



# Dugald Saunders MP

MEMBER FOR DUBBO ELECTORATE

## MEDIA RELEASE



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### RENOWNED ARTIST COMMISSIONED FOR DUBBO HOSPITAL MURAL PROJECT

World-renowned artist Fintan Magee will weave his magic on external walls of the redeveloped Dubbo Hospital.

Mr Magee joined Member for the Dubbo electorate Dugald Saunders and staff from the Western NSW Local Health District at the site on Monday, where he met with local artists, hospital staff and Aboriginal elders to seek inspiration for the two murals he has been commissioned to produce.

Mr Saunders said having someone of Mr Magee's standing in the art community working on the Dubbo project will provide great opportunities for not only the hospital precinct, but also the local art fraternity.

"Studies have shown that incorporating vibrant, positive and engaging artwork into hospitals helps to promote healing and well-being for patients, staff and visitors," Mr Saunders said.

"The mural designs will focus on native bush foods and the role they play in health and the community, and will also provide a unique opportunity for an emerging local Aboriginal artist to be mentored by Mr Magee on the project to develop their painting techniques for large-scale installations.

"The hospital's mural project is one of several arts projects being undertaken at Dubbo Hospital to help integrate art and local culture into the new buildings."

Another project underway is the "friendly faces" photography project by Asher Milgate who has spent the last few weeks taking photos of people living in regional and remote communities around Dubbo.

Mr Milgate's photos will be displayed in the new three-storey hospital building, which is currently under construction. The photos will also be displayed in the new \$35 million Western Cancer Centre, which will start construction in 2020.

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