

TREATY.
IT'S TIME.

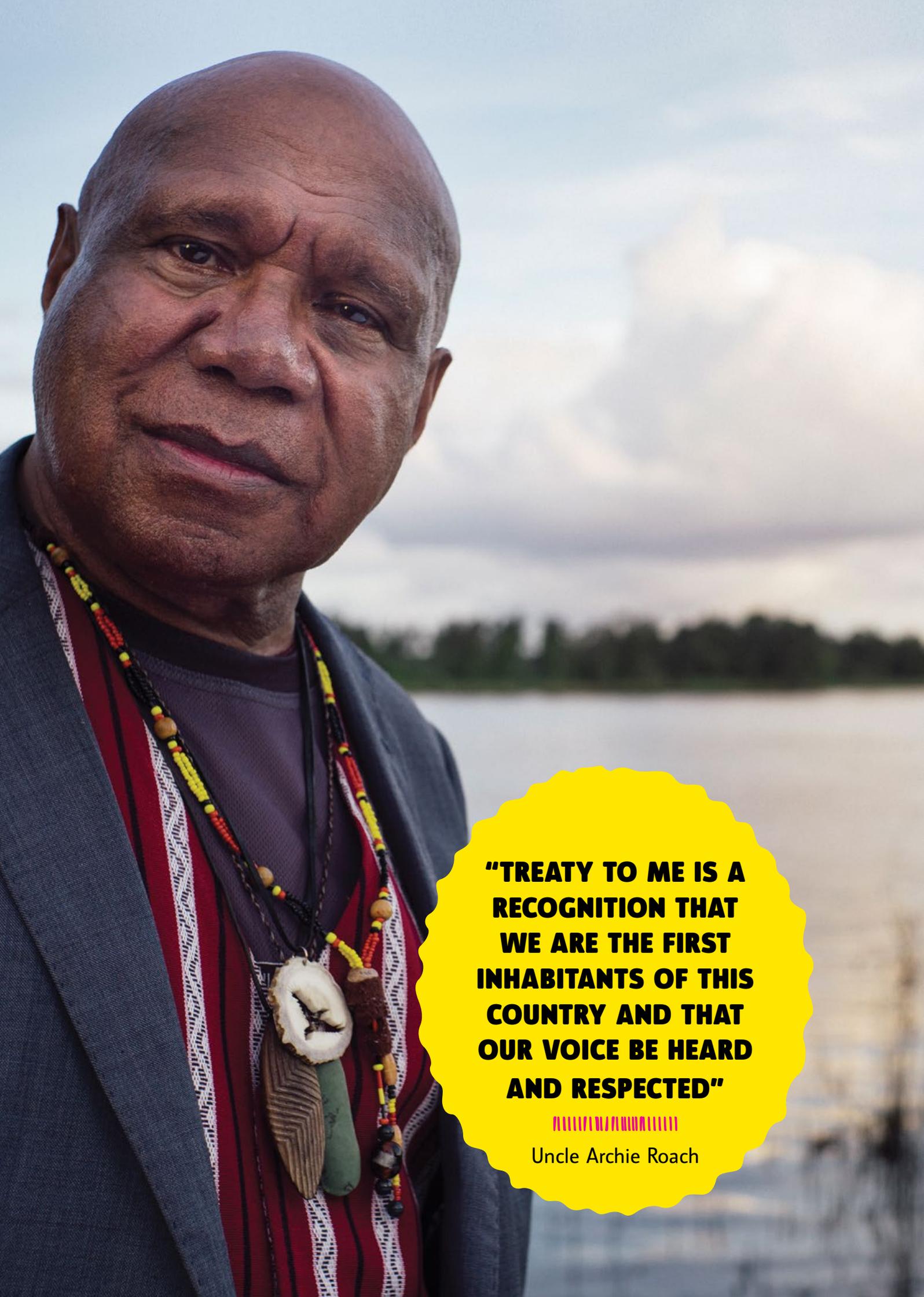
**YOUR
CANDIDATES**

NORTH WEST

First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria Election 2019



**First Peoples'
Assembly of
Victoria**



**"TREATY TO ME IS A
RECOGNITION THAT
WE ARE THE FIRST
INHABITANTS OF THIS
COUNTRY AND THAT
OUR VOICE BE HEARD
AND RESPECTED"**



Uncle Archie Roach

VOTING IS OPEN FROM 16 SEPTEMBER – 20 OCTOBER 2019

**Treaties are our self-determining right.
They can give us justice for the past and hope
for the future. The First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria
will be our voice as we work towards Treaties.**

The First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria will be set up this year,
with its first meeting set to be held in December.

The Assembly will be a powerful, independent and culturally
strong organisation made up of 32 Victorian Traditional Owners.

If you're a Victorian Traditional Owner or an Aboriginal or
Torres Strait Islander person living in Victoria, you're eligible to vote
for your Assembly representatives through a historic election process.

Your voice matters, your vote is crucial.



HAVE YOU ENROLLED TO VOTE?

To be able to vote, you'll need to make sure you're enrolled. This will
only take you a few minutes. You can do this at the same time as voting,
or before you vote.

The Assembly election is completely Aboriginal owned and independent
from any Government election (this includes the Victorian Electoral
Commission and the Australian Electoral Commission). This means,
even if you vote every year in other elections, you'll still need to sign
up to vote for your Assembly representatives.

Don't worry, your details will never be shared with Government, or any
electoral commissions and you won't get fined if you decide not to vote.

**To enrol to vote or learn more about enrolling,
visit www.firstpeoplesvic.org/enrol**

WHERE AND HOW TO VOTE

Voting is easy and will be open from 16 September until 20 October 2019.

You can vote in person at various polling places around the state, via post or online at www.firstpeoplesvic.org/vote

On your ballot, you'll need to write the number '1' in the box next to your favourite candidate, number '2' next to your second favourite and so on until you number at least three boxes. You may then, if you wish, number some or all of the remaining boxes in your order of preference.

In your region, you're voting to elect three representatives to the Assembly.

Learn more about all the voting regions at www.firstpeoplesvic.org/your-region



HOW TO VOTE IN PERSON

To vote in person, you can access any of the polling booth locations across the state.

At the polling location the team will ask you for your name and address to mark you off the roll, then provide you with a ballot. If you have questions, they can show you how to fill out the ballot correctly and give you an opportunity to practice if you want.

If you have not yet enrolled to vote, you can do this at the same time, **remember to bring ID with you.**

HOW TO VOTE ONLINE

After you have enrolled, you will be sent your Enrolment ID Number by email, letter or SMS. As voting commences, you will be sent another email, letter or SMS with your password and instructions on how to vote.

You will be asked to enter your Enrolment ID Number and Password sent to you. These are unique to you and cannot be used by anyone else.

You will be asked to click the candidates in the order you wish to vote for them. You will then click Next and will see a confirmation screen. Click Finish, and your vote will be cast. You cannot change your mind after this step.

If you haven't filled out the ballot correctly, the system will tell you and ask you to fix it before submitting.

HOW TO VOTE BY POST

If you selected that you wanted to vote by post when you enrolled, you will be mailed a ballot and instructions to the address provided.

Read the instructions carefully and then fill out the ballot.

To ensure your vote is valid you will need to sign the envelope before returning to us. Put this in the reply paid (free) envelope provided.

You must post your vote by 20 October 2019 and it must be received by us by **30 October 2019** to be counted.

If you haven't already, you may request a postal ballot until 5pm 14 October 2019.

POLLING PLACES

You can vote in person in your region at the following locations and times:

- ⊙ **Bendigo Trades Hall**
40 View Street, Bendigo
Weekdays 10:30am–6:30pm
Monday 30 Sept – Friday 4 Oct
Monday 7 Oct – Friday 11 Oct
- ⊙ **MADEC Australia**
133–137 Madden Grove, Mildura
Weekdays 10:30am–6:30pm
Monday 30 Sept – Friday 4 Oct
(closed Wednesday 2 Oct)
Monday 7 Oct – Friday 11 Oct
- ⊙ **Swan Hill Town Hall***
53-57 McCallum St, Swan Hill
10:00am-6:00pm
Monday 30 Sept – Friday 4 Oct
Tuesday 7 Oct – Thursday 10 Oct
- ⊙ **Swan Hill (location to be confirmed)**
Wednesday 9 Oct –
Thursday 10 Oct
- ⊙ **Budja Budja**
Aboriginal Co-Operative Ltd
20–22 Grampians Road, Halls Gap
9:00am–5:00pm
Friday 11 Oct
- ⊙ **Goolum Goolum**
Aboriginal Co-Operative
43 Hamilton Street, Horsham
9:00am–5:00pm
Wednesday 9 Oct
- ⊙ **Sir John Gorton Library Kerang**
Cnr Shadforth St
& Murray Valley Hwy, Kerang
10:00am–4:00pm
Friday 11 Oct (to be confirmed)
- ⊙ **SuniTAFE Robinvale**
160 Bromley Road, Robinvale
10:00am–4:00pm
Wednesday 2 Oct

All venues (unless marked) are wheelchair accessible. If you have accessibility issues, let the team know and they'll be able to help you, including coming out to your car if needed.

*accessible via elevator

IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

- ⦿ If at the time of enrolment, you selected online or postal voting, you don't need to do anything, information will be sent to you.
- ⦿ If at the time of enrolment, you didn't select online or postal, you can change this anytime by calling **1800 TREATY** or emailing **vtac@austelect.com**
- ⦿ You can vote at any polling booth regardless of your town or voting preference.
- ⦿ If you decide you want to vote online after enrolling, contact us at **1800 TREATY** or emailing **vtac@austelect.com** to request an online ballot. This request may be made **until 9pm 20 October 2019**.
- ⦿ If you decide you want to vote by post after enrolling, contact us at **1800 TREATY** or emailing **vtac@austelect.com** to request a postal ballot be sent to you. This request may be made **until 14 October 2019**.



NEED HELP?

Let us know how we can help.

You can call Victorian Treaty Advancement Commission on **1800 TREATY (1800 87 32 89)**.

To get in contact with your local Assembly Election Officer, visit **www.firstpeoplesvic.org/get-in-touch** or Contact the Victorian Treaty Advancement Commission on **1800 TREATY (1800 87 32 89)**.





**"TO ME,
TREATY MEANS THE
RECOGNITION OF PAST
INJUSTICES AND THE
COMMITMENT TO ACTIONS
THAT WILL PROMOTE TRUE
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
AND EQUITY WITHIN
OUR COMMUNITIES"**



Kyeema Coombs

MEET YOUR CANDIDATES

**The following is a list of candidates
you can vote for in the First Peoples'
Assembly of Victoria Election 2019.**

**Read their candidate statements
to learn a bit more about them.**

**Candidates are listed in the order
they appear on the ballot.**

Statements have been prepared by the individual candidates, they have not been edited unless they have exceeded the word count.

**NO PHOTO
SUPPLIED**

BRENDAN KENNEDY

My name is Brendan Kennedy of the Tati Tati Wadi Wadi traditional owners, I am from the Murray River Nations in North West Victoria and I am standing for the North West Region, I aim to strive to achieve the best possible benefits for Victorian Traditional owners and aboriginal Victorians.



JACINTA CHAPLIN

My name is Jacinta Chaplin I was born and raised in the Swan Hill, Nyah West area.

As a people we have come to a point in this modern world, Treaty Is the next step to be taken

Instead of proving our connection we demanded the respect for our ancestor who are now in the dreaming, the respect of our culture and of our responsibility to protect the lore of the lands.

Our ancestors have guided us to where we are today. We walk in the footsteps they have left for us. Therefore, the tracks we are creating now are the pathways and possibilities for the generations to come, to be the next leaders, to keep our dreaming alive and our culture strong.

Our country is our heart, our totems are our spirit and our souls are combined with the animals, the plants, the waters and the lands.

As a people we are responsible for protecting our own and each other's heart, spirit and souls.

We are ready, to leave our footprints together.



DALE MCDONALD

My name is Dale McDonald I am a sovereign man of the Mukjarawaint/Djap Wurrung/Jardwadjali/Gunditjmara and Gunai Kurnai nations.

I have lived in the Daylesford region on Dja Dja Wurrung country for the past 35 years. During this time I have advocated for and protected the land, environment and waterways and wellbeing of people. Whilst maintaining a strong connection to my traditional countries.

I am a father, grandfather, uncle, son and many more and come from strong blood lines of staunch leaders. My great grandfathers Ebenezer Lovett and John Connelly along with my great grandmother Susannah McDonald have passed down the cultural knowledge and stories through my family lines that are integral to my cultural heritage and spirituality as a first nations person.

I have broad knowledge of culture, heritage, religious beliefs, lore and spirituality through Bunjil our creator spirit. I believe it is important for this knowledge to be shared. It is fundamental that all grounded grassroots voices are heard and are a part of the treaty process, this has motivated me to stand as a candidate.



JASON KELLY

I'm a proud Mutthi Mutthi / Wamba Wamba man I am a father and Grandfather

My passion for mob and justice was instilled in me by Grandparents Alfred Kelly (Wamba Wamba) Alice Kelly (Mutthi Mutthi 1988 National Aboriginal Person of the year)

I was honoured to attend the National Dialogue at Uluru as an elected Victorian Community member.

I have spoken at the African Union of Nations in Ethiopia highlighting the continual significant imbalance between Aboriginal rights and obligations and Non Aboriginal Rights and obligations and the continual impacts of past government policy and practices.

I stand on the values of Integrity and Human Rights and have sound knowledge of the United Nations Declaration of Indigenous People Rights (UNDRIP)

Treaty is about recognising OUR sovereignty and our ability to self sustained services on country in accordance with Aboriginal Lore.

I believe in the ability for economic self determination via the deadly work done before by our elders who drafted PAY the RENT and how this concept is still relevant as part of and beyond Treaty.

Treaty is about us mob taking back the reigns. You cannot have peace without justice, Treaty and pay the rent is a step towards justice.



NICK STEWART

My name is Nick Stewart, I am a proud Wamba Wamba and Dhudhuroa man, My family comes Wamba Country around Swan Hill and Lake Boga I grew up on country, and now live on Dja Dja Wurrung Country in Bendigo,

Treaty to me is the biggest opportunity Victorian Aboriginal people have had in a vary long time,

I want us as Victorian Aboriginal people to show all of Australia our passion and intelligence in a strong legally binding document that asserts all of our rights, history and also the future of our people and Nations.



RAYLENE IVY HARRADINE

I am a proud Latje Latje and Wotjabuluk woman, My family connection is to the Northwest and Wimmera area of Victoria. I was born in Dimboola and then moved several times until finally settling in Bendigo. I nominated for the Assembly as I believe that we as a Nation are in a position to progress self determination.

I have grown up with values of family and community, which is reflective of the work that I have undertaken particularly in leading guardianship for children in our care where I am passionate in being in a position to be a decision maker in working with children and families for better outcomes, I am a recipient of a Public Service medal ,2017 for work with communities in Loddon Mallee.

I am at a point in my life and have the maturity and confidence to stand alongside my peers as a united voice on what we are attempting to achieve for the future of our people. I see the Assembly as the next steps toward recognition as the First peoples and would be honored to be elected so that we could progress treaty within Australia in unity with all Australians.

**NO PHOTO
SUPPLIED**



KENITA-LEE MCCARTNEY

I am a proud Wemba Wemba/Wotjibolik/Wiradjuri women. I have a strong voice for community, we need to make sure they are strongly included in the negotiation processes, making sure we can leave a legacy, to do all our ancestors proud, they have paved the way for us. I have hope for the future of our country, our children are our future leaders, we need to pave the way for stronger beginnings for them.

I hope to be the right voice for community, to lead the way for our mob to have pride in cultural identity, connection to country and be able to heal. Our ancestors, our mothers, our grandmothers never had this opportunity, so we need to do this for them. I want our mobs to come together and know they are being heard, I feel I can be that voice.

ANNEBELLE MAY MOORE

My name is Anabelle Moore everyone calls me Annie and that is my preferred name. I come from one of five groups in the Western District of Victoria.

I was one of 11 children that was forcefully removed. I grew up not really knowing my mob and didn't come back to country until my late 30s I am proud to be a Wotjobaluk woman and a traditional owner.

I have kids and grandkids so for me Treaty is about closure for me and a future for the younger generation.

Treaty should be about closing gaps in a system that is flawed, health, housing, education and equality some of the a are huge issues that communities still face and that isn't even scratching the surface. We live in a first world country with archaic and patriarchal westernised traditions, instead of harmony, equality lore and law The struggle is real and it won't end until we make a stand as a united voice to move forward and embrace change for a better future.



RODNEY CARTER

I live in central Victoria and I am a descendant of the Dja Dja Wurrung people. If elected to the First Peoples' Assembly, I will ensure a strong voice on advocacy for the needs of all people upon treaty matters in the north western electoral region. I believe that Treaty can be something for everyone to share in.

As a Traditional Owner our leadership needs to ensure that everyone benefits from the opportunities that Treaty could provide. Treaty provides us a unique chance as a sovereign people that have never ceded our homelands to be properly recognised and that we sit as equals to be a positive example for all Victorians.

Our Ancestors never had the respect of the colonial powers of the day, I would be honoured to represent you at this Assembly, so our Ancestors voice is not forgotten, and our children and future generations have greater opportunities than we have today.

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MORE INFORMATION

Call 1800 TREATY (1800 873 289)

www.firstpeoplesvic.org



First Peoples'
Assembly of
Victoria

