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LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW  
COMMITTEE

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Reg No. QC 0065

12th March 2009.

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The Research Director  
Legal, Constitutional & Administrative Review Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE. QLD 4740

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find enclosed submission on the wording of the preamble for the Queensland Constitution (Issues Paper February 2009), as per correspondence dated 18/02/09 received from Mrs. Dianne Reilly MP.

If you have any queries with regards to this submission, I can be contacted at the above address and phone number.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. Tony Irelandes  
CHAIRMAN

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Your ref: 11.1.10c

The Research Director  
Legal Constitutional & Administrative  
Review Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE. QLD 4000

**Re: A Preamble for the Queensland Constitution - call for submissions**

Firstly, can I thank the Chair, Mrs. Dianne Reilly, MP of the Legal Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee for giving me the opportunity to submit for inclusion of the preamble for the Queensland Constitution.

It is absolutely imperative to enshrine in the Queensland Constitution to include 10 seats in the Parliament, 5 for Aboriginal people and 5 for Torres Strait Islander people, especially after the apology to the Indigenous nation from our Prime Minister, Mr. Kevin Rudd.

This request has been around and on the lips of Indigenous people for a long time and I think the time has come for both Queensland and other states of Australia, and including Canberra on a Federal level that we should be given the opportunity of having a representative at both State and Federal levels, and I commemorate Mr. Kevin Rudd for his apology to our Australian Indigenous people on the 13th February 2008.

I believe that we all accept the apology, however, the time has come to accept Indigenous people in the decision making area, that is, the State and Commonwealth arena, where we can have our representatives representing us at both levels.

As we all know, we are the owners and custodians of this beautiful land and therefore I recommend that it'd be good to see a follow on from the apology by our Prime Minister, that both governments take the initial steps to include us in the decision making area, especially the commemoration of 150 years of the establishment of Queensland.

We, the indigenous people of this land will fall in the category as free and equal citizens under the rule of law, and to be governed in accordance with the democratic processes contained in the constitution.

On closing, I strongly recommend to the State Government to take this proposal to the people and I certainly hope that the support will be similar to the support we got in the 1967 referendum.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. Tony Irelandes  
For the Board of Directors  
Mackay Coloured Co-operative Society Limited;and  
The Indigenous People of Queensland and Australia