

Melbourne Conversations

Mabo Decision 20 years on: Hopes and aspirations for Victorian Traditional Land Owners

This Reconciliation Week, the City of Melbourne invites you to attend a Melbourne Conversations event that will celebrate Mabo Day and discuss issues around native title and the rights of Traditional Owners.

Celebrate the 20th anniversary of the land mark Mabo High Court decision, hear from a panel of real, local players in the complex maze of native title and traditional owners land rights and join in with your comments and questions. Afternoon tea and discussion will follow and complete a memorable day of celebration.

Date: Sunday 3 June 2012

Time: 2.30 to 3.30 pm

Venue: Swanston Hall, Melbourne Town Hall, Melbourne

Panelists

Margaret Gardiner is a Wurundjeri Elder. She is a Traditional Owner Wurunjerri - Boorat/Wandin Waywurru - Beaton/Edmunds, Taungurung - Polly also know as Wallambin Ngurai-illim wurrung - Tooterrie WambaWamba – Burns. Margaret is a member of the WWNTG Negotiating Group Baraparapa - Terrick DjaDjaWurrung - Terrick

Gary Murray is a member of the Victorian Traditional Owner Land Justice Group, and the Victorian Alps East Gippsland Traditional Owner Reference Group. He is a Wamba Wamba Baraparapa Dja Dja Wurrung Djupagalk Native Title Applicant. Gary is a Wergaia Native Title Holder and a member of the Victorian Indigenous Knowledge and Cultural Centre Working Group.

Matthew Storey is CEO of Native Title Services Victoria which represents Victorian Traditional Owners in claims under the Commonwealth's *Native Title Act* and the Victorian *Traditional Owners Settlement Act*. Prior to taking up the position as CEO in early 2012, Matthew lived in the Northern Territory for nearly 25 years. While there he worked primarily in the area of Aboriginal Land Rights for many years as a Senior Crown Law Officer. He has also previously worked as Director of the NT Anti-Discrimination Commission and also for the North Australian Aboriginal Legal Aid Service where he was primarily responsible for the "Stolen Generations cases".

Moderator –Adam McLean commenced his practice as a solicitor in NSW for the Australian Copyright Council and has experience in copyright and related areas of law. He then moved to the NSW Aboriginal Legal Service and set up the Service's civil practice in Northern NSW, the native title practice and the Service's involvement in the NSW Royal Commission into the NSW Police Service. After coming to the Bar first in NSW then in Victoria Adam has continued his native title and criminal law practices. Adam has extensive experience in Native Title matters representing Indigenous communities and advising governments. Adam was responsible for the first Indigenous Land Use Agreement in Australia.

Melbourne Conversations is a City of Melbourne initiative.

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