

My name is Frederick Copperwaite. I am a Bunuba man. [REDACTED] my great grandmother was a traditional owner of Bunuba country on what is now known as Fitzroy Crossing, Western Australia. I am a member of the stolen generations.

I am adhering my voice to this submission to support the principles and framework presented by 'From the Heart' movement as outlined in the points below. I concur with the understanding that co-design means the current proposals are not complete and that it is critical that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people contribute their experience and ideas into this consultation process. I believe in a constructive contribution to this important work.

Summary of submission:

1. The government must honour its election commitment to a referendum once the model for the Voice has been settled;
2. Enabling legislation for the Voice must be passed after a referendum has been held in the next term of Parliament; and
3. The membership model for the National Voice must ensure previously unheard Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have the same chance of being selected as established leadership figures.

And in following this co-design process, it is imperative that we turn our minds to the constitutional and legislative arrangements to enact the Voice in a deliberate process. The legislative design of the Voice cannot be decoupled from its constitutional enshrinement. A Voice enshrined in the Constitution is a fair, practical and safe proposal that will unify our nation.

Summary of key positions:

1. Response to Interim Co-Design Proposals
  - ■ The National Voice must be representative of the diverse populations and needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people:
  - ■ The National Voice must speak to the Commonwealth Parliament and Government on policy and legislation.
  - ■ The National Voice must not be a 'third chamber' of Parliament.
  - ■ The National Voice must not deliver programs or services.
  - ■ The National Voice must act and operate independently from the Parliament and Government.
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2. The National Voice must be enshrined in the Constitution
  - ■ Enabling legislation for the Voice must be passed after a referendum has been held in the next term of Parliament.
  - ■ For the avoidance of doubt, the National Voice must not be legislated or otherwise implemented before a referendum is held.

### 3. Two-stage process to establish the Voice:

- ■ There should be a separate structured process to consider the constitutional, legislative and executive options to enact the National Voice following the completion of the Voice Co-Design Final Report. This process will result in:
- ■ An exposure draft bill for the Voice as per the final Co-Design report to give the Australian public a comprehensive look at the details of the Voice before a referendum is held;
- ■ A draft constitutional amendment for a new provision for a Voice that will then be put to the Australian people for a vote in a referendum; and
- ■ A pathway to a referendum in the next term of Parliament.