



Kimberley Land Council

July 19, 2018

Statement from KLC Acting Chief Executive Officer Tyrone Garstone re The Age enquiry

The Kimberley Land Council (KLC) is the Native Title Representative Body for the Kimberley region in Western Australia appointed under the Native Title Act 1993. The KLC is a member based organisation, with a board of directors elected every two years by a broad membership of Kimberley Aboriginal people.

Since first being recognised as a native title representative body, the KLC has secured native title for Traditional Owners across approximately 80 per cent of the Kimberley, more than 428,000 square kilometres, and we continue to have a strong track record of standing up for the rights of Kimberley Aboriginal people.

The KLC delivers services that support Kimberley Traditional Owners to bring their native title claims before the Federal Court of Australia for determination. We have consistently and over many years advocated for changes to the Native Title Act due to the legislation's inability to deliver on intended outcomes for Traditional Owners.

The KLC has been independently audited by the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations in accordance with the CATSI Act as recently as 2016. This is in addition to annual financial auditing, the outcomes of which are publicly available for any party who is interested in the operations and performance of the KLC.

Independent contractors and consultants are regularly engaged by the KLC to provide services that the organisation may not have the expertise or capacity to provide at any given point in time. This is standard practice among representative bodies around the country, as well as most other service providers.