

# Indigenous Voice Community Consultation

## Consultation session details

Kalkadoon country,

Mt Isa, 21 April 2021, 6.00pm - 8.30pm, Session 2

Number of participants: 28

## Key points raised

*Please note, this is a summary of the discussion and the views and opinions expressed by participants in consultation sessions. It is not intended to be an exhaustive summary of all points raised, but draws out the key points.*

The session was attended by 28 participants who were welcomed to country by Margaret Caulton. Key points discussed are summarised below.

### *Overarching points*

- Participants expressed support for the setup of an Indigenous Voice structure.
- Some participants also commented that the structure needs to include a state-level body.

### *Local & Regional Voice*

- One participant commented that it would be important to capture cultural lore in setting up the Voice, in accordance with the principle of cultural leadership.
- One participant commented that in north-west Queensland in addition to factoring in the immediate region around Mt Isa and its satellite communities, consideration would need to be given to the Gulf communities and how they might be appropriately represented. The participant suggested that there is potentially two (2) regions in this part of the state that could have their own Local & Regional Voice – the north-west and the Gulf coast.
- Another participant commented that the postcode for Mt Isa is actually very large and crosses over into the Northern Territory, with a lot of migration of people from the Territory over to the Mt Isa region, which would need to be factored in when designing appropriate Local & Regional Voices for the cross-border region.
- It was suggested that in accordance with the principle of cultural leadership, it would be critical in the early stages of implementing Local & Regional Voices to give adequate time for people in communities to talk and work out what suits them in terms of how regional boundaries could be set up.
- It was noted that youth would need to be included in accordance with the principle of inclusive participation, however, one participant commented that the participation of youth needs to be made more prominent.
- Participants generally agreed it would be good to make more prominent the way both youth and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability can participate in Local & Regional Voices, potentially by having sub-bodies in Local & Regional Voices operating similar to the proposed Youth Advisory Group and Disability Advisory Group at the national level.



*National Voice*

- Some participants indicated support for an Ethics Council to be set up.
- Some participants stressed the need for members of a National Voice to be appropriately remunerated to perform the role properly.
- Participants strongly felt that the National Voice would need to be structured so that the right people are chosen as members from community, who are focused on working on behalf of their community.