

Wamba Wamba Community Action Plan - MRPD

The Wamba Wamba Nation straddles both sides of the Murray River and takes in the sizable townships of Deniliquin, Moulamein and Swan Hill. As well as part of the Murray, Wamba Wamba country also includes the major tributaries of the Edward River and Wakool River. On the Victorian side of the Murray, Wamba Wamba Nation are part of the North-West Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Group. On the NSW side of the River Murray Wamba Wamba people are represented by a number of organisations including the Wamba Wamba Local Aboriginal Land Council, Deniliquin Local Aboriginal Land Council and Yarkuwa Indigenous Knowledge Centre at Deniliquin. Yarkuwa is a traditional owner based organisation that carries out cultural programs including festivals, cultural heritage assessments and environmental management. Wamba Wamba Reserve is located in Murray Downs NSW, situated on the banks of the Murray River and the population fluctuates between 9 and 14 residents.

- **Plan compiled 9 April 2020 Riverina/Murray West Sub LEMC Committee**
- **Reviewed 18 August 2020**
- **Tabled at MRPD Deniliquin PACC 26 May & 25 August 2020**
- **Reviewed, updated and re-disseminated 28 June 2021**

Ongoing consultation with regards to developing this plan has taken place over a number of months, via email, phone, social media platforms and this document was tabled at the Police and Aboriginal Consultative Committee Meeting on 26 May and 25 August 2020 for review/comment.

The following organisations and persons were involved in the consultation process;

Cummeragunja Aboriginal Lands Council – Uncle Leon Atkinson

Viney Morgan Medical Centre (Cummeragunja Aboriginal Medical Centre) – Belinda Day

Wamba Wamba Aboriginal Lands Council – Colin Williams

Deniliquin Aboriginal Lands Council – Rose Dunn, Toby Harradine

Yarkuwa Indigenous Knowledge Centre – David Crew, Karen Wilson, Jennifer Townsend, Aunty Jeanette Crew

Moama Aboriginal Lands Council – John Kerr

MRPD Deniliquin sector ACLO – Des Morgan

NSW Health Deniliquin Mental Health – Pieta Marks

NSW Health Deniliquin Aboriginal Mental Health – Laura Ross

NSW Health – Denise Garner - EOC

Murray River Council LEMO – Scott Barber

Edward River Council LEMO – Mark Dalzell

Berrigan Shire Council LEMO – Matthew Clarke

Other organisations on the email list for the PACC meeting to which this document was emailed for consultation include;

Department of Education, Intereach Deniliquin and FACS NSW.

Level	Action	Responsibility
1. Prepare: COVID-19 has not entered the community		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community entry measures to minimise risk of introducing COVID-19 applied • Stringent self-isolation and quarantine for people with cold and flu-like symptoms • Stay at home and physical distancing promoted • High-risk people advised to remain at home, for example those over 50 or those with other existing medical conditions • Funerals limited to only 10 people • Non-essential services closed • Practice good hygiene: wash and dry hands, cough into elbow, don't touch your face • Processes for testing for COVID-19 in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an Emergency Response Team - for example Community Leaders, LALC, School, Local Council, Police, AMS, NSW Health, etc. • Determine entry and exit measures - for example town boundaries, rules for people transiting through • Identify resources (people, financial and physical) available to be redeployed to support the Emergency Response Team - how many NGO staff are in the community and what role can they play, are there funds available to assist, road barriers or electronic message boards • Daily meeting each morning to handle logistics and give out daily jobs to the lockdown workforce • Identify what supplies are allowed in and what are not, for example alcohol • Identify strategies for supporting drug and alcohol addiction, violence, community members with special needs, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOC, Health NSW, LALC, Murray River Council LEMO, Police, Local Elders, FACS, • Local Government, EM NSW and EOC, Police, NSW Health MLHD • EOC, LEOCON, LEMO, Functional area (Transport), EM NSW, MLHD, Intereach Deniliquin, Transport NSW. • LEMO, Health NSW MLHD, Police, LALC, ACLO, Employers • LALC, Health NSW MLHD, Functional area, Elders • Health NSW, Aboriginal Mental Health Co-Ordinator, Police, ACLO, Deniliquin Mental Health.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a register to monitor entry and exit from the community • Inform and prepare community - flyers, posters, social media updates to advise that the community is in lock down and what the agreed rules for entry and exit are, see NSW Health resources at https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/covid-19-resources.aspx#Aboriginal • Display public health messages on social media and in community spaces • Community is supported to self-isolate – food deliveries, essential supplies deliveries • Community members are supported to quarantine in community if they have symptoms or have been diagnosed with COVID-19 • Develop communication strategy to inform community members of confirmed case(s) and the need for minimal contact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LALC, NSW Government (Security contract), Elders, Council Rangers, FACS. • NSW Health, EOC, Police, Elders, LALC, ACLO, PACC Committee, Council Rangers • NSW Health, EOC, LEMO/Councils, Transport NSW, ACLO, PACC Committee • LALC, SES volunteers, Intereach, VRA, Rotary. • NSW Health, Aboriginal Mental Health, Police, ACLO • NSW Health, NSW Public Health Unit, LALC, Elders, ACLO.

2. Contain: Confirmed cases in community

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry and exit measures maximised • Community informed of confirmed case(s) • Supported accommodation for those in quarantine to recover from mild symptoms • Cleaning of quarantined accommodation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential services only allowed into the community • Update social media, flyers and community text messages • Use vacant houses, hotels or other properties to provide clean, comfortable space for quarantine purposes or identify other evacuation options such as larger regional towns nearby • Engage cleaning contractor so that a high standard of hygiene processes are followed once accommodation becomes vacant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEMO, MRC, Police, Security • NSW Health, NSW Public Health Unit, LALC, Elders, ACLO. • NSW Health, EOC, Transport NSW, Functional Areas, FACS. • NSW Government, NSW Health.
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3. Elimination: COVID-19 is not contained

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People instructed to stay at home • All services and facilities close • Rationing of supplies and requisitioning of facilities • Major reprioritisation of health services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All community members instructed to stay indoors – for example no visitors to enter or exit town except health and service professionals • Food and essential supplies to be rationed and distributed to individual homes • Health services to coordinate and prioritise those most at risk • Potential use of overflow facilities – for example suitable venues to be identified until ambulance services can transfer the patient to hospital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSW Health Minister, Police, NSW Health, NSW Public Health Unit, LALC, Elders, PACC, ACLO, Security, Council Rangers • SES volunteers, FACS Intereach, VRA, Rotary. • NSW Health, Council, EOC, Functional Areas, FACS.
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