

Title: The AIATSIS mission in our 60th anniversary year

Led by an Indigenous-majority council and senior executive, the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) is an Australian Government statutory authority whose functions include:

- developing, preserving and providing access to a national collection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and heritage;
- using that national collection to strengthen and promote knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and heritage;
- providing leadership in the fields of:
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research; and
 - ethics and protocols for research related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples;
- providing advice to the Commonwealth on the situation and status of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and heritage.

Drawing on her responsibilities leading the Collection Services Group at AIATSIS and her personal experience as a Ngunnawal Elder reviving the Ngunnawal language, Caroline will reflect on the work AIATSIS carries out to fulfil our functions, with a particular focus on linguistic heritage and the work of the AIATSIS Centre for Australian Languages. Doing so, necessitates a reflection on where AIATSIS began 60 years ago, where we are now, and where we will be in 10+ years.