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DJAARA LAUNCHES CLIMATE STRATEGY AHEAD OF SUMMIT

Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (DJAARA) has today launched the Dja Dja Wurrung Climate Change Strategy: Turning 'wrong way' climate, 'right way' at Wanyarra Dum (Frog Ponds) in White Hills.

The strategy emphasises the importance of DJAARA leadership in both mitigating climate change and adapting to the impacts of a changing climate.

Dja Dja Wurrung Group CEO Rodney Carter highlighted DJAARA's unique approach to healing climate, which is outlined in the strategy.

"Climate change is driven by colonial and western approaches to natural resource management where people, Country and climate are seen as separate," Mr Carter said.

"Dja Dja Wurrung take a holistic approach to climate action based on the principle that people, Country and climate are connected through spirit. Healing climate, healing Country and healing Dja Dja Wurrung People are very connected.

"Our Dja Dja Wurrung Climate Change Strategy brings together work that DJAARA is already leading on Country – including around natural resource management, cultural burning, forest gardening and other healing activities on Country," Mr Carter said.

The Dja Dja Wurrung Climate Change Strategy was developed in collaboration with a diverse group of Dja Dja Wurrung People. It follows DJAARA's Renewable Energy and Forest Gardening strategies, both released in 2022.

"Dja Dja Wurrung leadership is needed to effectively address the issue of climate change in central Victoria," Mr Carter said.

"As Traditional Owners, Dja Dja Wurrung People have been listening to and caring for Country for millenia. We are highly attuned to the health of Country and of climate.

"Our biocultural knowledge makes us best placed to know what is most likely to be successful in terms of reducing and adapting to climate change.

"DJAARA is eager to engage with those who live on or share responsibility for Country, and walk together as we face the challenge of climate change," Mr Carter said.

The strategy launch comes ahead of the public Greater Bendigo Climate Summit, to be held on Saturday 27 May at Ulumbarra Theatre. Rodney Carter will deliver a Welcome to Country at the Summit and copies of the Dja Dja Wurrung Climate Change Strategy will be available. Learn more about the Summit at <https://tinyurl.com/2xkt27bd>.

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