# Aboriginal Community Leaders Interviews - Transcript

Question 6 - Is Language used in the general community?

**Bruce Pascoe:** There are, there are kids being taught the Language all the time, and the Language is being used, in the district. Place names are going up all over the joint, school buildings are being named after Wathaurong words. When I was working there, we renamed all the local council districts with a Wathaurong name.

**Diane Singh:** We’re very spread out, our community, and of course we’re all different Language groups. And of course none of us know anything about our Language, unless there are traditional people living out that way. But none of us know anything about Language, therefore we it would be a very, very big job to get everyone together, and of course it would depend on getting a place where we could all go, it would depend on transport, funding, and you know, trying to get people together. And it’s hard work, it’s not easy work, you know, getting people to sit there and agree on things and when you know nothing about it yourself, you’d really need the aid of a good linguist.

**The Late Tandop David Tournier:** We’re starting to use it within the community to, and it helps strengthen that the identity I suppose, of, of who we are and, and, and that’s the thing about Language, if you’re gonna, you know, talk Language, talk the Language of the country that you’re in.

So by showing respect to the local people that for, for example, that if you’re in Geelong, which is Wathaurong country, we would expect that, if people want to talk Language, they learn the Language of that land. But it’s about respect, it’s about knowing who you are. It’s knowing what you are, what the land is, I suppose.

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