



LAND TRIBUNAL

Annual Report

FINANCIAL YEAR

2020/21

ESTABLISHED UNDER THE ABORIGINAL LAND ACT 1991



LAND TRIBUNAL

Chambers of Acting Chairperson FY Kingham

14 July 2021

Brisbane Magistrates Court
363 George Street Brisbane
GPO Box 5266 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
P +61 7 3738 7441
E EA.Landcourtpresident@courts.qld.gov.au

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

Brisbane Qld 4000

attorney@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Attorney-General

Re: Land Tribunal Annual Report 2020-2021

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

I was appointed Chairperson of the Land Tribunal on a part-time basis effective from 21 December 2019 to 20 December 2020. This appointment was extended from 11 February 2021 to 10 February 2022. This report covers the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

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. The Land Tribunal determined the last claims which had been referred for hearing, the Boodjumulla (Lawn Hill) National Park claims, on 24 August 2016.

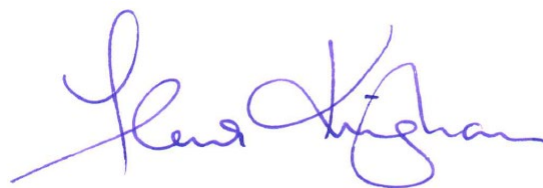
The Land Tribunal's costs for this financial year in question were \$0.00.

The future: The Land Tribunal has no active claims. I am aware there are some claims with the Department of Resources but they have not been referred to the Tribunal for hearing.

In the 2019 annual report, I noted the government was reviewing the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* and the *Torres Strait Island Cultural Heritage Act 2003*. If those Acts are to be amended, and if those amendments affect the jurisdiction and role of the Land Court, it may be convenient to bring forward any amendments regarding the Land Tribunal at that time.

I recommend, as I did in the last 2 years annual reports, that you consider options for:

- dealing with any outstanding claims not yet referred to the Land Tribunal;
- disestablishing the Land Tribunal;
- custody and control of its records; and
- a clear process for interested persons to apply to access them.



A/CHAIRPERSON FY KINGHAM