

Request for Quote

Project Title

Advice and support on developing stakeholder engagement and government relations for Federation.

Background

The Federation is a not-for-profit organisation established in 2013 by Traditional Owner organisations recognising that there are benefits in collaborating on shared goals and priorities.

There are significant shifts in the operational context for the Federation – including the evolution of treaty and the assembly, fiscal constraints of the Victorian government and increasing capacity and expectations for Traditional Owners to contribute to legislation and policy making across diverse and complex areas of social, economic and environmental interests.

In this context, the Federation is seeking practical advice and support to identify and leverage key opportunities for critical and current issues and strategic positioning for the Federation particularly in light of the 2026 Victorian election.

Outcomes Sought

This work is primarily to support the Federation in meeting its objects and delivering on its overall strategic intent. The outcomes sought are broadly:

- Enhance the Federation's ability to influence policy and budgetary outcomes
- Strengthen the Federation's profile and recognition of the role and contribution it makes
- Increase the benefits and authority of Traditional Owners in their self-determination

Scope and Tasks

Scope of Services

The consultant will be expected to:

- Provide strategic and tactical advice on matters impacting Victorian Traditional Owner rights and interests as it relates to government policy and political engagement.
- Advise engagement strategies with government, political stakeholders, and the broader community.
- Guide decision-making through analysis of the public policy landscape, including risks and opportunities.
- Assist with communications and positioning to advance advocacy and influence outcomes.
- Offer independent, expert advice to strengthen organisational political, Traditional Owner and broader stakeholder engagement strategy
- Support and facilitate
 - Direct engagement and meetings with government and other stakeholders
 - Opportunities to influence
 - Alliances and connections with related stakeholders

Desired Expertise

The successful consultant will have:

- Extensive experience working with Victorian Traditional Owner groups, including a deep understanding of rights, interests, governance frameworks, and cultural authority.
- Strong knowledge of the Victorian and Federal political and policy environment, with proven ability to influence decision-makers.
- Proven track record of delivering high-level strategic and tactical advice in complex contexts.

Tasks

1. Meet with FVTOC executive to agree key areas or priority as a program of work
2. Develop stakeholder analysis and strategic positioning advice to support the achievement of the outcomes
3. Weekly meetings to advise on and support targeted actions
4. Provide written and verbal advice on matters
5. Support and facilitate strategic engagement activity
6. A final report outlining key activities and identifying future areas for improvement actions to be provided to the Executive

Timeframes

Expected Induction/Start 1 November 2025

Finalised report prepared by 30 April 2026

Response to this request

In responding to this brief consultants should:

- Identify key strategies and areas of service - what needs to be done and why, including with reference to:
 - risks and opportunities to achieve the Outcomes Sought
 - immediate/critical and longer term actions
 - key stakeholders and potential areas of messaging
 - key actions/types of activity required
- Provide profiles of key personnel
- Document relevant expertise and experience
- Detail cost breakdown
- Declare any actual or perceived conflict of interest

Responses due by 23 October

Contact

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