

**Indigenous Youth Engagement Council
Supplementary Submission to the Joint Select Committee on Constitutional
Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, Wednesday
19 June 2013.**

The Indigenous Youth Engagement Council (IYEC) would like to thank the Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples (the Committee) for the opportunity to participate in the roundtable discussion held in Sydney on 30 April 2013.

The IYEC provides the following summary of topics raised at the roundtable discussion to assist in the drafting of the Committee's Report.

Indigenous Youth Participation

The IYEC reiterates the importance of full and effective participation of young Indigenous people in all future decision making processes regarding constitutional recognition. We encourage the Committee to continue and expand their engagement with Indigenous youth, particularly when formulating a model of constitutional recognition.

The IYEC will provide the Committee with our Indigenous Youth Report on Constitutional Recognition when it is released in August 2013. The Report will include Indigenous youth perspectives on the proposed changes to the Constitution, as well as the campaign towards a referendum and will be a basis for future dialogue between the Committee and Indigenous youth.

Indigenous Youth Perspectives on Changes to the Constitution

During the roundtable discussion, the IYEC raised a number of topics from our forthcoming Report, including:

- The need to pursue constitutional recognition within a broader long-term plan of legal and policy reform to implement the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- The importance of constitutional amendments to both recognise Indigenous Australians and address racial discrimination, as recommended by the Expert Panel.
- The importance of a constitutional head of power that reflects the Parliament's responsibility to enable Indigenous self-determination, and the possible inconsistency of the term 'advancement' with this principle.

The IYEC looks forward to providing our full Report and discussing its implications with the next iteration of the Committee.