

First Nations Peoples Concerns Committee

PART A: REPORT

Achievements/Activities

The Committees activities since AYM 2022 have included the distribution of \$6,250.00 to Original Australians. The Committee agreed to pay an honorarium of \$350 to Murrumu Walbura Yidinji for presenting at the next webinar hosted jointly by the FNPCC and CORE.

The Committee agreed to donate \$2500 towards Dr Noritta Morseu-Diop's wellness centre. for the healing of Original Australians.

The committee agreed to donate \$1000 to Ljudan Michaelis-Thorpe's 13-year-old daughter Orielle to assist with training and other expenses to assist with her very promising sport climber sporting career.

The Committee agreed to donate \$2000 from the FNPCC fund to assist Aunty Rissah and her two companions travel to and from the Tent Embassy to attend a serious of discussion in February 2023

The Committee agreed to donating \$400 from the FNPCC account to assist Auntie Christine Palmer to drive from Port Lincoln to visit a number of communities to talk to parents with children who are in Alice Springs.

The writing of letters to relevant State and Territory Ministers regarding raising minimum age of criminal responsibility from 10 years of age to a minimum of 14 years of age.

Chris Hughes presented a short overview of the Yes and No campaigns in relation to the constitutional referendum Voice campaign to Victoria Regional, meeting.

Jackie Perkins laid down her position on QSA. The Committee thanks Jackie for her work and welcomes Pia Reierson to be the QSA representative on the Committee. John McMahon (VRM) and Sitare Gare (QRM) have laid down their positions on the committee. We thank them for their work on the committee and ask the Regional Meetings to seek new representatives to replace them.

Issues/Analysis

The key issue facing Friends is coming into right relationship with Australia's Original Peoples and the Land. This means educating ourselves on the local history before and since colonialisation of the land we live and work on and to build local relationships, where possible with the traditional owners. The Uluru Statement of the Heart has the opportunity to bring people together in developing a new inclusive, sustainable just future for all peoples of Australia. However, factionalism, misinformation, different interpretations around Sovereignty and Treaty and the sequencing of Voice, Treaty and Makarrata are obstacles to achieving this. Deep listening and engagement are required to help us forge a way forward and let the Spirit guide us.

PART B: ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

None.

Committee members: Co-Conveners: Chris Hughes and Sharee Harper (VRM). Correspondents: Harald Ehmman (SANTRM); Ann Felton (CRM); Elspeth Hull (NSWRM); Clare O'Leary (WARM); Katherine Purnell (TRM); Gedda Fortey (CORE); Pia Reierson (QSA)

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