

## Balak Kalik Manya Walking Together

Phase 2 (2021-2024)

Balak Kalik Manya - Walking Together Phase 2 is a three-year project managed by Dja Dja Wurrung Enterprises (DJANDAK) with funding support of \$1.5 million provided by Agnico Eagle (formerly Kirkland Lake Gold.)



The project aims to build a collaborative approach to public land management between Dja Dja Wurrung, land managers and the community to improve public land within the Dja Dja Wurrung Recognition and Settlement Agreement Area.

Traditional knowledge and practices of Djaara (Dja Dja Wurrung People) will be incorporated with modern approaches to land management to protect and enhance the existing values of natural areas and improve the community's access to and appreciation of them.

The project will help to foster greater connection to country by the community, which is fundamental to Djaara and other First Nation's cultures and supporting 'healthy country, healthy people'. Modern science is now catching up and showing that connecting to nature leads to improved well-being for people and greater care for the environment.

During Phase 1 of the Project, two sites on Dja Dja Wurrung Country were successfully trialled, and site-specific management plans were developed for them. The parks, Wildflower Drive in Bendigo and Kalimna Park in Castlemaine, are incredibly special sites with a community of people that care for them.



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Community  
Partnership  
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Expanding from these roots, Balak Kalik Manya – Walking Together Phase 2 will focus on an additional three sites and continue the work towards the original project goals, as well as the aspirations detailed in Dhelkunya Dja (Healing Country) Country Plan 2014-2034, specifically, the principles of Culture; Partnerships; Looking after Country; Traditional Knowledge; and Economy.

#### Key Project Stages (2021-2024)

- Preliminary planning
- Site Selection
- Research & investigations
- Partnership engagement
- Design
- Implementation of works
- Commissioning

All interested stakeholders, especially the local community, can be involved in the project. There will be opportunities supplied to assist this involvement across each stage of the project.

#### Contact

Please get in touch at any time for more information or to discuss anything relating to the project.

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