

Biosecurity Blitz

The words we use are important

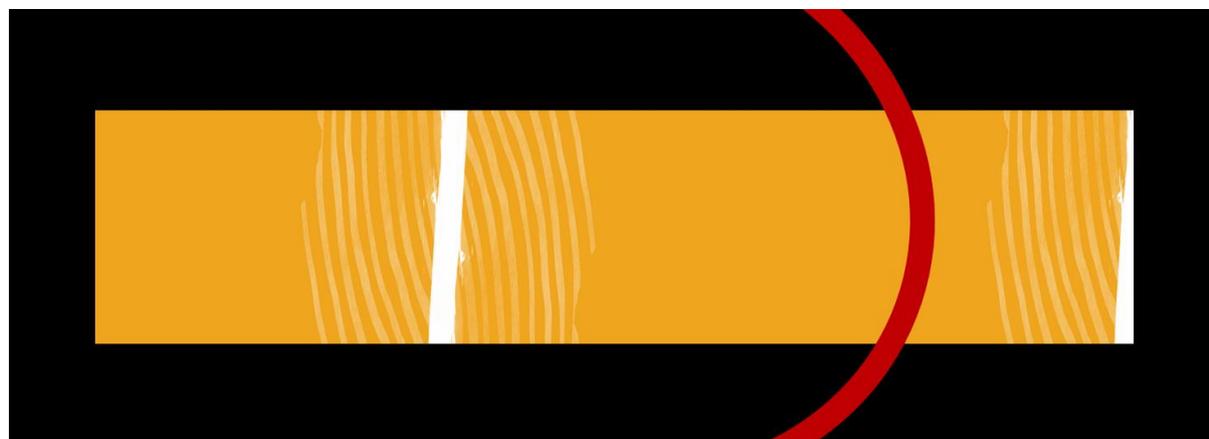
Do you know what words are said at the start of the day or sitting for the week in each parliamentary jurisdiction across Australia? Since 2017 these are the words spoken from each Legislative Assembly. Have you heard them or spoken them yourself?

Table 1. Words used by Australian jurisdictions. Report 46 Standing Committee on procedures and privileges. Presented by Hon Kate Doust MLC, November 2017.

Legislature	Form of words used to pay respect to First Australians
House of Representatives	'I acknowledge the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples, who are the traditional custodians of the Canberra area, and pay respect to the elders past and present of all Australia's indigenous peoples.'
NSW	'We acknowledge the Traditional Owners, the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation. We also acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands we represent and thank them for their custodianship of Country.'
VIC	'I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are meeting. I pay my respects to their Elders, past and present, and the Elders from other communities who may be here today.'
QLD	'Honourable Members, for this week's sitting, I respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land upon which this Parliament is assembled.'
SA	'I respectfully acknowledge the traditional owners of this land upon which this Parliament is assembled and the custodians of the sacred lands of our State.'
TAS	'We acknowledge the traditional people of the land upon which we meet today, the Mouheneener people.'
NT	'We acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal owners of the land on which this Assembly is assembled, the Larrakia people. We also acknowledge the traditional owners of the sacred lands we represent and thank them for their custodianship of country. We pay our respects to the traditional owners and their cultures, and to the elders both past and present, and other elders from other communities who may be here today.'
ACT	'Members – At this beginning of this sitting of the Assembly I acknowledge that we are meeting on the lands of the Ngunnawal people, the traditional custodians. I respect their continuing culture and the unique contribution they make to the life of this area. I would ask you to stand in silence and pray or reflect on our responsibilities to the people of the Australian Capital Territory.'
WA	The Legislative Assembly is honoured to be situated on the ancestral lands of the Whadjuk Noongar people. We acknowledge the First Australians as the traditional owners of the lands we represent and pay respect to their Elders both past and present.

We are fortunate to have one of the richest and oldest continuing cultures in the world. This is something we should all share, be proud of, celebrate and learn more about.

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