



CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL

21 June 2024

Updating Baaka Cultural Centre progress

The Wilcannia community and visitors to the town are seeing the Baaka Cultural Centre take shape. The centre has been a long time in the planning, and it is exciting to see the great progress being made on the construction.

The steel frames are up, rammed earth walls nearly complete and the roof installation is occurring.

The \$9.5 million centre is a regionally significant project. It is being funded by the Australian and NSW governments.

Once complete it will provide a keeping place for important Baakantji artefacts. A language lab to help to preserve local dialects will be part of the centre. It will also provide employment and economic development opportunities for Aboriginal people living in the Far West.

The Baaka Cultural Centre is very much a community project. It will not be Council owned or run by Council. However, the Central Darling Shire Council has been a big supporter of this project from the start. With the project ramping up Council has made new office space available for the Operations Manager at the Wilcannia Post Office residence. This space is being provided on a temporary basis until a permanent tenant is found. The Baaka Cultural Centre office will be open between 10am and 1pm weekdays.

Work on the building is due to be completed by early October with commissioning and certification to follow.

The centre is being built by David Payne Constructions Dubbo.

Media Contact

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