

MEDIA STATEMENT

Friday, 23 August, 2019

Statement from Kimberley Land Council Chairman Anthony Watson

Last week Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt delivered the 19th Vincent Lingiari speech.

In his oration, Mr Wyatt confirmed the position of the Coalition Government not to pursue a constitutionally enshrined Voice in a referendum put by the government to the people of Australia.

Mr Wyatt's apparent dismissal of a Voice in the Constitution was made during a lecture dedicated to honouring one of the bravest Aboriginal leaders of modern times.

It is disappointing that this same courage has not been shown by our government, and ultimately our Prime Minister, in regards to Constitutional reform.

The KLC and other Aboriginal leaders across the country will continue to talk with the Australian public about why we need a Voice in the Constitution.

Aboriginal people do not want symbolic Constitutional recognition. We want a mechanism that can drive true change for our people.

We will not give up.

Media contact: Monique Paschke - 08 9194 0106 0408 436 987 monique.paschke@klc.org.au

www.klc.org.au