

2 December 2022

Ms Dijla Koutsouras
Operations Manager
Maritime Training School
Suite 8, 138 Cabarita Rd, Cabarita
NSW 2137

Dear Ms Koutsouras,

RE: Letter of support

Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council (Darkinjung) wishes to express appreciation for the training and development services that Maritime Training School (MTS) provides to Darkinjung's maritime employees.

Darkinjung is constituted under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (NSW)* (ALRA) which defines our structure, governance and functions. As detailed in the ALRA, Darkinjung's objects are 'to improve, protect and foster the best interests of all Aboriginal persons within the Council's area and other persons who are members of the Council'. As a charitable statutory body corporate, Darkinjung operates for the benefit of approximately 17,000 Aboriginal people on the Central Coast of NSW.

Darkinjung's statutory and cultural responsibilities extend beyond the management of our extensive landholdings. As custodians of 'Country', Aboriginal people understand this term to account for not only the land, but also the waterways, flora, and fauna. As part of the world's oldest living culture, Aboriginal people share a unique bond to Country and an unwavering belief that if we care for Country, it will care for us.

I would like to personally thank you for the efficient, professional and culturally respectful way in which MTS has worked with Darkinjung to date. The quality of MTS' client service and your approach to training and assessment should be commended.

Darkinjung is pleased to express our support for your funding application and we look forward to continuing to onboard and develop our maritime staff through MTS as we expand our water-based model of caring for Country.

Warm regards,



Blake Cansdale
Chief Operating Officer