



# AIATSIS

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and  
Torres Strait Islander Studies  
Office of the Chief Executive Officer

---

[aiatsis.gov.au](http://aiatsis.gov.au)

Select Committee on the Aboriginal Flag  
Department of the Senate  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Committee Members

**Correction to the Hansard - AIATSIS appearance before the Select Committee on the  
Aboriginal Flag**

Thank you for the opportunity to appear on behalf of AIATSIS before the Select Committee on 22 September 2020. I write to provide a formal correction to the record relating to my appearance on 22 September 2020. During the proceedings, Senator McCarthy directed a line of questioning to me concerning the shield displayed on the AIATSIS logo and the agreement we have in place with the community and artist concerning its use.

In responding to this line of questioning, I indicated to the Committee that AIATSIS has an agreement in place with the community and artist concerning use of the shield in our logo and that AIATSIS would table this agreement subject to appropriate consultation with the artist and family. This response is evidenced on page 33 of the Hansard transcript relating to these proceedings.

I would like to correct the record that no agreement exists between AIATSIS and the family or community of the people who produced the shield. However, AIATSIS has undertaken significant engagement with the families of the original shield creators and the communities in which these families are located. Family and community representatives continue to support the image of the shield being used as the logo for AIATSIS.

Yours sincerely

Craig Ritchie  
Chief Executive Officer

| October 2020

