



# **LAND TRIBUNAL**

## Annual Report

**FINANCIAL YEAR**

*2021/22*

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**ESTABLISHED UNDER THE ABORIGINAL LAND ACT 1991**





## LAND TRIBUNAL

Chambers of Acting Chairperson FY Kingham

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14 September 2022

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**The Honourable Shannon Fentiman MP**

Attorney-General and Minister for Justice

Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

1 William Street

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[attorney@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:attorney@ministerial.qld.gov.au)

Dear Attorney-General

**Re: Land Tribunal Annual Report 2021-2022**

As required by s 245(1) of the *Aboriginal Land Act 1991*, I present my report on the operations of the Land Tribunal.

Yours sincerely

Acting Chairperson FY Kingham



*a year's overview*

# CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

My appointment as Chairperson of the Land Tribunal on a part-time basis was extended from 11 February 2022 for a period of 12 months. This report covers the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.

**Background:** The Aboriginal Land Act 1991 established the Land Tribunal on 21 December 1991 to receive and hear claims made by groups of Aboriginal people to areas of claimable land. The Act contained a sunset clause, which provided no new claims could be lodged after 22 December 2006. A hearing is initiated by a claim under the Act being referred to the Tribunal. All claims referred to the Tribunal have been determined. The last claims determined were the Boodjumululla (Lawn Hill) National Park claims, which were determined by Chairperson McDonald on 24 August 2016.

The Land Tribunal's costs for this financial year in question were \$0.00.

**The future:** Some claims under the Act were lodged with the Department of Resources but have not been referred to the Tribunal.

The Department of Justice and Attorney-General and the Department of Resources are in consultation about the outstanding claims and the future process for accessing records of the Tribunal.

The Tribunal's files are a valuable record of First Nations Peoples history and culture as well as colonial and post-colonial land use.

The Statement of Commitment, which initiated the Pathway to Treaty, includes principles to reframe the relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the Queensland Government. These include respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, shared responsibility, and empowerment.

I have committed the Tribunal to work with the Qld State Archives to develop a culturally appropriate process for both recording and providing access to the evidence given in claims hearings by First Nations Peoples.

I wish to acknowledge the assistance of the Principal Registrar and staff of the Land Court in securing and organising the Tribunal's records in preparation for that project.



A/CHAIRPERSON FY KINGHAM