

30 April 2021

Submission to

“The Indigenous Voice Co-Design Process Interim Report”

From

[REDACTED]
Darlington 2008
[REDACTED]

I am # an Australian citizen, naturalised over 26 years ago
living in Darlington, the suburb immediately next to Redfern

Key points of my feedback to the report:

I strongly *support the Uluru Statement from the Heart*, in particular

- establishing a First Nations Voice *enshrined in the Constitution*
- setting up a Makarrata commission
- eventually a treaty with the First Nations

As a citizen of the earth and in particular of Australia, we can only but treasure the gift of our Australian cultural heritage going back more than 60 thousand years. Furthermore, the First Nations open-hearted offer to share their culture with us non-indigenous people I regard as tremendously generous; I feel very strongly that this, my country ought to show due respect to the offer in the form of the *Uluru Statement from the Heart and accept it unchanged and in its full extent*.

In regards to the First Nations Voice to be enshrined in the Constitution:

- It is of utmost importance that this Voice is enshrined in our constitution as a principle, in order to reflect that it is our fundamental belief and understanding and the will of us, the people of Australia (and not of politicians/members of Parliament at the whim of political expediency).
- Following the constitutional legitimacy through a referendum, any details of the ‘how’ can then be developed afterwards in legislation, allowing for adjustment and growth over time. Developing any such legislation should be in conjunction with and guided by the First Nations people. For this process, I fully support the proposed Makarrata commission.
- Moreover, how the Voice itself is constituted should be entirely up to the First Nations people.

Looking forward to the referendum on the Voice and to
a better future for us all,

[REDACTED]