Kimberley Land Council



MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KLC expresses disappointment at PM ruling out a referendum on Indigenous Voice

The KLC has expressed disappointment after Prime Minister Scott Morrison ruled out a referendum on enshrining an Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the Constitution if re-elected.

KLC CEO Tyronne Garstone said a referendum on the Voice should be seen as an urgent issue and a priority for all parties ahead of the Federal Election.

"Australia needs to see a true commitment from the PM and all parties for a referendum on a First Nations Voice to Parliament. The next Parliament must take action," Mr Garstone said.

"The Coalition has a long-standing commitment to hold a referendum on constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The Voice is currently the only proposal on the table that fulfills Constitutional recognition for Indigenous Australians."

Mr Garstone said the Prime Minister's comments are at odds with the majority of the nation, who are in favour of an Indigenous Voice to Parliament.

"Australians are backing a referendum on a Voice to Parliament. Nearly 60% of Australians would support a Voice at a referendum. Australians know an Indigenous Voice to Parliament is a fair, practical and unifying moment that brings the nation together," Mr Garstone said.

"The KLC is urging the PM to listen to Australia, reconsider his stance and support a referendum on a Voice to Parliament. The time is now."

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