

# Media Release

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## Helping indigenous youth drive to succeed

Alcoa's Kwinana refinery has partnered with the McGovern Foundation to help support indigenous youth in the Kwinana, Rockingham and Cockburn area to gain their driving licence through the Wanderer Program.

The \$35,000 will support local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learners to access necessary resources to complete the 50 to 70 hours of supervised driving needed to gain a provisional licence.

The Wander Program is a specifically targeted driver mentor program that increases the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth who obtain and maintain their licence to drive.

McGovern Foundation Managing Director, Andrew McGovern said one of the greatest barriers to Aboriginal employment is often the simple lack of a driver's licence.

"There are many contributing factors to this problem, including limited access to vehicles, the support of a responsible adult and the cost of completing 50 hours of supervised driving required to gain a driver's licence," Mr McGovern said.

The program ensures trained indigenous driver mentors work from start to finish with participants to establish strong relationships necessary to access roadworthy vehicles, help with identification documents, complete relevant driving lessons and practical driving assessments.

Kwinana Alumina Refinery Manager David Feast said Alcoa was committed to working with the local community to improve opportunities for local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth.

"Whether or not these kids end up working for Alcoa, we are just happy we could help remove one of the barriers they face in gaining stable employment or furthering their education," Mr Feast said.

Alcoa's Reconciliation Action Plan outlines the company's desire to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through both procurement upskilling and opportunities along with training and employment.

**ENDS**

*Photo Caption: (L to R) Wanderer Program Driver Mentor Kyle Merritt and Alcoa Kwinana Community Relations Officer Ashley Wright.*



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**Editor's note:**

**About Alcoa in Australia**

Alcoa has a proud history in Australia which it aims to continue by remaining internationally competitive, attracting ongoing investment and providing jobs for future generations.

- Alcoa's Australian operations have been contributing to the nation's economy since 1963, investing \$14.5 billion over 58 years.

- Alcoa employs nearly 4,400 people in Australia. About 3,900 live in Western Australia.
- In our 58 years, Alcoa has taken on more than 2000 apprentices, trainees and graduates.
- In 2020, 83 per cent of Alcoa Australia's revenue stayed in Australia through wages, local purchasing, taxes, royalties and dividends to Australian shareholders.

Our operations:

- Invested \$2.2 billion with 1340 Australian suppliers;
- Paid more than \$340 million in federal, state and local government taxes and royalties;
- Paid \$706 million in Australian wages, salaries and associated benefits; and
- Made \$4.6 million in community contributions.

### **About Alcoa Corporation**

Alcoa (NYSE: AA) is a global industry leader in bauxite, alumina and aluminium products, and is built on a foundation of strong values and operating excellence dating back 135 years to the world-changing discovery that made aluminium an affordable and vital part of modern life. Since developing the aluminium industry, and throughout the company's history, talented employees have followed on with breakthrough innovations and best practices that have led to efficiency, safety, sustainability and stronger communities wherever we operate. Visit us online on [www.alcoa.com](http://www.alcoa.com), follow @Alcoa on Twitter and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Alcoa](https://www.facebook.com/Alcoa).