



LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

HANDS ON PARLIAMENT –

**A PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT
ISLANDER PEOPLES' PARTICIPATION IN QUEENSLAND'S DEMOCRATIC PROCESS**

Feedback form

This feedback form can be used to make a submission. Alternatively, submissions may be made in another form such as a letter.

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BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION

1. What are some of the reasons that Indigenous peoples are underrepresented in the Queensland Parliament?
2. What are some of the reasons that Indigenous people might choose not to be involved in Queensland's Parliament and government?
3. What factors make it difficult for Indigenous people to participate in Queensland's system of democracy?

1. I think many Murri people see that people at the head of organisations are corrupt.

2. This is why Murri people won't stand up.

3. Murri people don't like the system but think if they stood up would be shot down (in a matter of speaking) and they think Politics is for those who are brave enough to take the white government on.



STRATEGY 1: ENHANCE PARTICIPATION IN THE EXISTING PROCESSES

4. Is more civics education and voter education targeted specifically to Indigenous people necessary?
5. What other strategies might promote greater participation by Indigenous people in the existing democratic process?

4. yes i think if our people were more informed we would know how to handle more stuff. or have a better say on how things are run.



STRATEGY 2: DIRECT INPUT INTO PARLIAMENT

6. Would avenues for bodies which represent Indigenous people to have direct input into Parliament enhance the participation of Indigenous peoples in the Parliament?
7. Is it a good idea to enable bodies which represent Indigenous peoples to have direct input into Parliament? Why or why not?
8. If a representative body with direct input into Parliament was to be established how should it operate? For example:
 - Who should be on the representative body?
 - What forms of direct input should the representative body have?
 - What else would be necessary to ensure Parliament considered matters raised by the representative body?

6 Have a day once a month so that our people could sit in on parliament in the gallery and if they have a question write it down and have a politician answer it that day. Its more to get the trust of our people.

7. Yes because if its to do with us we should get a chance to answer back

8.



STRATEGY 3: AN ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ASSEMBLY

9. Would an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly contribute to the participation of Indigenous people in the democratic process in Queensland?
10. Is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly a good idea? Why or why not?
11. If an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly was to be established, how should it operate? For example:
 - How should members of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly be selected?
 - What would be the specific role and functions of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly?
 - How should the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly have input in the Queensland Parliament?
 - What else would be necessary to ensure the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly contributed to representation of Indigenous people?
 - Would one Assembly be appropriate, or should there be separate Assemblies for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders

9 Better than nothing

10 Yes. So that the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders can have control over funding and over their geographic area.

• Rules etc - watch dog
- like Singapore
- veto -

• input to parliament - monthly report

• change members - 2 year term

- review every year

STRATEGY 4: DEDICATED SEATS

12. Would dedicated seats enhance the participation of Indigenous people in the democratic process in Queensland?
13. Are dedicated seats a good idea? Why or why not?
14. If dedicated seats were to be introduced, how should they operate? For example:
 - How many dedicated seats should there be?
 - In what ways, if any, should the role and functions of members in dedicated seats differ from members in other seats?
 - How should members in dedicated seats be selected?
 - Should people who vote for members in dedicated seats also be able to vote for members in their general electorate?
15. Should there be a referendum about the introduction of dedicated seats?

13. Yes dedicated seats are a good idea
It would give people an incentive to work
for the community.

14. 2 to start with.

• ~~dedicated seats~~ ~~member~~ ~~should be~~

• dedicated seats member should be
voted in by the general electorate

• Yes I think there should be a
referendum should be held to introduce
to introduce
the seats

STRATEGY 5: CHANGES TO THE ELECTORAL PROCESS

16. Should Queensland's electoral system seek to achieve representation of minority groups in Queensland?
17. Should the electoral system be reviewed to ensure that it is the most effective electoral system to represent the diverse interests of the Queensland community?
18. Would a different electoral system be likely to ensure greater representation of Indigenous peoples?

Make Atsic more accountable

make our candidates accountable to the people

More education needs to be put out there in the community

Lack of education

Lack of trust in people that are in power

Ambassadors for the Murri people

school children should be educated

Culture should be taught in school

White Australians should be taught about our ways

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

19. What other strategies could be used to enhance the participation of Indigenous peoples in the democratic process in Queensland?
20. What strategies or combination of strategies would best achieve enhanced participation of Indigenous peoples in the democratic process in Queensland?



Lawrence Stuart