I acknowledge the *________________________ people, the Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander** Owners of the land where we gather today and pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging. I recognise their connection to Country and their role in caring for and maintaining Country over thousands of years. May their strength and wisdom be with us today.

* If known add the Traditional Owners’ clan/language name
** Use ‘Aboriginal’ or ‘Torres Strait Islander’ as appropriate
Staff are encouraged to acknowledge Traditional Owners of a ‘Country’ at the beginning of meetings and forums.

For major formal functions where official guests and dignitaries are in attendance, a ‘Welcome to Country’ is recommended with an Aboriginal or a Torres Strait Islander person from that Country (usually Elders or a person of significance) welcoming people to their land.

Staff wording for acknowledgment (short version)

I acknowledge the
*_____________________________________ people,
the Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander** Owners of the land on which this event is taking place.

* If known add the Traditional Owners’ clan/language name
** Use ‘Aboriginal’ or ‘Torres Strait Islander’ as appropriate