

**O** N 10 AND 11 DECEMBER 2014, Queensland South Native Title Services (QSNTS) together with Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC) co-convened a Nation Building Summit specifically designed for Registered Native Title Bodies Corporates (RNTBCs) on Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island).

The purpose of this Summit was for RNTBCs to gain ideas and knowledge from industry experts; share information, successes and experiences; learn about different methods and tools to expand on existing knowledge, and provide a networking opportunity for Traditional Owners to explore business or partnership opportunities.

Day one was designed to deliver information and empower the groups. The presenters' topics on the theme of nation building included, funding and partnership opportunities, compliance, decision making, governance, strategic planning, education and training.

After a long and informative day, QYAC volunteers took some time to coordinate a cultural tour of Minjerribah for the visiting traditional owners. The tour showcased how formal recognition of native title has the ability to not only strengthen and protect culture but provide economic development opportunities.

Day two was designed to be an interactive day. QSNTS representatives and industry experts facilitated the day and assisted groups to consider questions about the direction of their corporations, including how they are culturally distinct and diverse from other groups, what their native title rights and interests are, and how those rights and interests should be governed. These concepts were workshopped to discuss and formulate ideas on how corporations can leverage their native title to pursue nation building and economic development opportunities.

The Summit received positive feedback from traditional owners in attendance. There was particularly strong interest in the funding and partnership opportunities session, as well as discussions around compliance, education and training. At the culmination of the Summit, the RNTBC delegates took home ideas, frameworks and knowledge to assist in strengthening their own corporations into governing entities as part of their own First Nations.

QSNTS would like to thank the Quandamooka People not only for co-convening the first Nation Building Summit but also for the warm welcome to their country. We also thank the traditional owners who participated, whose enthusiasm, knowledge and experience was invaluable to the success of this Summit. We look forward to working with native title holders to shape future events.



(From top right to bottom) Quandamooka Dancers performing at the RNTBC Nation Building Summit  
Queensland South Native Title Services CEO, Mr Kevin Smith, introducing the Nation Building Summit  
University of Melbourne academic Dr Mark McMillan assisting with the workshop

# RNTBC NATION BUILDING SUMMIT

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