# Communique

# Meeting of the First Nations Consultative Committee

## 22 – 23 June 2023

The First Nations Consultative Committee (the Committee) met in Cairns and via MS Teams on 22 June and 23 June 2023 to continue its important work designing an Indigenous Voice model for consideration by the Queensland Government. At the meetings, Committee Members continued to discuss and refine the recommendations for their final report to government and discussed next steps moving forward for Voice reform in Queensland.

**Meeting with the Honourable Leeanne Enoch MP,** **Minister for Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities, and the Arts**

The Committee Members and Minister Enoch met on Thursday 23 June 2023.The meeting was an opportunity for Committee Members to meet Minister Enoch and formally welcome her as the Minister for Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts. The Committee also acknowledged the historic appointment of Minister Enoch as Queensland’s first Minister for Treaty.

Minister Enoch acknowledged the work of the Committee and their dedication to First Nations Queenslanders having a greater voice on the issues that impact them and their lives. Minister Enoch reaffirmed her commitment to progressing Voice, Treaty and Truth and encouraged the Committee to consider these reforms and how they underpin the reframing relationship commitment in their advice to government. During the meeting, the Committee noted some key recommendations outlined in the draft report, highlighting the importance of further community engagement on the proposed Voice model in the next phase of work.

**Electoral Process with the Electoral Commission of Queensland**

The Committee also invited representatives from the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ), including Mr Wade Lewis, Assistant Electoral Commissioner Executive, to attend part of the meeting. Committee members and ECQ representatives discussed a range of operational considerations for the Committee to consider in a proposed model, including the preferred voting system, electoral framework, whether voting should be compulsory or voluntary, and setting of regional boundaries. The ECQ welcomed the Committee’s focus on operational issues for elections and affirmed their commitment to supporting the Committee in this work.

**South Australia delegation to meet with the South Australia Government**

The Committee passed a motion for Mr Cameron Costello to visit Adelaide in July 2023 to meet with South Australia government officials about their First Nations Voice legislation, and to report back to the Committee with key findings to inform the Queensland model.

Update on Design Yarn with Youth Groups

As part of the design process, the Committee hosted a series of Design Yarns with targeted First Nations stakeholders. On Friday 19 June 2023, the Committee held a Design Yarn with First Nations young people from North Queensland and Far North Queensland. The Committee discussed with participants key design principles of the proposed Voice model so far and listened to their views to ensure the voices of First Nations young people is captured in the development and design of a Voice for Queensland.

**Delivering the Final Report to Government by July 2023**

The Committee resolved to meet again in mid-July to finalise its final report to the Queensland Government and discussed the process of providing its report to government.