 

**5th January 2022**

 **To Whom It May Concern,**

RE. Australian Research Council Laureate Application for the Snowy River Catchment, East Gippsland, entitled ‘ Community Partnership Research in the Snowy River's Aboriginal Landscapes’.

The GunaiKurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GKLaWAC) supported Professor Bruno David’s previous application for the Australian Research Council Laureate Fellowship.

Professor David is submitting a new application for research that is planned in a number of diverse fields including studies that will be within GunaiKurnai Country and relevant to GKLaWAC’s interests in the Snowy River catchment.

The new Laureate proposal that relates to Gunaikurnai Country, we fully and enthusiastically support and look forward to working with him in this research. Professor David has shown us the highest respect in all the research undertaken in and on GunaiKurnai Country, which has been undertaken following culturally appropriate protocols including those written into our co-signed Memorandum of Understanding for cultural heritage research in Gunaikurnai Country.

GKLaWAC has now worked in partnership with Professor David on several ongoing research projects since 2017, to the mutual satisfaction of both parties. We consider the research that has been carried out in the last three years in and on GunaiKurnai Country has contributed significantly to our cultural and scientific knowledge of our Old People and our cultural landscape. Our research opportunities with Professor David and Monash University allowed other research experts to contribute to research opportunities and findings. GKlaWAC has obtained significant funding to further this research in partnership with Professor David and we are pleased that the ongoing studies have provided much of the groundwork for the Laureate proposal.

 Yours Faithfully,

 

 ***Roger Fenwick***

 ***Chief Executive Officer***

**GunaiKurnai land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation**

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