



## MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

26<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### Referendum Roadshow Kicks off in Remote Kimberley

The Kimberley Referendum Roadshow is set to begin a 1,000 km journey across one of the most remote areas of Australia this week.

Led by the Kimberley Land Council (KLC) and Aarnja, the roadshow will visit four of the major towns along the Great Northern Highway to provide information and talk to communities about constitutional recognition and an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.

The roadshow will host an event in each town, with an information session, a panel of guest speakers including filmmaker and advocate Rachel Perkins, constitutional lawyer Shireen Morris, YES23 campaign lead Dean Parkin and local Aboriginal leaders.

KLC CEO Tyrone Garstone said the roadshow will aim to provide information and a space for discussion for the Kimberley community.

“Regional and remote communities have been largely unheard whilst the Voice debate has centred around the halls of Parliament house in Canberra.”

“The KLC has a decades-long history of advocating for a proper form of regional representation. The Voice presents a once in a lifetime opportunity for fundamental change.

“We are embarking on this roadshow to ensure Kimberley communities are informed about this opportunity and the powerful impact it could have on our region. We will provide a space for open discussion and to clarify any misinformation,” Mr Garstone said.

“The opinion of the people in our region matters. Aboriginal people make up nearly half of the Kimberley’s population, Australia will be listening.”

Mr Garstone said an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice is an important step in the right direction.

“The Voice will elevate and amplify our input across the issues that affect our people.”

“It will allow communities, like ours in the Kimberley, a direct line to the decision makers in Canberra, where for too long there has been a disconnect between the political battles and the realities on the ground.”

“There is a lot of work that needs to happen. We can all agree we need to be part of the solution and the Voice will allow that.”

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### **Referendum Roadshow Locations**

MONDAY 26 June | Kununurra Picture Gardens | 3pm - 6pm

TUESDAY 27 June | Halls Creek Undercover Basketball Courts | 3pm - 6pm

WEDNESDAY 28 June | Fitzroy Crossing Recreation Centre | 3pm - 6pm

THURSDAY 29 June | Derby Civic Centre | 3pm - 6pm

### **Guest Speakers**

Divina D'Anna – Member for Kimberley

Rachel Perkins, filmmaker and advocate

Dean Parkin, YES23

Shireen Morris, constitutional lawyer

Tyronne Garstone, Kimberley Land Council CEO

& local leaders in each town