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Indigenous
MAKE POVERTY HISTORY.

NATSIEC Newsletter

August 2011

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 FOI

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This is the newsletter of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ecumenical Commission (NATSIEC) which is a commission of the National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA).

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[NATSIEC Website](#)

Northern Territory Intervention Update

The Government are currently conducting consultations on the future of the Northern Territory Intervention. The current Intervention legislation ends in 2012 and so there is a need to decide what happens next. The Government has released a discussion paper which it is using to guide the consultations. There has been much criticism about the consultation process. Issues such as the short length of time, the lack of translators, the fact the discussion paper is written only in English and the fact that the discussion paper does not canvas other issues of importance to communities has caused much concern. To read some of these concerns [click here](#)

Strategic Review of Indigenous Expenditure - Cabinet report released

The Federal Government has been forced to release a report to Cabinet from February 2010. This followed a Freedom of Information request by Channel 7. The report makes for interesting reading; however its contents are not news. Key points it makes are that Aboriginal people need to be involved in making decisions about their futures; more effective implementation and delivery is needed; robust evidence on performance and effectiveness is needed; programs need to be targeted to local needs and so on. The important point is not so much what the report contains, but will any of it be actioned? The report is available at http://www.finance.gov.au/foi/disclosure-log/2011/docs/foi_10-27_strategic_review_indigenous_expenditure.pdf

Gurindji Freedom Day

This year is the 45th Anniversary of the Wave Hill walk off. Celebrations are being held at Kalkarindji and all are invited. See www.gurindjifreedomday.com for more information.

From their website...

Kalkarindji and Daguragu are on the traditional homelands of the Gurindji people, and these communities are linked to the Malgnin, Mudpurra, Bilinara, Ngarinman and Warlpiri peoples through the historic Walkoff from Wave Hill Station, which was initially established on Gurindji traditional lands in 1883. At the time of the Walkoff, Wave Hill Station had been owned by British Lord Vestey's family since 1914. The Gurindji Walkoff was initiated by Gurindji/Malgnin leader, Vincent Lingiari, on 23 August 1966 and lasted till 1974, an event which lit the fire that became the national land rights movement.

On 26 August, 1975, then Labor Prime Minister Gough Whitlam officially handed back his peoples' traditional lands to Vincent Lingiari in the community of Daguragu. While Vincent and many of his contemporaries have since passed away, elders who participated in this monumental community-driven

movement continue to stand strong in their country. They and their descendants invite you to come and share this anniversary with us, listen to our elders' stories and experiences over the almost four decades since that historic time in the late 1960s, and support us in our aims for our current and future younger generations.

Christ and Culture Recordings now on line

Recordings from the 2011 Christ and Culture Conference are on line. There are also recording of other talks that Dr. Anthony Reddie gave while he was here. [Click here to go to Christ and Culture pages](#)

[Click here to go straight to MP3 player page](#)

Constitutional Recognition

A reminder that the consultations regarding Constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are well underway.

All information, including dates and locations are at the website www.youmeunity.org.au

From the news wire...

Did you know that NATSIEC blogs? You can go there for more regular updates. [NATSIEC Blog](#)

Disclaimer

NATSIEC provides this newsletter to share information about issues which affect and concern Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The views contained in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views or position of either NATSIEC or the National Council of Churches in Australia.

Martung Upah Appeal



If you enjoy this newsletter please consider making a donation.

NATSIEC receives significant funding from *Act for Peace* and the *Uniting Church (NSW) 2% fund*, however the rest of our funding comes from donations by Churches and Individuals to its annual appeal Martung Upah*.

By supporting the Martung Upah appeal you are joining us in a partnership to engage Churches and the wider community in fostering a deeper understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Together we can work towards healing the hurts of the past and building a better tomorrow for all our children so that injustice and discrimination will not be part of Australia's future.

We thank you for your support.

To download go to the Martung Upah Appeal webpage [click here](#).
To go direct to the online donation page [click here](#)

* Martung Upah is from Western Australia and means partnership.

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