

Lead Treaty Advocate- Position Summary

The Lead Negotiators, within the Treaty Branch, will play a key role in representing the State of Victoria in collaborative and good faith discussions with the Aboriginal Representative Body (to be known as the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria) to establish the elements necessary for the future negotiation of a treaty or treaties. The Lead Negotiators will work in a dynamic, ground breaking area with few precedents as Victoria pursues treaty in genuine partnership with Aboriginal Victorians.

In addition to working with the Aboriginal Representative Body, the Lead Negotiators will collaborate across the entire Victorian government to capture, reflect and represent the interests of the State while ensuring that state acts fairly, and in good faith, as an equal treaty partner.

The Lead Negotiators will work jointly to represent, and collaborate across, the Victorian Government. The successful applicants will be supported by, and responsible for managing, a highly skilled, multi-disciplinary team with expertise in the areas of negotiation, policy analysis, research, community engagement and communications.

Duties

1. As part of the Treaty branch's management team, lead and manage a high performing, results driven, multi-disciplinary team.
2. Develop and manage the work program for the State negotiation team, track achievement of all targets and milestones, ensure resources are appropriately distributed and managed within budget and provide accurate reporting on the treaty process.
3. Represent the State in discussions with the Aboriginal Representative Body (to be known as the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria) and ensure that the State acts fairly and in good faith as a treaty partner.
4. Develop and maintain collaborative working relationships across government departments and portfolios and with external stakeholders to broker optimal, mutually beneficial, good faith solutions to challenges as they arise in discussions with the Aboriginal Representative Body.
5. Coordinate and provide high level authoritative and strategic advice and research on complex matters relating to the State's partnership with the Aboriginal Representative Body and other work necessary to progress treaty.
6. Promote a culture within the team supportive of learning and development, innovation and continuous improvement.
7. Undertake other duties at the direction of the Assistant Director or Executive Director.

Key selection criteria

- Experience in leading the development of complex and innovative negotiations strategy and policy and applying this to negotiations, including in a cross-cultural context.
- Experience working in partnership with Aboriginal communities and demonstrable knowledge and sensitivity to the diversity of perspectives, priorities and culture of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Victorians.

- Demonstrated experience in providing and delivering strategic solutions to challenging policy problems.
- Highly developed interpersonal skills, with extensive experience in building mutually beneficial and collaborative partnerships, including in a cross-cultural context.
- Strong project management, planning and organisational skills and the ability to manage a large and complex work program.

Mandatory requirements

- A relevant tertiary qualification.
- Knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal affairs policy, legislation and frameworks relevant to Victoria. Experience or knowledge of treaty or other agreement making practices with Indigenous communities in other jurisdictions, including internationally, would be desirable.