

Marrickville Peace Group

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Submission on behalf of the Marrickville Peace Group to the Government in support of a VOICE to Parliament

Our nation stands at the brink of a once in a century, pioneering opportunity.

We can choose to demonstrate solidarity and leadership with all fair-minded Australians to enable a First Nations Voice to Parliament.

We, the members of the Marrickville Peace Group (MPG) are grateful that the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Ken Wyatt has commissioned the “Indigenous Voice Co- Design” Report. We appreciate the careful work of Professors Marcia Langton and Tom Calma and the 52 mostly First Nations people in producing this report.

The MPG is committed to reducing the chances of war and the social injustices that are its causes. Hence, we feel that the First Nations need our support.

As Australian citizens, we have an obligation and are honoured to stand with First Nations People and to affirm the Uluru Statement from the Heart. Its call for truth telling, a Makarrata commission to supervise treaty making and for a national voice enshrined in the constitution is an invitation which must be acted upon.

Key to a Voice is the perspective of the Uluru Statement from the Heart - <https://fromtheheart.com.au>

“We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a rightful place in our own country”.

Accordingly:

1. We request that the Federal government honours its electoral promise to take a model for a VOICE to Parliament;
2. We ask for legislation for the Voice to be passed in the next term of Parliament;
3. We recommend that The National VOICE member model ensures ALL First Nations insights are heard.

Nick Deane - Spokesperson for MPG
Antoinette Riley
Catharine Clements
Jo Blackman
Malcolm and Joyce Fraser
John Butcher

(Members of MPG)