your creativity and welcome addition to Manning Park – I'm certain the frogs will attract a wider audience and assist in the wider appreciation of our Aboriginal history.

Three morphing frogs in their various stages - an interactive cultural artwork for adults and children to enjoy for many years to come.

Thank you.