



22 October 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

RE. Australian Research Council Laureate Application for the Snowy River Catchment, East Gippsland, entitled 'Cultural Heritage Research through Community Partnerships: The Snowy River'

The Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) understands that Professor Bruno David of the Monash Indigenous Studies Centre, Monash University, is preparing an application for an Australian Research Council Laureate Fellowship from the Federal Government for community-partnership research in the Snowy River catchment. As part of the application, research is planned in a number of diverse fields including studies that will be within Gunaikurnai Country and relevant to GLaWAC's interests in that Country.

GLaWAC has now worked in partnership with Professor David on several ongoing research projects since 2017, to the mutual satisfaction of both parties. We consider the research that has been carried out in the last three years in Gunaikurnai Country has contributed to our understanding and knowledge of our Old People and assists with informed management of our cultural heritage. More recently GLaWAC has applied for and obtained significant funding to further this research in partnership with Professor David and we are pleased that these pilot studies have provided much of the groundwork for the Laureate proposal.

Professor David has provided us with a detailed briefing on his Laureate proposal and those aspects of the research that relate to Gunaikurnai Country and we fully and enthusiastically support the proposals and look forward to working with him in this research. We note that Professor David has shown us the highest respect in all the research undertaken in Gunaikurnai Country, which has been undertaken following culturally appropriate protocols including those written into our co-signed Memorandum of Understanding for cultural heritage research in Gunaikurnai Country.

Yours faithfully,

Roger Fenwick

Chief Executive Officer

Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation