



Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee  
Aboriginal Corporation

# QUANDAMOOKA'S INDIGENOUS GOVERNANCE

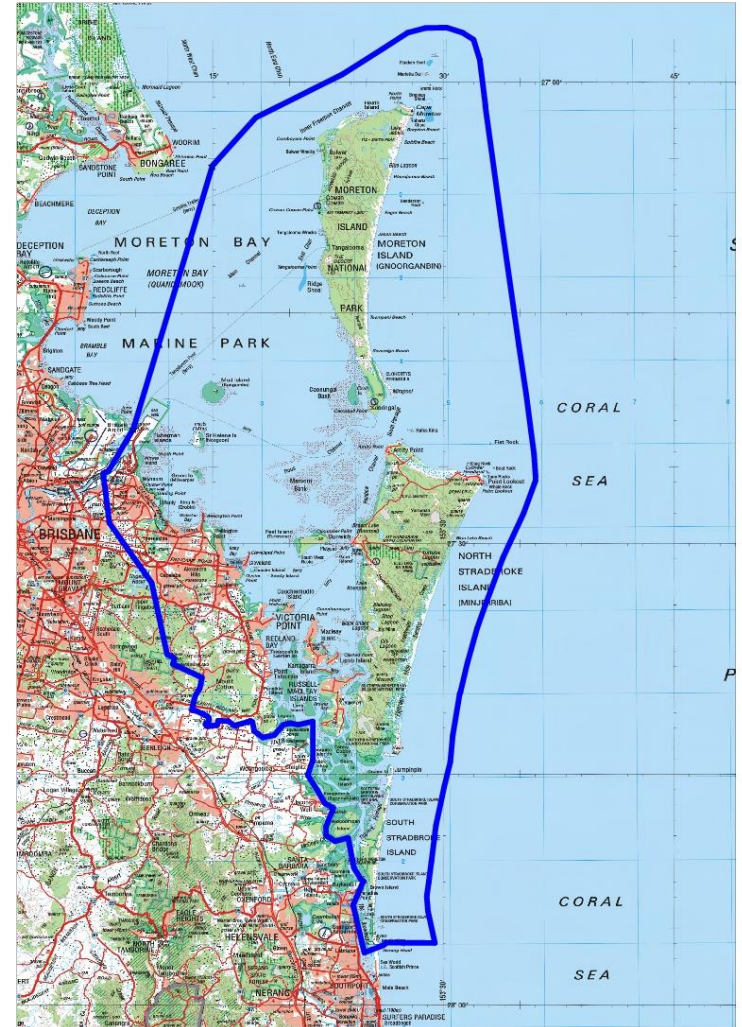
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1 July 2019



# QUANDAMOOKA YOOLOOBURRABEE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

- The Quandamooka People's are recognised within the Australian legal system under its Native Title Act 1993. The Federal Court of Australia formalised this recognition on 4 July 2011. The binding orders included exclusive and non-exclusive rights plus interests of other parties.
- Specifically exclusive rights over 2,264 hectares of land, non-exclusive onshore rights over about 22,639 hectares of land and non-exclusive offshore rights over about 29,505 hectares of offshore areas.
- QYAC is a Registered Native Title Body Corporate, created under the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (Cth) and registered under the Native Title Act 1993 Cth) to manage the Quandamooka Peoples' native title rights and interests.
- QYAC is also the registered Cultural Heritage Body under the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (Qld), responsible for cultural heritage management across the Quandamooka traditional estate.



# BIGGEST CHALLENGES

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- The biggest challenge is financial resourcing, human resources, and dealing with the exponential and rapid growth that the organisation is dealing with as it unlocks the opportunities for the Quandamooka People.
- Managing community expectations is always a challenge. Unfortunately, one of the biggest challenges is ensuring that government implements its ILUA's in good faith.
- Governance structure – politically necessary but presents challenges.
- Sub-Committees – Experts.
- Community expectations and disputes.

# ASSESSING EFFECTIVENESS OF GOVERNANCE MODEL AND LEADERSHIP

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- Strategic Planning Process – focus – Dean Parkin.
- Annual Operational Plan against Strategic Plan.
- Annual Report.
- Effectiveness of the organisation is tracked by the Board against the Strategic and Operational Plans prepared annually. The CEO reports to the Board on organisational matters prior and during each meeting.
- Policies and procedures are reviewed on an annual basis and are kept up to date in alignment with relevant legislation and regulations. Regular meetings are held with department heads, staff, committee members and WH&S representatives to ensure effective communications throughout the organisation.



# EMBEDDING ETHICS INTO GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

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- The ethics are embedded in our Rule Book and Board structure to reflect the Federal Court determination (12 Apical ancestors) and our Traditional Decision Making Process. For example, there are decisions that must go to the whole native title group.
- QYAC recognises the need to 'walk in two worlds' - respecting our traditional culture, lore and custom, as well as complying with Western structures of governance.
- We ensure that our traditional knowledge is protected and passed on to younger generations, to ensure the sustainability of caring for our country.



# DEMONSTRATING EFFECT INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP AND SELF-DETERMINATION

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- QYAC is a highly functional RNTBC and membership wise one of the biggest in the country.
- Trying to maintain strong relationships with local government and businesses.
- QYAC's activities like the Quandamooka Festival, its running of the largest accommodation provider (Minjerribah Camping) on the island, and the joint management of National Park on country.
- QYAC CEO is on a range of government and industry committees including the Redlands Tourism Sub Committee, the Indigenous Champions Network for the Queensland Indigenous Tourism Network, the Indigenous Committee for Healthy land and Water.



# DEVELOPING GOVERNANCE CAPACITY OF YOUNGER PEOPLE

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- QYAC has a community Ranger program. Background – Senator Scullion vs Federal Member.
- Now 26 Rangers 10 of them in Conservation and Land Management.
- The QYAC Board is committed to work closely with our youth, particularly in relation to land and sea management education.
- Matching community expectations of Native Title.

# COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY

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- We take pride in keeping members informed on land and sea management issues.
- Our methods include (but are not limited to):
  - an active social media presence;
  - comprehensive Annual General Meeting reports;
  - community meetings;
  - Newsletters;
  - fact sheets on issues;
  - Letters; and
  - encouraging our members to hold family meetings.
- In addition, it is the Directors of the Board responsibility to be the conduit of information to their family.
  
- Conflict – comments and challenges.





# RESILIENCE

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- The majority of QYAC staff and management are Quandamooka People and have an invested interest in ensuring the longevity and growth of the organisation are a priority. They go beyond the normal call of duty to ensure that their PBC delivers for community.
- QYAC have strong relationships with the Quandamooka community, non-indigenous local community, government at a Federal and State level, and continuously strive to work together with partners / stakeholders to create long term investment opportunities.



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**QYAC**

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