

From: NATSIEC <grussell@ncca.org.au>
Subject: NATSIEC Newsletter February 2011
Reply: grussell@ncca.org.au

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



Indigenous
MAKE POVERTY HISTORY.

NATSIEC Newsletter

February 10th 2011

In This Issue

A further conversation with

Elders

Christ and Culture Conference

Anthony G. Reddie Forums

Position Vacant - NATSIEC

NATSIEC blog

Martung Upah Appeal



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).

Follow us on 

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Quick Links...

To see an online version of this newsletter and archived copies of previous newsletters [click here.](#)

[NATSIEC Website](#)

A further conversation with Elders

As the Northern Territory Intervention continues it is often hard for those of us in other parts of Australia to really understand how it impacts on the daily lives of Aboriginal people. We often hear in the media about such things as the increase in numbers of teachers; that law and order has improved; that there are improvements in health; that so many jobs have been created and so many houses have been built. We may also hear from those who question these reported benefits. We may hear from welfare bodies; from inquiries such as a recent NT inquiry into child welfare; from shadow ministers who question Government claims; from academics; from International Human Rights bodies and experts; from Churches and from organizations such as NATSIEC. These other sources of information are important and often highlight contradictions, they challenge Government claims, and they criticize the policies that are having such impacts on the communities. Rarely though do we have the opportunity to hear directly, without interpretation, from Aboriginal people themselves.

This happened on Monday night when, thanks to the efforts of 'concerned Australians', a large audience in Melbourne had the opportunity to listen directly to Elders from the NT.

Also released were two important statements. One was from the Elders themselves, and highlighted the pain they and their communities are experiencing as a direct result of the Intervention. In this statement they appeal to all Australians to "walk with us in true equality" and help put an end to the "nightmare that Northern Territory Aboriginal People are experiencing on a daily basis". [Elders' Statement](#)

The second statement was signed by several leading Australians. This statement called for the Government to start afresh and to comply with our international obligations and also to reinstate the Racial Discrimination Act in an unqualified form.

[Statement by Eminent Australians](#)

These statements as well as a report on the evening are at NATSIEC's website [A further conversation with Elders](#)

Media on the Statements regarding the Intervention

Former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser says the Northern Territory Emergency Response is paternalistic and demeaning to Aboriginal people.

[Malcolm Fraser on the Intervention](#)

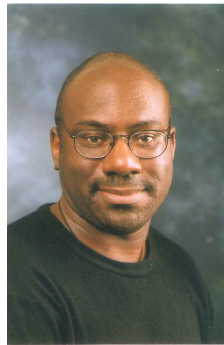
Plea for Intervention on the Intervention [The World Today](#)

Christ and Culture Conference - Early Bird rate extended

The next Christ and Culture Conference is being held in Sydney from March 21st. With a focus on re-reading and contextualising the Bible this conference will be of great interest to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples who are interested in furthering their own understanding of, and thinking about, Indigenous theology in their own context. Registrations and further information is available at the conference website. **N.B. the early bird is now extended until February 21st.**

[Christ and Culture Conference](#)

Anthony G. Reddie Forums



Dr. Anthony Reddie, the renowned expert in Black Theology is coming to Australia in March to facilitate the Christ and Culture Conference. He is also doing several public workshops and lectures while he is here.

- Brisbane March 17th
- Sydney - United Theological College full day - March 26th
- Sydney - evening forum - March 30th
- Canberra - evening forum - March 29th

Please see our webpage for details [Anthony Reddie Talks](#)

Searching for the new NATSIEC Executive Secretary

Are you - or do you know - the new Executive Secretary of NATSIEC? The NCCA is now calling for applications for this position. Details are on the website at [Executive Secretary job vacancy](#). Applications close on 25th February and must address the selection criteria in the job application kit.

From the news wire...

Did you know that NATSIEC now has a blog? 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



The *Make Indigenous Poverty History* Campaign is an initiative of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ecumenical Commission (NATSIEC). Other projects run by NATSIEC include the Indigenous Theology project and a development fund.

NATSIEC receives significant funding from *Act of 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.

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to natsiec@ncca.org.au by grussell@ncca.org.au |
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

NATSIEC | Locked Bag 199 | Sydney | NSW | 1230 | Australia

