



A WORD FROM THE DIRECTORS

Taking Reconciliation Forward

One million Australians of diverse backgrounds and views walked together across bridges all round the country last year to demonstrate their active support for reconciliation. An overwhelming majority of Australians support a true and just reconciliation between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the wider community.

The challenge now is to transform that broad goodwill and support into real outcomes for reconciliation. Australians have walked together for reconciliation; now we have to work together to achieve real change.

This Strategic Plan outlines how Reconciliation Australia will play its part in making reconciliation a reality in our communities, workplaces, organisations and every facet of our national life.

The people's reconciliation walks and other achievements so far have resulted from the work of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation and the efforts of many thousands of Australians over the decade since the Commonwealth Parliament voted unanimously in 1991 to establish the Council.

Reconciliation Australia wants to build on this great legacy of an active and broadly based movement to make reconciliation a reality. And we want to work in partnership with all sections of the community to make sure this happens. Together, we are working towards the ultimate reconciliation vision of:

A united Australia which respects this land of ours, values the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage, and provides justice and equity for all.

As we implement the goals, strategies and actions set out in this Strategic Plan, we hope to work with all those who share this vision.

Directors Of The Board Of Reconciliation Australia



Mr Michael Long, an Aboriginal man from the Northern Territory, is Vice-Captain of the Essendon Football Club and won the 1993 Norm Smith medal for Best and Fairest in the grand final. He has recently taken up painting.



Rev Dr Djininyi Gondarra OAM, a Gulumula Bapurru man from Eastern Arnhem Land, is the CEO of Aboriginal Resource and Development Services, and a former Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation member.



Mr Mark Leibler AO is the senior partner in the Melbourne legal firm Arnold Bloch Leibler and a prominent leader of the Australian Jewish community. Mr Leibler regularly advises, lectures and writes on taxation issues.



Ms Jackie Huggins AM, an Aboriginal woman from Queensland, is Deputy Director at Queensland University's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit, an historian and author, and a former Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation member.



Mr Dick Estens is a cotton grower from Moree and former Chairman of the Gwydir Valley Cotton Growers' Aboriginal Employment Strategy, which has found many jobs for Aboriginal people in the Moree area.



Mr Joseph Elu, a Torres Strait Islander, is Chairman of Indigenous Business Australia and a strong advocate of economic development for Indigenous peoples. He is a former ATSIC Commissioner for the Torres Strait.



Mr Campbell Anderson is a company director having worked mainly in the resources industries. He has served on various peak business bodies including most recently as President of the Business Council of Australia.



Ms Shelley Reys (Co-Chair), an Aboriginal woman of the Djiribul people, is Managing Director of Arrilla – Aboriginal Training and Development. She is a board member of YWCA of Sydney and former Chair, Women's Reconciliation Network.



The Hon Fred Chaney AO (Co-Chair) is Deputy President of the National Native Title Tribunal, Chancellor of Murdoch University, and a former Minister for Aboriginal Affairs in the Commonwealth Parliament.