

Leadership Council Information Pack 2024



Thank you for your interest in joining one of the Investment Dialogue for Australia's Children's (Investment Dialogue) Leadership Councils.

We have created this document to provide more information for those who are interested in joining the Leadership Councils. This includes:

- What the Investment Dialogue is
- What the role of the Leadership Councils will be
- What experience is required to be a Leadership Council member
- What time commitment will be required of members
- How to apply to be a member of one of the Leadership Councils

What is the Investment Dialogue for Australia's Children?

The Investment Dialogue is a new 10-year partnership between the Australian Government and a group of 20 philanthropic foundations.

The purpose of the partnership is to work together with communities to provide better planning and investments to improve the wellbeing of children, young people, and their families to make long-term, positive intergenerational disadvantage.

The Investment Dialogue recognises the importance of prevention and early intervention initiatives for children and young people to create long-term intergenerational change.

Government and philanthropic partners have committed to working with and partnering with communities and First Nations people on the Investment Dialogue initiative. We know together, and with diverse perspectives, we can achieve more.

A Community Leadership Council and a First Nations Leadership Council will be established as one way of creating an opportunity for community and First Nations peoples to contribute to the work of the Investment Dialogue initiative.

The Leadership Councils will be supported by ARACY – Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth.

What will the role of the Leadership Councils be?

The purpose of the Leadership Councils will be to bring voices of lived experience to the Investment Dialogue to help government and philanthropy make the best decisions about policies and programs that affect children, families and communities.

The Councils themselves will not be decision making bodies but will play a key role in centering community perspectives in the Investment Dialogue.

The insights and knowledge that Council members share will shape the actions of the Investment Dialogue initiative.

The role of the Councils is expected to evolve over time, to adapt to new information and priorities as identified by Council members.

What experience is required to be a Council member?

We are looking for people who are passionate about improving the wellbeing of children, young people, and families, from all states and territories.

We are looking for Council members who have stories to share and/or ideas from their own personal lived experience or professional experience of how we can improve the wellbeing of children, young people, families and communities. For example, this includes, but is not limited to, a:

- Young adult who has had childhood experiences with family support services
- Parent or caregiver who has had experience with family support services
- An elder in a community who is regarded for their knowledge and experience in supporting children and families in need
- Leader of a not-for-profit agency which works with and/or advocates for families
- Leader of an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation which works with and/or advocates for families
- Local volunteer or mentor supporting families in need
- Childcare worker with experience implementing innovative programs in early learning education
- Individual with on the ground experience in community development initiatives
- Individual who has worked across different sectors supporting children and families in need

We will aim to assemble Councils with diversity across age, geographic location, cultural background and area of experience.

What time commitment will be required of members?

Council members will be appointed for 2-year terms. Extensions to terms will be considered.

Each Council will meet virtually three times a year, with the potential for one of these meetings to be in-person. Each meeting will be around three hours in duration.

The first meeting of the First Nations Leadership Council will be held on 7 May 2024. The first meeting of the Community Leadership Council will be held on 9 May 2024.

As well as attending meetings, there will also be time required for engaging with written materials ahead of meetings. There may also be additional opportunities for members to provide written feedback and insights between meetings.

While not a requirement, there may also be opportunities to engage with other groups of the Investment Dialogue. For example, attending and presenting to national meetings of the Investment Dialogue.

How do I apply?

If you are interested in being considered for one or both of the Councils, please complete our short Expression of Interest (EOI) form by 20 March 2024.

The EOI form is available on the Investment Dialogue website and will take anywhere from 10-30 minutes to complete.

If you have any questions or require assistance with the form, please contact investmentdialogue@aracy.org.au.

All information provided will be treated in accordance with ARACY's Privacy Policy, which can be found on the ARACY website [here](#).

Eligibility

Applications for the First Nations Leadership Council are open only to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Please note to apply for either Council, you must be aged 18 years or above.

Membership criteria

We are basing the selection of applicants on the following criteria. Members will:

- Have stories to share and/or ideas from their own personal lived experience and/or professional experience of how we can improve the wellbeing of children, young people, families and communities.
- Have knowledge and/or experience in one or more of the following areas:
 - Community development
 - Community work
 - Services for children
 - Child and family wellbeing initiatives
 - Advocacy for community needs
 - Integrated child and family services
 - Early childhood education and care
 - Data and evaluation
 - Government policies on vulnerable population groups

- Be able to attend three meetings per year (three hours in length each).
- Have a mix of skills and attributes to complement other members of the Council.

Key dates

Date	Process stage
22 February 2024	Applications for Expressions of Interest open
20 March 2024	Applications for Expressions of Interest close
Early April 2024	Notification to applicants about the status of your application and commencement of process to onboard selected members
7 May 2024	First Nations Leadership Council – Meeting 1
9 May 2024	Community Leadership Council – Meeting 1

Frequently asked questions

How many members will make up each Leadership Council?

- Each Council will comprise 8-12 members.

Do I need to live in the city?

- No, we are looking for Council members from all regions.

Do I need to have experience on similar councils or boards?

- No, we welcome applications from anyone who is passionate about improving the lived experience of children, young people, families and communities.

Who will Chair the Leadership Councils?

- Catherine Liddle will chair the Community Leadership Council. You can learn more about Catherine [here](#).
- April Lawrie will chair the First Nations Leadership Council. You can learn more about April [here](#).

Will I get paid for my time?

- Honorariums will be offered to Council members for their time. The details of the honorariums will be discussed with Council members during the onboarding process.

Will the list of selected Council members be published online?

- Yes, the list of selected Council members be published on the Investment Dialogue website before the first meeting.

What if I can't attend one of the meetings, does this exclude me from applying?

- We strongly recommend that Council members try to attend all three meetings annually. We will provide meeting dates well ahead of time so Council members have sufficient notice.

Does joining the Council mean the organisation I work for cannot receive funding from Investment Dialogue partners?

- Joining the Council does not guarantee any type of funding, support or investment from partners involved in the Investment Dialogue.
- Joining the Council will not impact or exclude your organisation from receiving funding from partners involved in the Investment Dialogue.
- Any perceived, potential or actual conflicts of interest will be managed by the Convening Team at ARACY.
- Please note that Council members are appointed, not as representatives of organisations, but on an individual basis considering lived experience.

Will I be able to talk to funders about my organisation's funding requests during Council meetings?

- No, being on the Council is not related to grant seeking or investment requests.