

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **Skate Park grant to embrace Tallangatta heritage**

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Following the recent success of a \$10,000 grant from Community Safety Fund Grant, Towong Shire Council is planning on capturing Tallangatta's rich Indigenous heritage through a range of outlets.

A collaborative partnership with young people, Vic Police, local schools, local health services, Mungabareena Aboriginal Corporation, Council and the general community will work together to upgrade the Tallangatta Skate Park, addressing crime perception and youth disconnection from their community.

The project promotes a sense of pride and belonging. The planned landscaping and community art improvements will promote local heritage and enhance the presentation of the space.

- **Cultural workshops**
- **Landscaping – plantings relevant to the local area**
- **Youth design and Graffiti art**
- **Launch**

The Tallangatta Skate Park project is in response to community and issues that will require broad stakeholder support to enable positive behavioral change and a sense of community pride.

Young people from Tallangatta Secondary College are working with these key stakeholders to deliver a skate competition in December to showcase their skills and utilise the opportunity to create further momentum for the project.

The general community is encouraged to become spectators of this youth driven event and initiative.

The Tallangatta Skate Park Connections project will support rural disengaged young people experiencing criminal activity, significant socio-economic disadvantage, mental health issues, family violence and dysfunctional family life. Some of the accused disengaged young people come from indigenous backgrounds. Tallangatta Secondary College has 15 self-identified indigenous students.

The project aims to empower and support young people and their aspirations to upgrade the Tallangatta Skate Park. As a crime prevention initiative, the Tallangatta Skate Park Connections project will empower young people by giving them purpose through creating a sense of responsibility, community pride and connectivity.

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