

## Truth and Treaty Queensland

Community presentation





**Our vision** 

We believe it's time to reach Treaties with the sovereign First Nation peoples and recognise the truth of colonisation to create a path towards a stronger Queensland.

## Purpose of this presentation

- SECTION 1: Background and journey to date
- SECTION 2:
  Consultation findings
- SECTION 3:
  Truth-telling
- SECTION 4:
  Treaty readiness



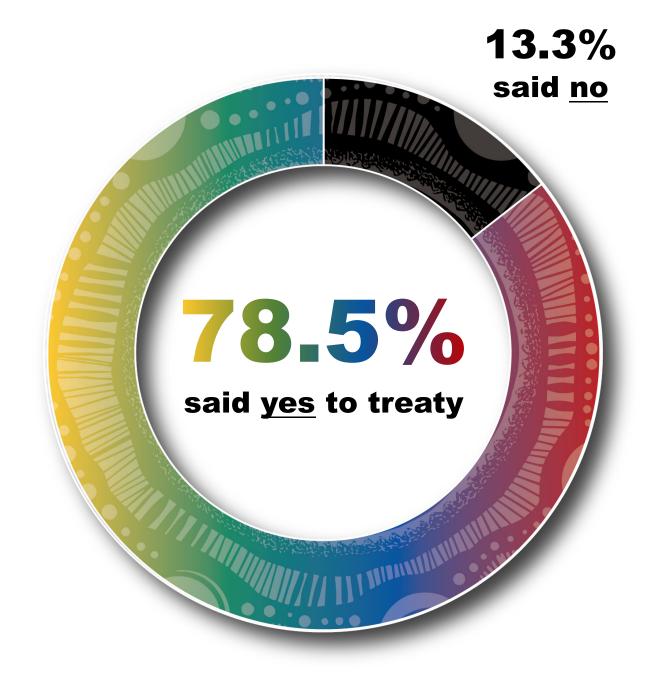


## SECTION 1

Background and journey to date



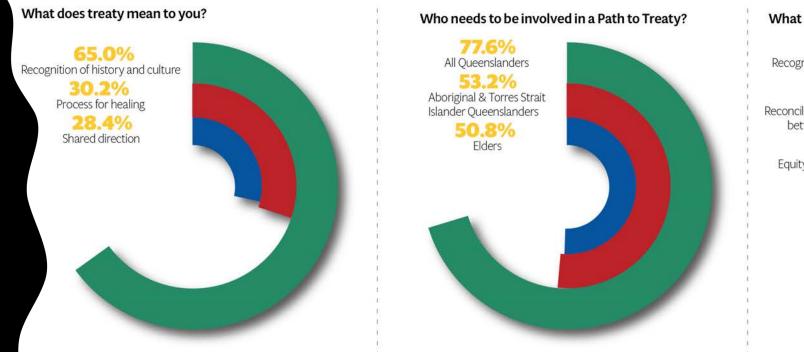
In 2019-2020, an Eminent Panel and Treaty Working Group were yarning with community across Queensland to see what they thought about treaty.

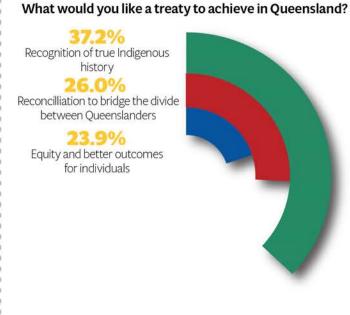


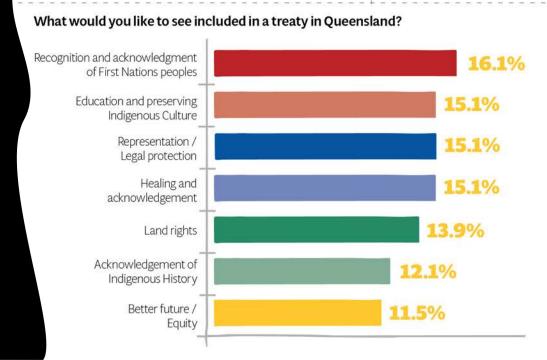
Who is a treaty for?

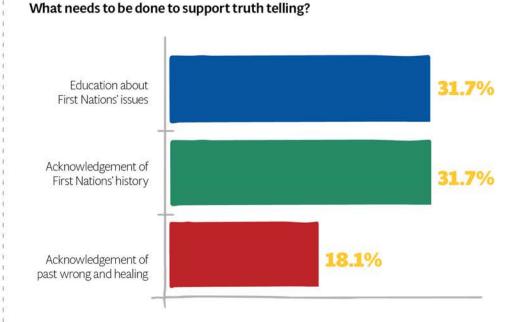
What should it include?

How
do we
prepare
for it?









## **History of Treaty in Queensland**

Pre 2019



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Calling for Treaty for decades.

2019-2020



Eminent Panel and Treaty Working Group

State-wide consultations to gauge interest in a Treaty for Oueensland.

2021



Treaty Advancement Committee

Update community on next steps.

Announcement of the Path to Treaty Fund.

#### TRANSITION FROM ITTB TO INSTITUTE

2022-2023



Interim Truth and Treaty Body

Co-drafted the Path to Treaty Act 2023.

Received community input into establishing key structures.

2023 and beyond



First Nations Treaty Institute and Institute Council

Establish Institute Council to oversee operations.

Develop a Treaty Making Framework.

## The Path to Treaty Act 2023

#### Timeline:

- → The Path to Treaty Bill 2023 was introduced into the Queensland Parliament on 22 February 2023.
- → The Community Support and Services Parliamentary
  Committee conducted community consultations to receive feedback on the Act and published their report on 21 April 2023.
- → The Bill was passed by the Queensland Parliament on 10 May 2023 and became an Act of Parliament following Royal Assent.

- The purpose of the Act is to establish foundational legislation to drive Queensland's Truth and Treaty process forward.
- The Act 2023 was co-designed by the ITTB and the Queensland Government.
- This is the first time an Act has been co-designed with this level of input from community in the history of Queensland.
- The Act's objectives are to establish:
  - a First Nations Treaty Institute to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to develop and provide a framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to prepare for and then commence treaty negotiations with the Queensland Government, and
  - a Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry to inquire into, and report on, the effects of colonisation on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

## Purpose of the Act

- The Act ensures its purposes are achieved with sufficient regard to Aboriginal law and Torres Strait Islander law
- → The core principles underpinning the Act are:
  - Self determination
  - Free, prior and informed consent
  - Respecting and protecting Aboriginal law, Aboriginal tradition, Torres Strait Islander law and Ailan Kastom
  - Equality and non-discrimination.
- → You will see these principles outlined in the Act's Preamble.



## The First Nations Treaty Institute

- → The Institute is independent of the Queensland Government and will support First Nations People prepare for and then enter treaty negotiations.
- → The Institute will develop a treaty making framework in consultation with the State Government.
- → An Institute Council made up of 10 members—all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People—will govern the Institute.

## The Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry

- → The Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry's key function is to inquire and document the ongoing individual, familial, cultural and societal effects of colonization on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.
- → The Inquiry will also conduct research and promote public awareness about Queensland's full and accurate history.
- → Truth Telling sessions and hearings must be held in a culturally appropriate way.

#### Voice, Treaty and Truth – What is happening at State and Federal level

At the national level this year—Queenslanders, along with the rest of Australia will be asked—in a referendum, if they support an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament.

Queensland's process has been designed in a way so that it can take into account of Voice developments as they emerge.

#### **TRUTH AND TREATY**

#### **TORRES STRAIT**

#### **Torres Strait Treaty**

Signed in December 1978. Enacted in February 1985.

A Treaty that defines the border and maritime boundaries between Australia and PNC.

#### STATE/QUEENSLAND

#### WE ARE

#### **Path to Treaty**

#### **Truth Telling and Healing**

#### First Nations Treaty Institute

Develop Treaty Making Framework and prepare First Nations for treaty negotiations

#### Truth Telling and Healing Inquiry

Independent inquiry into historical and ongoing impacts of colonisation

#### Treaty

Truth telling will support treaty readiness and preparations for treaty negotiations.

A Treaty Making Framework will assist communities with treaty negotiations.

Treaty negotiations will be Queensland-based and not part of the Federal process.

#### VOICE

#### **FEDERAL**

#### Uluru Statement from the Heart

#### **Federal Voice process**

#### Referendum - Voice to Parliament

First Nations Voice enshrined in the Australian Constitution

#### **QGov Voice process**

#### **First Nations Consultative Committee**

Provide recommendations on preferred Voice model for Queensland, into the Federal Voice process

#### **TORRES STRAIT**

#### **Masig Statement - Four Point Plan**

Self-determination for the people of the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula area.

Freely determine political status and pursue economic, social and cultural development

Self-government in matters relating to internal and local affairs.

Partnerships with regional stakeholders, and Queensland and federal governments.



## **SECTION 2**

**Consultation findings** 



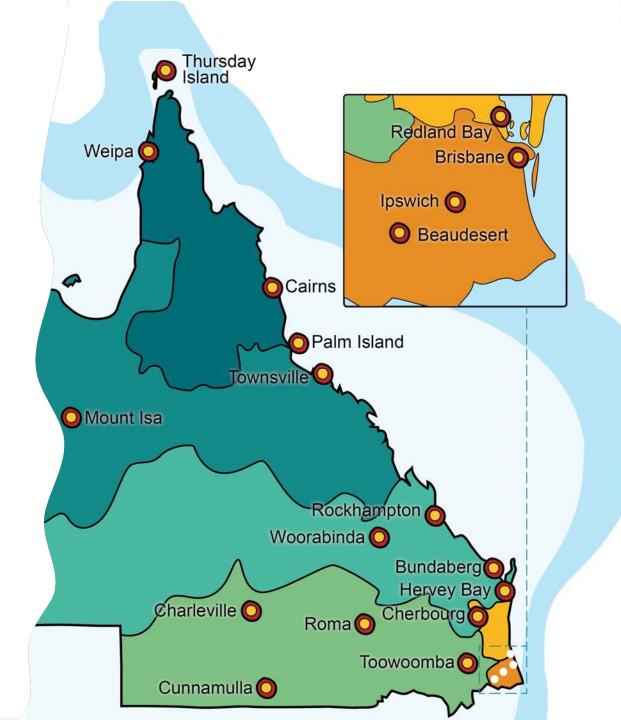
Yarning sessions were organised between March – May 2023.

#### The purpose of Community Yarns was to seek community input on key design features of the Institute and

→ The Inquiry Terms of Reference

Inquiry:

→ The selection process to appoint Inquiry and Institute Council members.



Interim Truth and Treaty Body
Community Yarning sessions

887

Queenslander's attended engagement sessions



21

Community Yarning sessions across the state



11

Meetings with community organisations



Members of Parliament hosted events



Targeted stakeholder conversations

- In addition to ITTB Community Yarning sessions, conversations with key stakeholders were also arranged
- Key organisations and individuals engaged include:
  - Queensland Human Rights Commission
  - The Healing Foundation
  - Victoria's Yoorrook Justice Commission
  - Victoria's First Peoples' Assembly
  - Key First Nations and non-Indigenous Barristers, judges and legal experts
  - Key First Nations and non-Indigenous Historians and Academics
- Feedback from the Community Yarning sessions and stakeholder meetings have informed advice to the Minister on the Inquiry Terms of Reference and appropriate selection processes for the Institute Council members and Inquiry members.

"One story that hasn't been told is the way people came to treaties across Queensland individually—on both sides, after the fighting, decided that it was time to come to an agreement—these agreements often weren't written down, but did mean that district by district there were private treaties in negotiation. This story is important to tell."

> Henry Reynolds, Historian and author participated in the targeted consultations

# Consultation findings: Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry Terms of Reference

While the Act outlines the functions of the Inquiry, and there are provisions about the Inquiry Terms of Reference, the detail of the Terms of Reference needs to be developed.

Community feedback from consultations on the Truthtelling and Healing Inquiry Terms of Reference considered:

- The need to document pre-colonial history
- The importance of understanding colonisation as having ongoing impacts, not just defined as occurring within a historical period
- → The importance of healing as a crucial function for the Inquiry and for stories to showcase the contributions First Nations peoples have provided to Queensland's economy and societies
- The importance of education to promote public awareness and informing school curriculum and the treaty making process
- → The need to distinguish how this Inquiry is different to previous inquiries - and whether it can inquire on the implementation progress of previous inquiry recommendations.

#### Consultation findings: Inquiry Terms of Reference (continued)

Community feedback from consultations on the Terms of Reference provided insights on how the Inquiry might conduct its work, including the need to:

- → Consult and engage with First Nations peoples and all Queenslanders to guide and design the Inquiry truth-telling sessions with respect to culturally sensitive and appropriate processes based on respective ways of knowing
- → Consult and engage with First Nations Elders as a priority group for the Inquiry
- → Encourage the participation and engagement of local government, faith-based organisations, other key government organisations and bodies (including outside of Queensland and institutions of record keeping and memory)
- → Bring in relevant expertise when required, including legal support and trauma-informed support to promote healing through the truth-telling process
- → Conduct research and ensure the gathering and storage of information is guided by First Nations Data Governance and Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property Rights and that culturally appropriate frameworks be in place to support this.



## The First Nations Treaty Institute Council

The Act outlines the powers and functions of the Institute, and the responsibilities of the Council, but does not outline or guide the Minister on the appointment of the Council members.

The ITTB was tasked with providing advice and recommendations to the Minister on an appropriate appointment process for the Institute Council members into the future.

- The Institute Council made up of 10 members—all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people—will govern the Institute
- Members are appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Minister
- → The Institute Council members will ensure the Treaty Institute functions and operates properly
- The Institute Council will not negotiate treaty or treaties for First Nations people
- The first Institute Council will run for an 'inaugural' term of two years from the date the Institute is established
- → A key role of the inaugural Institute Council during their two-year term, will be to provide advice and recommendations to the Minister on an appropriate appointment process for the Institute Council into the future.

#### Consultation findings: Institute Council selection process

#### **Application process**

- Selection for all candidates needs to be conducted via an Expression of Interest (EOI), supported by a written statement and a professional and cultural referee/letter
- → If candidates have a criminal history, the process should allow candidates to explain past offences, noting assessment of a criminal record will be a discretionary decision of the Minister.
- Appoint an independent assessment panel to assess EOI's
- Appoint an independent First Nations recruitment agency to run the recruitment process and assist the independent assessment panel.





#### Consultation findings: Institute Council selection process (continued)

#### **Candidate criteria**

A mix of 'individual' key selection criteria and 'group' selection criteria to ensure the right collective of individuals are selected.

#### Individual key selection criteria ranged from:

- Cultural integrity and authority
- Courage and strength
- Impartiality and independence
- Lived experience as an advocate for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander peoples.

#### Group criteria included:

- Board and governance experience
- A 'doer' and resolves problems
- Financial and compliance experience
- Experience in social justice and Indigenous rights.





#### Consultation findings: Institute Council selection process (continued)

#### **Diversity and representation**

- Reflect cultural diversity of First Nations peoples (in accordance with the Act)
- Reflect gender diversity of Queensland (in accordance with the Act)
- Broad geographical representation from across Queensland
- Representation from Torres Strait Islander people both from the Torres Strait region and from the mainland
- Representation of stolen generations (that are also connected to their local community)
- Youth representation
- First Nations Elder representation
- Use of Advisory Committee to facilitate broader involvement.





## The Truthtelling and Healing Inquiry membership

The Act outlines the powers and functions of the Inquiry, and the responsibilities of Inquiry members, and provides a high-level outline for the Inquiry membership structure.

The ITTB was tasked with providing advice to the Minister on an appropriate appointment process for the Institute Council into the future.

- → The Inquiry will be conducted by 5 members appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Minister
- → The members of the Inquiry must have:
  - a majority of First Nations People
  - at least one Aboriginal Member
  - at least one Torres Strait Islander Member
  - at least one member to be a senior lawyer with experience relevant to the Inquiry
- → Each member is to have experience and standing within the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Community
- → The Minister is to appoint a First Nations member of the Inquiry as Chairperson.

#### Consultation findings: Inquiry member selection process

#### **Application process**

- → Selection for all candidates needs to be conducted via an Expression of Interest (EOI), supported by a written statement and a professional and cultural referee/letter
- Separate EOI process for the Chairperson of the Inquiry
- Appoint an independent assessment panel to assess EOI's
- → Appoint an independent First Nations recruitment agency to run the recruitment process and assist the independent assessment panel.





#### Consultation findings: Inquiry member selection process (continued)

#### **Inquiry membership structure**

- strongly consider gender balance and cultural diversity amongst the membership (in accordance with the Act)
- have at least one non-Indigenous member
- → permanent members, with the majority to be Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, plus a pool of five 'Inquiry-substitutes' that would be able to temporarily take the place of an Inquiry member, as required.





## What we are doing with the consultation feedback:

- → The information gathered from the Community Yarns has informed advice to the Minister with recommendations provided on the Inquiry Terms of Reference process and selection processes for the Institute and the Inquiry
- A summary of the feedback received from the Community Yarning sessions and Targeted Stakeholder conversations will be published on our website www.truthandtreatyqld.org.au



## **SECTION 3**

Truth-telling







STAGE 1: Local truth-telling



STAGE 2: Formal truth-telling



STAGE 3: Treaty readiness

## Led by the Interim Truth and Treaty Body:

- → First Nations community-led and driven
- Communities research, record and share local histories
- → Investigate historical moments connected to their community.

## Led by the Truth-Telling and Healing Inquiry:

- → Inquiry based and driven with a non-adversarial approach
- → Establish official records and report on inquiry findings
- → Information and data is collected from individuals, government and other institutions as evidence
- → Government to be compelled to provide evidence

### Led by the First Nations Treaty Institute:

- Treaty Making Framework developed to support community
- → Truth-telling and healing central to the treaty-making process with First Nations treaty parties
- → Development of education curricula and materials.

STAGE 1: Local truth-telling

## Why is local truth-telling and healing important?

- → Truth-telling has the power to heal it has the power to change the way First Nations people see themselves, are seen by others, and how we exist together into the future
- → Truth-telling is critical to reframing the relationship and the ongoing process of reconciliation in Queensland
- → The truth about Queensland's history will promote understanding about how past laws, policies and practices have, and continue to impact First Nations people
- → Local truth-telling offers an opportunity to achieve justice – to ensure the wrongs of the past are never repeated
- Hearing about the truth will be difficult and traumatic for all Queenslanders, which is why local truth-telling must be trauma informed - to support and enable ongoing healing.

#### What do we know about local truth-telling?

Local truth-telling can invoke healing as well as engage, inform and educate community members of what happened during Queensland's colonial past, promote understanding of why this happened and its impacts, through a variety of formats, for example:

#### Doco's & online

**Documentaries:** Rachel Perkin's Australian Wars (SBS), Ningla-A'na 'Aboriginal Embassy' movie Online content:

> Australian Frontier **Conflicts Map**

## Museums &

Local buildings e.g. local museums and libraries Indigenous Knowledge Centres, Local cultural tours

#### **Landscapes & Architecture**

**Renaming:** to the traditional language prior to colonisation **Cultural landscaping:** inclusive of histories and societies of places Architecture: e.g. WCCCA **Building and Dreamtime Cultural** Centre, statues, and gardens

### Culture

#### **Memorials** & Shrines

Memorials: Anzac Square, Queensland State Indigenous Memorial **Commemoration**: graves, plaques, shrines and beautifying gardens and special places

#### **Music & Art**

Music. Forums and Events: Let's Talk, Songwriters Festivals Art: eg: CIAF, Poetry, song, dance, paintings.

#### **Advocacy & Activism**

**Campaigns**: National **Indigenous Youth Campaign** 'Know your truth' Protests: Invasion Day, Sorry Day

#### Returning Items

**Return of human remains:** international repatriation Return of other items: hair samples, artifacts, headdresses etc.



### What can truth-telling look like at a local l

#### Local truth-telling can be in the form of:

- Community Yarns, film, song, theatre, oral history and storytelling (podcasts), written (books, articles, academic), art, photographs
- Undoing the local fiction of 'terra nullius' by documenting the local history of the First Nations peoples as well that of the settlers
- Stories of significant events the other side of the "story of settlement"
- Stories of relationships between groups of people who were bought together through circumstance
- Historical monuments and community commemorations that relate to local history of place and people – before and after non-Indigenous settlement
- Exposing the contradictions of history, not erasing, but reflecting both – political, power, policy, practice, place
- Promoting awareness and understanding of the oldest living cultures in the world through education in schools, community education and gatherings, murals, plaques
- Acknowledging and displaying cultural history and recognition in place names, community signage acknowledgements of country
- Recognising our local heroes and advocates First Nations peoples and non-Indigenous.

#### **Key considerations:**

- Everything we do on the path to Treaty, contributes to truth-telling and healing – including this conversation we are having here today
- Truth-telling is a process that takes time
- Truth-telling must address community aspirations on their own terms – self-determination
- Relationships built on trust and nurtured along the way will be critical throughout this process
- Community buy-in and communities feeling supported through their truth-telling process is essential
- Every opportunity and experience will be different there is no one-size fits all – activities don't need to be large scale
- Exposing and confronting the truth will be hard, hurtful, and may trigger/re trigger trauma and anger – but it can also be healing for all involved if done right
- We will feel like we are making mistakes, especially when we see our community struggling with what they are learning – but this is part of the journey – supporting each other through that is what helps with the healing, and reframes relationships
- > It's not all bad we also need to tell the good.







- Memory Institutions
- · IKC's
- •Reconciliation Queensland partners
- ·Local Councils & libraries
- · Aboriginal Community Controlled Orgs



Local

Truth

Telling

#### Truth Telling & Healing Week

- ·Film night (air documentaries)
- · Engage community (social media campaign)
- ·Resources, links to Institute content (website)



- ·Community Yarns
- · Panel discussions / dialogues
- · Youth forums
- · Community-led gatherings
- ·Significant cultural dates



EDUCATE

#### Build awareness

How can

facilitate

we

local

truth-

telling

- Improvement strategies · Enhance knowledge that is
- not on mainstream channels · Improve existing technologies to enhance
- accessibility to public records ·Staff cultural competency
- and adequate support to deliver truth telling

#### Communication & Engagement resources

- . Communication Pack ITTB engagement
- · Advocate Pack Stakeholder engagement
- · Merchandise Pack reinforce our messaging

#### Digital media

- community resources
- •Interim Truth and Treaty Body website
- ·Social Media engagement
- •Truth and Treaty E-bulletin

#### Facilitate local truth telling

- ·Local Truth Telling and Healing Strategy
- Collective conversations
- Access to resources, tools and services
- ·Information management
- Truth telling and trauma informed support

- Educate and inform -

#### Accessible resources

#### How can Memory Institutions assist community

- •Institutes to share their truth and their role in the healing process
- ·Safe storage of artifacts in community
- •Repatriation of human remains
- · Access to historical records
- · Assistance in return of artifacts
- ·Support communities to share and exhibit stories, experiences and perspectives

#### Consult on setup of Institute and Inquiry

- •Terms of Reference
- · Functions, recruitment, selection process
- ·Member appointment
- · Enhancing Indigenous engagement in research



#### Next Steps

- •ITTB → local truth telling
- •Institute → local truth telling to get treaty ready
- Inquiry → formal truth telling



#### Board-led Community Yarns

- · Role of the Board
- Update on Treaty process & next steps
- ·Clarify Voice, Treaty, Truth Federal and State landscape
- · Access to online resources, information and tools

#### Support community

- · Community Guide to the Truth Telling Strategy
- ·Single point access to Institute services (data portal)
- Funding opportunities
- ·Strategic partnerships
- · Expand current community connects to support local truth telling
- ·Increase engagement with local groups and organisations
- ·Leverage and learn from Elders and knowledge keepers



Local cultural context



#### Building local narrative

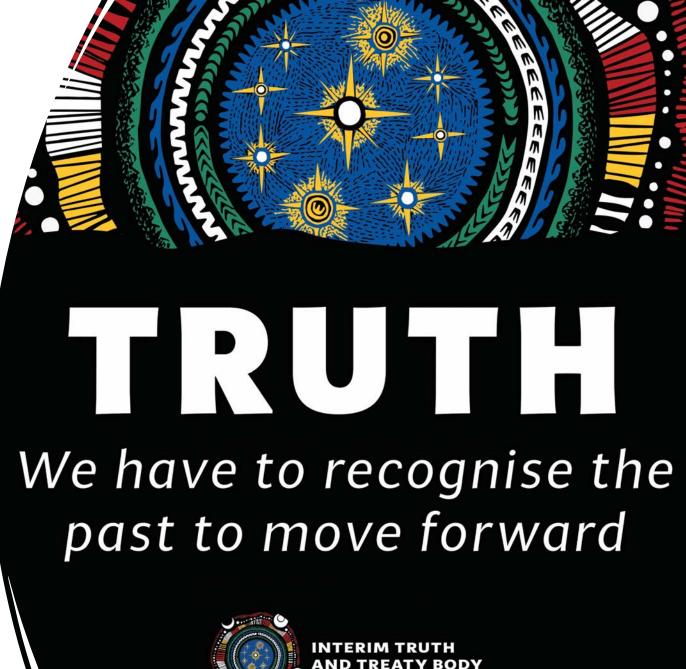
(First Nations and non-Indigenous story telling

- •The place narrative an untold story
- •The people narrative a civil society practic
- •The ceremony narrative telling the truth and educating



### How will truthtelling inform the **Inquiry?**

- Formal truth-telling (through the Inquiry) will be gathering and chronicling stories about people, places and stories from local places across Queensland
- Local truth-telling will help communities to prepare for the Inquiry process and its conduct. This could include identifying the key priorities/stories of a local area as well as how formal truth-telling sessions might be conducted in local places
- The Inquiry is a bespoke model which enables it to be flexible to respond to local community needs in relation to how individuals and community members participate in truth-telling sessions
- It is not mandatory to participate in the Inquiry local truth telling offers an alternative approach to participating in the formal truth-telling and healing inquiry.





#### **Considerations for local truth-telling**

- What are your aspirations for local truth-telling and healing activities?
- What supports will you need to conduct local truth-telling and healing activities in your local communities?
- What collective stories of key events/key figures do you think need to be told?
- What type of formats do you think would be most effective to communicate local truth-telling in your community/region/area?
- What types of local truth-telling activities do you think would help to get the broader community ready to engage with the formal Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry?
- → What types of support in terms of trauma informed responses and healing, do you think need to be provided as part of the local truth-telling exercise, which could also be useful for the formal Inquiry? Are there key experts or organisations in your community that can provide this support?





## SECTION 4

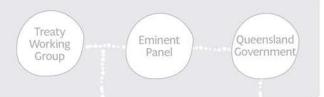
Treaty-readiness



## Staged approach to prepare for Treaty

#### Phase One: Starting the conversation

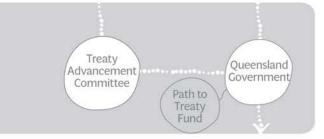
- Appointment of Treaty Working Group and Eminent Panel
- · Delivered state-wide community consultations





#### Phase Two: Advancing the Path to Treaty

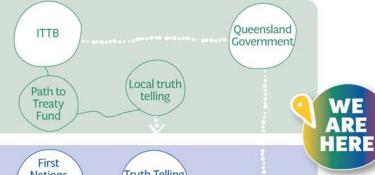
- · Appointment of Treaty Advancement Committee
- Treaty process update through state-wide community briefings
- · Announcement of the Path to Treaty Fund





#### Phase Three: Preparing for Establishment

- · Appointment of the Interim Truth and Treaty Body
- · Co-draft the Path to Treaty Act 2023
- Conduct community consultations for input on establishing the Institute and Inquiry





#### Phase Four: Establishment

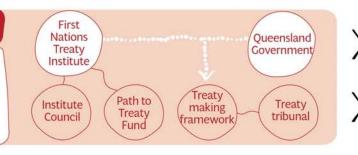
- Establish the First Nations Treaty Institute and Institute Council
- · Establish the Truth Telling and Healing Inquiry
- · Administer the Path to Treaty Fund





#### Phase Five: Advancing treaty-making

- · Develop a treaty-making framework
- · Establish a Treaty Tribunal
- · Administer the Path to Treaty Fund



#### Objective

Negotiation of a treaty or treaties between First Nations peoples and the Queensland Government

## What is a Treaty?

- A treaty can be described as a negotiated agreement between two or more parties who seek to have their relationship with each other defined and formalised.
- A treaty is developed through a negotiation process, gives rise to binding obligations between the parties and is only signed once all parties are in agreement.



## Why does Queensland need a Treaty?

- A treaty or treaties, will empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the Queensland community, to come together and negotiate a new way of working, to deliver substantive outcomes for First Nations peoples.
- Treaty provides an exciting opportunity to create a unified identity for all Queenslanders—one that recognises and protects the rights of First Nations people, cultures and ways of life.



#### What could a Treaty involve?

#### **Education**

School curriculum to include history of First Nations peoples

Education about truth telling and healing

> Cultural education for children + young people

#### Culture

Preservation of cultural knowledge

Cultural heritage

Formalising local governance + authority

Healing through culture: programs, centres, schools

Repatriation and return of items

#### Country

Return of land to Traditional Owners

Protection + management of

Waterway use + management

Land use planning + development

Cultural landscaping +

#### Law +

Justice responses + systems

Justice

First Nations child + family interventions

> Accountability + review

cultural sites

Parks + wildlife management

architecture

#### Children

Keeping children in home or community

Education and early years



#### Healing

Trauma recovery

Recognising cultural + spiritual healing practices

Memorials, shrines + healing places

#### Language

Revive + preserve language

Naming of places

#### **Tackling** Inequality

Redress / reparations for Stolen Generations

Social + economic development

Better housing programs

Grants and funding for community-led services

> Economic empowerment

#### Governance

Respect for sovereignty

Self-determination

Decision-making

Constitution + participation requirements

> Formalising local governance + authority

#### Health

First Nations community-controlled health services

Culturally appropriate Mental Health programs

> Access to health services

#### Legal

Enforceability of treaty

Accountability mechanisms

Legal underpinning

#### The Institute: First Nations Treaty Readiness

- Key priorities for the Treaty Institute will be to:
  - Co-design a Treaty-making Framework with the Queensland Government
  - Support First Nations Treaty Readiness
  - Support First Nations People to access and participate in the Treaty negotiation process – in an equitable and fair manner
- Being 'Treaty Ready' will be critical to the successful negotiation of treaties
  - The need to get treaty ready is relevant to both First Nations People and Government
  - Government are working on their own strategies as a whole and as individual agencies to get treaty ready.



#### First Nations representation in treaty-negotiations

- Treaty-making is complex and generally a long process of making 'multiple decisions'- between two 'parties'- the Queensland Government and a First Nations group (A Treaty Party).
- → As part of being ready for treaty negotiations, there is a need to be clear on the constituency of the 'First Nations treaty party' that will represent a First Nations group in treaty negotiations
- Representation in treaty negotiations need to be guided by how First Nations think of themselves as a collective 'group'
  - Consultations in 2019 indicated that at the local level, Treaties need to be guided by cultural authority, but that this should not exclude other First Nations groups. Many participants talked about the need to protect the rights and interests of all First Nations Peoples, and not just recognised Traditional Owner groups of a particular place.

"There is a fear that the government will think ... that one point of reference to community is enough, however this is not enough because it doesn't represent all community. Here in Rockhampton, the population has been made up of people who have come from all over the place. Many through the local reserve like Woorabinda—we know that there are over 30 traditional groups who were taken to Woorabinda and forced to live there, exempt groups come here and need to be recognised "

Rockhampton community member, 2019 community consultation

#### What helps to develop good governance?

- What it is that First Nations communities in Queensland need to build quality governance in treaty negotiations is not entirely clear, with more research required in this space.
- → The most comprehensive data on exploring the necessary conditions for 'successful' First Nations societies comes from work carried out by the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development at Harvard University.
- Beginning in the late 1980s, Harvard Project researchers set out to determine the necessary conditions for successful economic development among Indigenous nations in the United States.



Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development found five key factors played a part in development success:

- → Practical Sovereignty
- → Capable governing institutions
- → Cultural match
- → A strategic orientation
- → Leadership

#### **Considerations for treaty readiness**

- What are the key factors to consider when thinking about First Nations treaty readiness?
- What support do you think communities will need to become treaty ready?
  - Are there lessons to learn from the native title process? If so, what are they?
- How can the Institute support your community to get treaty ready?
- What might a 'Treaty Party' look like in your community/region?
  - How can the Institute support your community to establish a Treaty Party?



## Where to next?

The ITTB handed over their recommendations report to the Minister for Treaty, the Honourable Leeanne Enoch MP, on the establishment and appointment process for the First Nations Treaty Institute (Institute), Institute Council and Truth Telling and Healing Inquiry (Inquiry).

The Minister will now consider the report, to stand up these key structures over the coming months. The ITTB will continue to work with the department to assist with this process.

The ITTB, as an 'interim' body will disband once the Institute Council has been appointed. The work and findings undertaken during their tenure, will assist these key structures to undertake their roles and functions to prepare Queenslanders for treatymaking in the future.



#### **Connect with us**

Send us an email, or visit our website and social media channels to keep updated on progress being made on the Truth and Treaty movement.

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