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**Privacy acknowledgement:** I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.

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**Please indicate which meeting you would like to make a submission to by selecting the appropriate button: \*** Council meeting

**Date of meeting: \*** Tuesday 28 July 2020

**Agenda item title:** 5.2 Notice of Motion : Local Government Electoral Reform

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**Please write your submission in the space provided below and submit by no later than 10am on the day of the scheduled meeting. We encourage you to make your submission as early as possible.**

Dear City of Melbourne Meeting Group Team

This is a written response in regards to Agenda Item 5.2 Notice of Motion: Ct Jackie Watts: Local Government Electoral Reform.

In the Kulin Nation, which is recognised in the preamble to Council meetings, it is known that the position of the City of Melbourne is that it located on Wurundjeri country and BoonWurrung country. We offer our respects to elders past and present. And to emerging leaders in the community.

It is fair and reasonable for the traditional custodians of the lands and waters that the Melbourne City Council

municipal district is on have the ability to vote and be elected to Melbourne City Council. This needs to be thought through with care and perspective.

This is part of the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) of the City of Melbourne. Ct Nicolas Frances Gilley is to be applauded for supporting Cr Jackie Watts in regards to this. He has worked with vim and vigor in advancing the RAP, and learning more about the history of the tribes of the Kulin Nation. He would be aware of the serious concerns citizens have in regards to Aboriginal deaths in custody.

Perspective. When Captain Arthur Phillip was establishing the convict settlement at Port Jackson, he had the red coats kidnap Arabanoo whilst he was on a beach. Elders went to see Captain Arthur Phillip, demanding Arabanoo be released. That did not occur. Arabanoo was enslaved so that Captain Arthur Phillip could learn more about the local population.

Recognising that the tribes of the Kulin Nation have been here for thousands of years is important.

Best regards

Chris Thrum

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Dear City of Melbourne Meeting Group Team

Further perspective. It is fair and reasonable for the position to be taken that City of Melbourne has taken big steps in advancing its Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

Councillors should be aware that Captain Arthur Phillip had the red coats kidnap Arabanoo whilst he was establishing the convict settlement at Port Jackson. When Arabanoo died from an illness that came with the First Fleet, the red coats kidnapped Bennelong.

When Captain Arthur Phillip returned to England, Bennelong went with him. After Bennelong indicated that he

wanted to return to the Port Jackson area, in time he was told that he would be returning to Port Jackson.

When the ship that was to take Bennelong to Port Jackson left the dock he knew he was on the way. But then, two French frigates appeared on the horizon, and the ship that Bennelong was on had to head back to shore and safety.

Imagine how Bennelong felt. The last time he saw two French boats was when he saw Admiral La Peroues La Boussole and L'Astrolabe anchored at Botany Bay.

Best regards

Chris Thrum