

**Title:**           **Repatriation to Aboriginal  
and Torres Strait Islander  
communities**

**No:**               **SLSA-Policy No. 19**

**Status:**       **Version 2**

**Date:**           **2012**



## **Purpose**

To give Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities access to relevant State Library of South Australia (SLSA) collections through a policy of digital repatriation on a cost-recovery basis.

## **Background**

In an effort to reconnect with, revive, preserve and present their unique culture to future generations, an increasing number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are establishing Indigenous Knowledge Centres (IKCs) and/or Community-run databases, publications and projects. These projects create, use and store their own content, but also seek access to the rich collections of material held by libraries, museums and other collecting institutions.

SLSA holds significant collections with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander content. The Library acknowledges the important role that connection to culture plays in maintaining health and wellbeing and to this end will be responsive to requests from IKCs and other Community-owned projects to digitally repatriate relevant material from its collection back to the Community of origin, on a cost-recovery basis.

## **Policy**

SLSA will be responsive to requests from IKCs and other Community-owned projects to digitally repatriate relevant material from its collection back to the community of origin on a cost-recovery basis.

The following conditions apply:

- 1) Requests must come from an established or developing IKC or Community-owned project.
- 2) Any material repatriated must be made available for general Community use, excluding culturally restricted material which is to be administered within the Community according to their own protocols.
- 3) Costs incurred by the IKC or Community-owned project.
  - a) If material sought is already digitised the IKC or project will be charged for;
    - Labour to copy the files (the current hourly rate for Preservation services),
    - CD-ROMs (SLSA's in-house rate) or other carrier such as external hard drive (commercial cost recovery), and
    - Postage.
  - b) If material sought has *not* been digitised the IKC or project will be charged for;
    - Digitising (in-house rate),
    - CD-ROMs (in-house rate) or other carrier such as external hard drive (commercial cost recovery), and
    - Postage.

- 4) If copyright or donor restrictions apply the appropriate clearances must be gained before material is provided, in accordance with the Library's current procedures in this area.
- 5) SLISA must be acknowledged as the source of the material, and the Library's unique identifier number included.
- 6) Permission must be sought from SLISA to reproduce the material in any other format, or supply to a third party.
- 7) SLISA will maintain a register of 'repatriated' material for record-keeping purposes and reserves the right to report on specific repatriation activities in the Libraries Board Annual Report and to overseeing bodies (such as the National and State Libraries of Australasia).
- 9) SLISA will supply captions and descriptions for material supplied *where available*.
- 10) SLISA will encourage Communities to provide further information about supplied materials which may be added to existing catalogue descriptions. (Whilst new information can be added to our catalogue, we cannot make alterations to any original archival material.)
- 11) This policy does not apply to copy requests made by individuals.

### **References**

*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Protocols for Libraries, Archives and Information Services,* particularly *Intellectual Property, Description and Classification, Secret or Sacred Materials and Offensive Materials.*

*National Policy Framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library Services and Collections*

*SLISA Strategic plan 2009-2012*

*State Strategic plan*

  
Associate Director

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