

## Media Release **No. 607**

**3 December 2014**

### **TSRA MEDIA STATEMENT – CLARK STREET DEVELOPMENT THURSDAY ISLAND**

*The TSRA Chairperson, Mr Joseph Elu has provided the following statement on the Clark Street development matter.*

The TSRA rejects the accusations being made that it did not follow due and appropriate process in relation to the project and the signing of a Cultural Heritage Agreement (CHA) with Kaurareg traditional owners for the Clark Street development.

The accusations, which are being made by an individual, are false, unfounded and mischievous.

The TSRA met with members of the Kaurareg #3 Applicant and their legal representative, identified on advice as the correct group for the purposes of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (Qld)*.

The meetings occurred over two days and included a project update, site inspection and finalisation of a cultural heritage agreement for the project.

The blessing ceremony was requested by the Kaurareg and agreed to by the TSRA.

The Kaurareg and TSRA agreed to the terms of the cultural heritage agreement being confidential, and this is not unusual where private rights are being discussed.

All of the registered Kaurareg #3 Applicants were invited to participate in these activities but some of them, for unknown reasons, chose not to attend in person.

The TSRA were assured during the discussions that these persons were in contact with the Kaurareg's legal representative and agreed to the terms of the agreement.

While the choice of one individual to not attend in person was disappointing to the TSRA, given that the Kaurareg group had authorised them to deal with these matters along with the other authorised applicants, this is an internal matter for Kaurareg.

The TSRA has acted in good faith at all times in these important matters, and dealt with the correct native title party.

The TSRA does not participate in internal matters of traditional owner groups, and will not comment further publicly on this matter.

**ENDS**

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