

Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Public hearing in Melbourne on constitutional recognition

The Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples will hold a public hearing in Melbourne on Thursday 14 August 2014.

The hearing will take place in the Legislative Committee Room at Parliament House between 8.45am and 4.30pm, including a community program from 3.30pm.

Committee chair Mr Ken Wyatt AM MP encourages residents of Melbourne and surrounds to attend.

'We are asking all Australians for their views on how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples should be recognised in the Constitution, and whether the Constitution can address issues of discrimination,' Mr Wyatt said.

Representatives of organisations including the Lowitja Institute, Reconciliation Victoria, Oxfam Australia and the AFL will give evidence to the committee on the wording of a referendum proposal and on mechanisms to build further engagement and support for the constitutional recognition across all sectors of the community.

The committee tabled an interim report in the Parliament in July 2014, and is required to provide a final report to the Parliament before 30 June 2015. The committee has called for written submissions on its website at <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/jscatsi</u>

The hearing will also be live-streamed at www.aph.gov.au/live

Contact:

- To appear as a witness, please contact the committee secretariat on 02 6277 3583 or 1800 728 963.
- To download the committee's interim report, please visit <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/jscatsi</u>
- For comment, please contact Jarrod Lomas, Office of the Chair Mr Ken Wyatt AM MP on 0450 219 109.