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To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the project entitled 'A continent of words: repatriating voices with digital technologies' for the 2019 ILA Open Grant round.

When the South Australian Museum approached the Mobile Language Team about this project we were excited to play a role in helping these valuable archival resources become available for Aboriginal communities all around Australia.

Looking at this large-scale project across a wealth of languages and highlighting their interconnectivity provides a valuable linguistic insight into the overarching linguistic landscape of Australia.

Norman Tindale's work is world famous and the Mobile Language Team is excited to have the opportunity to contribute to and value add upon his body of work.

Providing training for Aboriginal staff as well as a hands-on community first approach are all key strengths of this project and the Mobile Language Team is confident to lend our support to such efforts.

Digitising and making available the work of Norman Tindale is of grave importance to the overall linguistic landscape of Indigenous languages. A project of this scale and importance will have multiple direct and indirect benefits for Indigenous communities for generations to come.

We once again reiterate our full support for this project and wish it a positive result in the current grant round.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact myself.

Kind regards,

Dr Paul Monaghan
Manager
Mobile Language Team
The University of Adelaide

To whom it may concern,

I write in support of the South Australian Museum's proposal to support the project 'A continent of words: unlocking ancient voices through digital technologies.'

While seconded to the South Australian Museum until June 2020 from Arts SA, I write as a Nukunu person with a longstanding interest and role in the revitalization of Nukunu and other Aboriginal languages.

The ability to digitize the work on Noman Tindale is of immense importance to Aboriginal people's wishing to maintain and develop their work. What is particularly significant about the digitization of Tindale's wordlists are that words are contextualized and due to Tindale's extensive engagement with Aboriginal groups across the country, contextualized in reference to neighboring groups etc. This means that the word lists not only provide a deeper insight into our language speakers but the broader cultural contexts in which they exist.

The South Australian Museum plays a significant role in holding and facilitating the custodianship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities of their cultural heritage. It is also a significant sight of Aboriginal reconnection, education, advocacy, celebration, skills development, employment and research.

Staff at the South Australian Museum are focused on increasing competency in engaging with, employing and representing Aboriginal people and I have no doubt that in every step of the process toward making available the permanent digital online exhibition and in house exhibition, the museum will excel.

The project will undoubtedly contribute to the acceleration of Aboriginal language speaker proficiency, and an appreciation for and uptake of Aboriginal languages by the broader public.

South Australian
Museum Foundation Inc

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Chairman
Dr Mary Sutherland OAM

Foundation
Andrew Bradley
Sonya Hender
Pamela Martin
Brian Oldman
Damian Scanlon
Teri Whiting



I hope you consider the South Australian Museum's request favorably.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Jared Thomas
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