

Finally, QYAC notes that the Katter Party did not vote for the Newman Government Act, and also notes the observations the Member for Dalrymple, Mr Shane Knuth, made in his dissenting report to the committee that reviewed the Newman Government Act, and thanks the Katter Party for its recognition to date of the serious impact of the Newman Government Act on the native title rights and interests of the Quandamooka People.

QYAC submits that the proposed Government Bill mostly corrects that original injustice, and trusts that the Katter Party will consider that view in developing their position on the Government Bill.

Recommendations and Conclusion

The Quandamooka People, after hearing Justice Dowsett say that our rights would be recognized forevermore, had hoped that when competing rights are being weighed in the balance, the long history of Aboriginal People's land rights being considered less worthy than property rights and mining interests would be over.

Against the background of this submission, QYAC would like to make the following recommendations to the Committee:

- A Royal Commission be undertaken into treatment of Aboriginal People on NSI
- A Royal Commission be undertaken into Mining industry on NSI
- The CCC reinstate investigation into Newman Government relationship with Sibelco
- The Australian Tax Office be asked to release how long Sibelco has not paid taxes
- The Attorney General review and consider correct charge against Sibelco for taking sands

The Quandamooka People continue to demonstrate our resilience in the face of adversity and we remain optimistic that we can resolve the matter at hand. It is through the strength of our Elders, past and present that we continue to advance the recognition of our social, cultural, and human rights. We continue to work with all stakeholders to create a glad tomorrow for our people. As such, QYAC representatives remain willing and are available to appear before the committee.

The Quandamooka People have been living on and around this island for thousands of years. QYAC's vision is for Minjerribah to be a global eco-cultural tourism destination, which showcases the island's natural beauty and the Quandamooka people's 20,000 year cultural heritage. This is a unique opportunity within one hour of a major international airport.

The overwhelming majority of the Quandamooka People are very excited about the future and are looking forward to working with the broader Minjerribah/North Stradbroke Island and Queensland communities to reshape the island as Australia's most sustainable island community.