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NSW Public Works' Eilish Parsons, senior project manager Matt Green, Rob Hawkins and Jenni Bourke of Narooma School of Arts, and Katarina and Brent Dunn of Takt Studios.

Centre redesign

THIRROUL-BASED architect Takt Studio for Architecture has been welcomed by the Narooma School of Arts to redesign the Narooma Arts and Community Centre (NACC) at Campbell Street.

NACC received long-awaited additional funding from the state and federal governments in July 2023 after the project stalled due to increasing construction costs and sup-

ply shortages.

Narooma School of Arts president Jenni Bourke said the committee was thrilled to welcome Takt Studio for Architecture, who will help deliver an "amazing project for our community".

"Takt's design approach is creative and practical and will result in a welcoming and functional space for everyone to use for a range of activities," she said.

Ms Bourke said the space will foster an appreciation of the arts, provide education and boost the community's overall wellbeing.

In 2022, when Bega MP Michael Holland visited the Narooma School of Arts precinct to see project plans, the NACC committee expected the centre would open its doors in early 2024.

However, the initial Bushfire Local Economic Recov-

ery funding for the centre (\$7.27million) soon became inadequate to meet swelling construction costs.

With a second lot of funding allocated, the Illawarra architectural firm has been tasked with redesigning the centre.

In July 2023, a Narooma School of Arts spokesperson told ACM the organisation was successful in receiving additional funding, but not

enough to cover costs of the original design.

Katharina Hendel of Takt Studios said they were "incredibly excited to be working with the School of Arts team".

"We look forward to assisting in creating a wonderful new cultural home for the Narooma community," she said. "It's a unique opportunity to bring together a dedicated arts space with fa-

cilities for other community needs that will be loved and enjoyed by locals and visitors for years to come."

The NACC committee said they were committed to ensuring the community's vision for the centre was delivered.

It will be built on community-owned land with three multi-use studios and a large gallery. It is scheduled to open on June 30, 2025.

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