



# fact sheet



New South Wales  
Aboriginal Land Council

## 2015 NSWALC ELECTION

### I SUPPORT LAND RIGHTS

#### Vote for Land Rights in the 2015 NSWALC Election

On Saturday 31 October, 2015 you can show your support for Land Rights by voting in the NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC) elections.

When Land Rights were first won for our mob, the fight was about asserting our rights and traditions.

Today it's about continuing this legacy and ensuring future generations can benefit from our land.

Voting gives you a say in how decisions about land, housing, culture and economic development benefit our mob.

In NSW we have the best Land Rights system in Australia. But we can't take it for granted.

Only a big turnout on 31 October will ensure Land Rights stay strong.

#### Who is up for election?

Nine Councillors will be elected for a four-year term, one for each of the Regions across the state. These Councillors will then elect a Chair and Deputy Chair.

#### Who can vote?

Aboriginal people over 18 who are members of a Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) enrolled as at 12 noon, Monday 10 August 2015, can vote.

#### How do I find out if I'm enrolled to vote?

To check that you are enrolled you need to contact your LALC which is responsible for maintaining membership rolls. You are only eligible to vote if you are on the membership roll as at 12 noon, Monday 10 August 2015.

#### How do I vote?

Election Day is Saturday, October 31. You may vote on Election Day in person at a polling place in your community or you may vote by post if you qualify.

Optional preferential voting is used – the same system we use in the State Election. That means you write the number 1 in the box next to the name of the candidate you wish to vote for. You can then number as many other squares as you like from 2 on.

#### Where can I vote?

On Election Day you can vote at polling place in schools, halls and community centres between 8am and 6pm.

#### What if I can't attend on polling day?

If you can't attend on polling day you can lodge a postal vote. People can apply for a postal vote online. Applications to cast a postal vote must be received by Friday, 23 October to ensure the NSW Electoral Commission can send ballot papers and instructions to eligible voters.

You will then be sent a ballot paper to fill out and send back to the Electoral Commission.

#### Are people in jail allowed to vote?

As long as they are Aboriginal and a member of a LALC (enrolled as at 12 noon, Monday 10 August 2015, people in jail can vote in NSWALC elections. They can do this by postal vote. People can apply for a postal vote online.

#### Can I vote from interstate or overseas?

You can by postal vote. Apply online, or in some Queensland and Victorian border regions you can vote in person at a polling place near you.

#### More information

For any enquiries please contact the NSW Electoral Commission on 1300 135 736 - [www.elections.nsw.gov.au/alc\\_election](http://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/alc_election) or NSWALC on (02) 9689 4444 - [www.alc.org.au](http://www.alc.org.au).

