



## PBC Survey 2019: Participant information

### What is the PBC Survey 2019?

PBCs are a vital part of the future of Australia and more information about this emerging sector is greatly needed. We are inviting your organisation to participate in a national survey of native title Prescribed Bodies Corporate (PBCs). We are asking PBCs around the country about the work they do, their plans and visions for the future, the challenges they face and what they need to achieve their goals.

### Who is running the survey?

A team of Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers from AIATSIS, the National Native Title Council (NNTC) and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) are running the survey. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has funded the survey.

This research project has been reviewed and approved by the AIATSIS Research Ethics Committee and the CSIRO Social Science and Human Research Ethics Committee.

### Why are we running this survey?

At National PBC Meetings held since 2007, PBCs have said they want more information about the PBC sector. This survey will help paint regional and national pictures of trends in the PBC sector, so that PBCs, Native Title Representative Bodies, Native Title Service Providers and governments will better understand what PBCs are doing, what their goals are and what kinds of support they need. This survey follows on from the PBC Capability Surveys that the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) conducted in 2013 and 2017. Running a survey every couple of years helps everyone see what is changing for PBCs over time. The current survey process will be completed in 2019.

### What's in the survey?

The research team has made a list of 20 questions. These questions will help us understand a bit about your PBC's story. The questions are about things like:

- Your PBC's directors
- What kinds of work your PBC does
- What kinds of work your PBC wants to do
- Who your PBC works with
- Your PBC's achievements and successes
- Challenges that your PBC faces
- What kinds of help and support your PBC wants or needs

All the questions in the survey are optional.

## **How do you do the survey?**

You can do the survey online or over the phone.

The research team will email your PBC a link to the online version of the survey; you can also go to [www.nativetitle.org.au/form/pbc-survey-2019](http://www.nativetitle.org.au/form/pbc-survey-2019) and follow the links.

If you want to fill it out by hand, you can download a PDF of the survey from that link to print out. Please scan and return hardcopy surveys to [pbcsurvey@aiatsis.gov.au](mailto:pbcsurvey@aiatsis.gov.au).

If you would like to do the survey over the phone, please get in contact with us (see the details below) and we can arrange a time to call you.

Members of the research team will also be attending PBC Regional Forums and other native title related events around the country, where you can ask us questions and do the survey in person.

## **Who should answer the survey questions?**

We want to hear the views of your organisation, not the opinions of individual employees or members. It is up to PBCs to decide who they think should represent them for the survey; this could be more than one person. You might want input from your board of directors or CEO, and it might be good for the board or senior managers to collectively respond to some of the questions in the survey.

## **What will the researchers do with the information they collect?**

Completed surveys will be kept in secure storage at AIATSIS and the NNTC. Digital copies of all the survey responses will be kept on secure, password-protected servers at AIATSIS and NNTC. We will provide participating PBCs with a copy of their answers.

Once the survey closes, the research team will collate all the information and write a report on what we found out. The report will be published on the AIATSIS, CSIRO and NNTC websites. The report will contain useful information about the sector and could be used by PBCs, native title groups and other organisations to argue for better policies and support for PBCs.

## **Will the research report identify individuals or organisations?**

We won't attach the names of any individuals or PBCs to any of the survey responses in the report; no one will be able to know what you or your PBCs said from the report. The report will contain a list of all the PBCs that participated in the survey.

## **How will confidential cultural or corporate information be protected?**

We won't ask you for any personally or culturally sensitive or restricted information as part of this survey. We will also not ask for any information that is confidential to your business activities, or which may interfere with any legal proceedings you are involved in.

If you think you have provided information that should not have been shared, please email [pbcsurvey@aiatsis.gov.au](mailto:pbcsurvey@aiatsis.gov.au) and we will remove it from our database.

## **Who will have access to the survey data?**

The data collected through this survey could be very useful for the native title sector, and we want other organisations and researchers to be able to use it in ways that could help PBCs.

A Data Governance Committee (DGC) at AIATSIS will review any applications to access or use the survey data. The DGC will include representatives from PBCs and experts in research ethics. Applications to access and use the data will need to show that the research will respect the rights and interests of PBCs and follows the principles of Indigenous data sovereignty.

### **What if you change your mind?**

Your organisation can ask the research team to withdraw your response to the PBC Survey at any time. This request will need to be made in writing to [pbcsurvey@aiatsis.gov.au](mailto:pbcsurvey@aiatsis.gov.au). Once the request has been received, the information you provided will be destroyed and removed from the project database. We won't be able to remove your information from any reports that have already been published or are about to be published, though.

### **Are there any risks in doing the survey?**

The research team has considered the potential ethical risks involved with this research. One risk could be the publication of confidential PBC information. To prevent this in the report we won't identify individuals or PBCs by what they said. You can also ask us to remove any information you think shouldn't be included.

We hope that what we find out from the survey will help governments to make better policies that will help PBCs, but we don't know exactly what we will find out and we can't control what anyone else does with the information in the report. We can't guarantee that the survey will lead to increases to funding and support for PBCs.

### **Where can I get more information?**

You can get more information by:

- Going to the PBC website [www.nativetitle.org.au/form/pbc-survey-2019](http://www.nativetitle.org.au/form/pbc-survey-2019)
- Contacting the research team on the details below

### **For general questions or to organise a time to do the survey on the phone:**

Tahn Donovan, NNTC <a href="mailto:tahn.donovan@nntc.com.au">tahn.donovan@nntc.com.au</a> (08) 9358 7404 0466 897 608	Trea Mongta, AIATSIS <a href="mailto:pbcsurvey@aiatsis.gov.au">pbcsurvey@aiatsis.gov.au</a> (02) 6246 1102
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### **Research questions:**

Luke Smyth, AIATSIS <a href="mailto:luke.smyth@aiatsis.gov.au">luke.smyth@aiatsis.gov.au</a> (02) 6246 1603 0407 617 454	Marcus Barber, CSIRO <a href="mailto:marcus.barber@csiro.au">marcus.barber@csiro.au</a> (07) 3833 5519 0407 867 445
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### **Ethics complaints:**

Cathy Pitkin, CSIRO <a href="mailto:csshrec@csiro.au">csshrec@csiro.au</a> (07) 3833 5693	Lisa Strelein, AIATSIS <a href="mailto:ethics@aiatsis.gov.au">ethics@aiatsis.gov.au</a> (02) 6246 1155
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