

**Native Affairs/Native Welfare/Aboriginal Affairs/Indigenous Affairs  
Ministers of Western Australia**

Ministry	Name	Ministry Title	Assumption of Office Date	Retirement of Office Date
<b>McLarty (Lib) 1947 - 1953</b>	Hon Robert Ross McDonald, MLA, KC	Attorney General, Minister for Police & <b>Native Affairs</b>	1 April 1947	5 Jan 1948
		Minister for House, Forests & <b>Native Welfare</b>	5 Jan 1948	7 Oct 1949
	Hon Hubert Stanley Wyborn Parker, MLC	Chief Secretary & Minister for Mines, Police & <b>Native Affairs</b>	7 Oct 1949	6 Apr 1950
	Hon Victor Doney, MLA	Chief Secretary & Minister for Local Government & <b>Native Affairs</b>	6 Apr 1950	23 Feb 1953
<b>Hawke (ALP) 1953 - 1959</b>	Hon William Hegney, MLA	Minster for <b>Native Welfare</b> , Labour & Prices	23 Feb 1953	13 May 1954
		Minister for Education, <b>Native Welfare</b> & Labour	13 May 1954	20 April 1956
	Hon John Joseph Brady, MLA	Minister for <b>Native Welfare</b> & Police	20 April 1956	2 Apr 1959
<b>Brand (Lib) 1959 - 1971</b>	Hon Charles Collier Perkins, MLA	Minister for Transport, Police, Labour & <b>Native Welfare</b>	2 Apr 1959	16 Nov 1961
	Hon George Meredith Cornell, MLA	Minister for Transport, Police & <b>Native Welfare</b>	16 Nov 1961	11 April 1962
	Hon Edgar Henry Mead Lewis, MLA	Minister for Education & <b>Native Welfare</b>	12 April 1962	3 March 1971
Between 1971 and 1983 no minister was specifically responsible for Aboriginal Affairs. The Minister for Community Welfare provided support for Aboriginal issues in the Tonkin (ALP 1971 - 1974), Court (Lib 1974 - 1982) and O'Connor (Lib 1982 - 1983) Governments.				
<b>Burke (ALP) 1983 - 1988</b>	Hon Keith James Wilson, MLA	Minister for Housing, Youth & Community Services with special responsibility for <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> & Minister for Sport & Recreation	25 Feb 1983	20 Dec 1984
		Minister for Housing, Youth Affairs, the Aged, Community Services, Sport & Recreation & with special responsibility for <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b>	20 Dec 1984	26 Feb 1986
		Minister for Housing, Sport & Recreation, Community Affairs & <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b>	26 Feb 1986	25 July 1986
	Hon Ernest Francis Bridge, MLA	Minister for Water Resources, the North West & <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b>	26 Feb 1986	25 Feb 1988

<b>Dowding (ALP)</b> <b>1988 - 1990</b>	Hon Ernest Francis Bridge, MLA	Minister for Water Resources, the North West & <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> & Small Business	25 Feb 1988	28 Feb 1989
	Hon Carmen Mary Lawrence, MLA	Minister for Education & <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b>	28 Feb 1989	12 Feb 1990
<b>Lawrence (ALP)</b> <b>1990 - 1993</b>	Hon Carmen Mary Lawrence, MLA	Premier, Minister for Public Sector Management, the Family, <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> & Women's Interests	19 Feb 1990	5 Feb 1991
	Hon Pamela Ann Buchanan, MLA	Minister for Works, Services, Regional development & Minister assisting Minister for <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b>	19 Feb 1990	5 Feb 1991
	Hon Judyth Watson, MLA	Minister for <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> , Multicultural & Ethnic Affair & assisting the Minister for Women's Interests	5 Feb 1991	26 Feb 1991
		Minister for <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> , Multicultural & Ethnic Affair, Seniors & assisting the Minister for Women's Interests	27 Feb 1991	7 Sept 1992
<b>Court (Lib)</b> <b>1993 - 2001</b>	Hon Kevin John Minson, MLA	Minister for Environment, <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> , Disability Services & assisting the Minister for Fisheries	16 Feb 1993	25 Jan 1994
	Hon Anthony Kevin Royston Prince, MLA	Minister for <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> & Housing	25 Jan 1994	21 Dec 1995
		Minister for Health & <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b>	21 Dec 1995	9 Jan 1997
	Hon Kim Desmond Hames, MLA	Minister for Housing, <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> & Water Resources	9 Jan 1997	16 Feb 2001
<b>Gallop (ALP)</b> <b>2001 - 2006</b>	Hon Alan John Carpenter, MLA	Minister for Education (& Training from 14 Jan 2003); Sport & Recreation; & <b>Indigenous Affairs</b>	16 Feb 2001	27 June 2003
	Hon John Charles Kobelke, MLA	Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection; <b>Indigenous Affairs</b> ; Minister Assisting the Minister for Public Sector Management	27 June 2003	25 Jan 2006
<b>Carpenter (ALP)</b> <b>2006 - 2008</b>	Hon John Charles Kobelke, MLA	Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection; <b>Indigenous Affairs</b> ; Minister Assisting the Minister for Water Resources from 10 March 2005	25 Jan 2006	3 Feb 2006
	Hon Sheila Margaret McHale, MLA	Minister for <b>Indigenous Affairs</b> ; Tourism; Culture and the Arts	3 Feb 2006	13 Dec 2007
		Minister for Housing & Works; Heritage; <b>Indigenous Affairs</b> ; Land Information	13 Dec 2007	2 March 2007
	Hon Michelle Hopkins Roberts, MLA	Minister for Employment Protection; Housing and Works; <b>Indigenous Affairs</b> ; Heritage; Land Information	2 March 2007	25 Feb 2008

	Hon Michelle Hopkins Roberts, MLA	Minister for Housing and Works; <b>Indigenous Affairs</b> ; Heritage; Land Information	25 Feb 2008	23 Sept 2008
<b>Barnett (Lib)</b> <b>2008 - 2013</b>	Hon Dr Kim Desmond Hames, MLA	Deputy Premier; Minister for Health; <b>Indigenous Affairs</b>	23 Sept 2008	28 Apr 2010
		Deputy Premier; Minister for Health; <b>Indigenous Affairs</b>	28 Apr 2010	14 Dec 2010
	Hon Peter Charles Collier, MLC	Minister for Energy; Training and Workforce Development; <b>Indigenous Affairs</b>	14 Dec 2010	29 June 2012
		Minister for Education, Energy and <b>Indigenous Affairs</b>	29 June 2012	21 March 2013
<b>Barnett (Lib)</b> <b>2013 - 2017</b>	Hon Peter Charles Collier, MLC	Minister for Education; <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> ; Electoral Affairs	21 March 2013	17 March 2017
<b>McGowan (ALP)</b> <b>2017 - 2021</b>	Hon Benjamin Sana Wyatt, MLA	Treasurer; Minister for Finance; Energy; <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b>	17 March 2017	13 Dec 2018
		Treasurer; Minister for Finance; <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> ; Lands	13 Dec 2018	13 March 2021
<b>McGowan (ALP)</b> <b>2021 - 2023</b>	Hon Stephen Dawson, MLC	Mental health; <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> ; Industrial Relations; Deputy Leader of the Legislative Council	19 March 2021	21 Dec 2021
	Hon Dr Antonio (Tony) De Paulo Buti, MLA	Minister for Finance; <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> ; Racing and Gaming; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests	21 Dec 2021	14 Dec 2022
	Hon Dr Antonio (Tony) De Paulo Buti, MLA	Education; <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> ; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests	14 Dec 2022	8 June 2023
<b>Cook (ALP)</b> <b>2023</b>	Hon Dr Antonio (Tony) De Paulo Buti, MLA	Education; <b>Aboriginal Affairs</b> ; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests	8 June 2023	

## Abbreviations

ALP	Australian Labor Party
Lib	Liberal
MLA	Member of the Legislative Assembly
MLC	Member of the Legislative Council

## Sources

1. "Minor changes within McGowan Cabinet announced", Government of Western Australia. Accessed 14 February 2019.
2. Parliament of Western Australia, Current Members. Accessed 22 December 2021.
3. *Western Australian Government Gazette*, No 28, 3 February 2006.
4. *Western Australian Government Gazette*, No. 163, 23 September 2008.
5. *Western Australian Government Gazette*, No. 47, (Special), 22 March 2013.
6. *Western Australian Government Gazette*, No. 57, (Special), 5 April 2016.
7. *Western Australian Government Gazette*, No.50, (Special), 19 March 2021.
8. *Western Australian Government Gazette*, No. 180, (Special), 15 December 2022.
9. *Western Australian Government Gazette*, No. 69, (Special), 8 June 2023.
10. *The Western Australian Parliamentary Handbook* edited by David Black. 21<sup>st</sup> Revised Edition, 2005.