

26 October 2012

Attention: Mr Tony Barnden
Manager Community Development
Blacktown City Council

Dear Mr Barnden,

RECOGNITION OF DARUG PEOPLE

I refer to your correspondence of 17 October 2012 advising that "Pending this review Council officers will continue to acknowledge the traditional owners as part of its Acknowledgement of Land..."

It has been communicated to one of our Darug members by a councillor who was present at the Council Meeting conducted on the evening of 24 October 2012 that no acknowledgement was made to the Darug people, and no broader form of acknowledgement was paid to "the traditional owners."

We are informed that on this occasion when the Mayor was asked a question, as to why he omitted the acknowledgment, he responded and said "this is the new policy and no acknowledgments will be made at Council Meetings, just civic events."

The Mayor's stance on this issue is a disgrace to Blacktown City Council, it is culturally insensitive, blatantly disrespectful, and for lack of a better word – moronic!

This is a very serious issue and the Darug people are coming together in vast numbers and have the support of neighbouring Indigenous communities and non-indigenous citizens.

It has been suggested to other Darug members by Council representatives that the media has misconstrued what the current situation is. I say, stop shirking responsibility for the ignorance that has played out here and properly deal with this issue immediately and finally.

It is pathetic that our members are now writing to Government bodies outside of Council and media organisations, because the Council has not dealt with this dispute in a timely and appropriate manner.

I again attach the petition which has reached 193 signatures and is now being further promoted outside of the Darug community.

I ask that this correspondence be made available to the Mayor.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jayne Christian', written over the printed name.

Jayne Christian
B.A, LL.B
Burramattagal Clan

Darug Tribe to regain recognition as traditional owners of Blacktown

Sponsored by: J. Christian - Darug member

About the petition

The Blacktown City Council no longer acknowledges the Darug people as the traditional owners of the land upon which it sits.

A recent policy decision has suspended the recognition of the Darug people as the continuing traditional custodians of the land, this has been done without consultation with the Darug community.

This political indecency has outraged many members of the Darug community who are calling for the reversal of this controversial decision by Council.

Please sign, comment and share to raise awareness of this wrong-doing and make Council accountable for their actions by having them be made to reinstate policy which pays due respect to the Darug people as the continuing traditional custodians of the land they sit upon.

Signatures

1. Name: Jayne Christian on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:

2. Name: David Webb on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: I have already sent the mayor of blacktown an email, voicing my disapproval

3. Name: Stacey Locke on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: To the Blacktown Council, i am appauled to hear of your recent decision to suspend the recognition of th Darug people as the traditional custodians of the land. I and my quite large Darug family are insulted and disgusted by your actions. We (the Darug Nation) are quite far from being DEAD, and i am sure you will be hearing from many of us. Your council needs to spend a little money into research, than spending it on filling your back pockets. I can assure you that I for one am alive and kicking and a proud of my Darug heritage.

4. Name: Natasha Sams on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:

5. Name: Jason Sams on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:

6. Name: Kerrie Kenton on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:

7. Name: Emma Matthews on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:

8. Name: Jo Kamira on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:

9. Name: Angie McGaffin on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:

10. Name: Liz on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:

11. Name: Caroline Hughes on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: I am disgusted at the lack of respect. The council has taken a step back at least 60 years and needs to reevaluate this antiquated policy!

12. Name: Lisa Gibb on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:

13. Name: Julie Christian on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: I am deeply concerned that such a decision can be made without proper consultation to all Darug peoples. I am a very proud Darug woman and take offence to the Blacktown Council's decision to stop the recognition of the Darug peoples as the Traditional Owners of the Country that the Blacktown Council sits on.
I am very disappointed in the Council's action and wish to have this decision reversed immediately, also with an apology to be issued to all Darug people.
I am personally offended that people responsible for making such decisions are of the belief that Darug people are not alive and do not exist - when this is clearly not the case at all.

14. Name: Des Dyer on Oct 12, 2012

Comments:

-
15. Name: Elizabeth Locke on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: Our heritage is from Sydney, the DARUG ppl are the Traditional Owners from the coast to the Blue Mountains, from the Hawkesbury to Appin, Blacktown Council should recognise us as this. Our ppl have been here for 70,000 years at least.,
-
16. Name: Heidi Locke on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
17. Name: Donna Stevenson on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: This is so wrong!
-
18. Name: Gloria Macrone on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
19. Name: Sam Zernike on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: i oppose this ruling and fully support The Darug as the traditional landowners
-
20. Name: Mellissa Evans on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: As a member of the Darug, I feel this is an injustice of historic and cultural recognition. The Darug are rightful land owners and deserve to be recognised as such in effect to maintain identity and cultural ties to the land.
-
21. Name: Yolanda on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
22. Name: Todd on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
23. Name: Kay Nitez on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: Acknowledge the true owners of the land....and pay respect to the Darug people
-
24. Name: Karen on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
25. Name: Karen on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
26. Name: Carmel Speechley on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: I would like my children to be recognised, they are proud of who they are.
-
27. Name: Carmel Speechley on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
28. Name: Tamara Webb on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
29. Name: Nicole Veitch on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: My family are the darug people. How dare you take our land. We are the original land care takers and always should be
-
30. Name: Nicole Veitch on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: My family are the darug people. How dare you take our land. We are the original land care takers and always should be
-
31. Name: Joanne Ravot on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: What gives them the right to question the traditional people of this great land. Shame Shame Shame
-

32. Name: Leanne Miller (Dingle) on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
33. Name: Jarred Veitch on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: Stand together and fight
-
34. Name: Jarred Veitch on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: Stand together and fight
-
35. Name: Tamara Webb on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
36. Name: Donna Wray on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: This is a backward step, and a blight on the rights of the Darug people
-
37. Name: Jodi Pearce on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
38. Name: Jodi Pearce on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
39. Name: Deanne Matthews on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: Blacktown City Councils decision is astounding, shameful and disrespectful to all Darug people.
-
40. Name: Liz Peters on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
41. Name: Carmel Speechley on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
42. Name: Sean Booth on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
43. Name: Gae-Louise Marsh on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: Darug people have been part of our land for thousands of years and no council can change that even if they refuse to acknowledge it by trying to opt out and renege on their responsibilities to respect the traditional owners!!
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44. Name: David Briggs on Oct 12, 2012
Comments:
-
45. Name: Wiriya Sati on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: a disgraceful violation of land rights and typical but unacceptable lack of community consultation
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46. Name: Wiriya Sati on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: a disgraceful violation of land rights and typical but unacceptable lack of community consultation
-
47. Name: Wiriya Sati on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: a disgraceful violation of land rights and typical but unacceptable lack of community consultation
-
48. Name: Wendy Sentance on Oct 12, 2012
Comments: How can you just "suspend" recognition of something that IS? Wake up Blacktown City Council. I would like to know who made this decision and why it was made.
-
49. Name: Paul on Oct 13, 2012
Comments:
-

50. Name: Gayle Brady on Oct 13, 2012
Comments:
-
51. Name: Gayle Brady on Oct 13, 2012
Comments: how ludicrous,Blacktown is & will always be Darug Land,this new mayor needs to be ousted before there's a riot that will make the Muslim riot looklike a kids party.As a descendant of the Original Land Owners,I'm saddened,appalled & my blood is boiling,I was born on this land.Aboriginal Pride,Aboriginal Land
-
52. Name: Joanne Allan on Oct 13, 2012
Comments:
-
53. Name: Jason Triffitt on Oct 13, 2012
Comments:
-
54. Name: Joanne Doueihi on Oct 13, 2012
Comments:
-
55. Name: Kathy De Krey on Oct 13, 2012
Comments: Shame, shame, shame
-
56. Name: Sharlene Collins on Oct 13, 2012
Comments:
-
57. Name: Kathy Richards on Oct 13, 2012
Comments: Council take rates and fines etc etc now the land of the original people? Bugger off!
-
58. Name: Warren Upton on Oct 13, 2012
Comments:
-
59. Name: Melanie Upton on Oct 13, 2012
Comments:
-
60. Name: Michelle Laws on Oct 13, 2012
Comments:
-
61. Name: Rachel on Oct 13, 2012
Comments: Agree times 1000
-
62. Name: Corina Marino on Oct 13, 2012
Comments: It saddens me that I am filling out a petition to say I exist.
-
63. Name: Gaye Holland on Oct 13, 2012
Comments: Plead re instate the land to its original owner it is very important to us
-
64. Name: Josh Collins on Oct 13, 2012
Comments:
-
65. Name: Carolyn Taweel on Oct 13, 2012
Comments: Shame on you Blacktown City Council. Do not rewrite history by not acknowledging the Darug people as the traditional owners of the land. To refresh your memories of how the Darug people are the traditional land owners I have attached this link.
Thank you.
<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/lock-maria-13050>
-
66. Name: Kevin Watson on Oct 13, 2012
Comments:
-

67. Name: Anonymous on Oct 14, 2012
Comments:
-
68. Name: Leesa Smith on Oct 14, 2012
Comments:
-
69. Name: Linda Lewis on Oct 14, 2012
Comments: Even if the council do not recognise that there are no more Darug descendants living which I know there are. THIS HAS ALL WAYS BEEN DARUG LAND, IT HAS BEEN RECORDED IN THE HISTORY BOOKS, AND SHOULD BE ACKNOWLEDGE AS DARUG LAND.
-
70. Name: Kara McEwen on Oct 14, 2012
Comments:
-
71. Name: Michael Connolly on Oct 14, 2012
Comments: This is outrageous but typical of Government and Councils alike - we ARE the First Peoples whether they like it or not
-
72. Name: Dianne Brookes on Oct 14, 2012
Comments: Let us remember what has been lost. The traditional people have lost language, their lands that are a part of who they are, their connection to a beautiful place, now community is trying to take their name.
-
73. Name: Julie Abdalla on Oct 14, 2012
Comments: What an outrageous decision
-
74. Name: Kristy Kendrigan on Oct 14, 2012
Comments: a) That Council's current Policy on Indigenous Protocols being Policy No.P000-446.2 be suspended, pending a report to Council providing clarification and advice on the issue of traditional ownership of Blacktown, in order to develop an inclusive policy acknowledging all Indigenous stakeholders. -
The Aboriginal community were not consulted with regards to this, the land on which Blacktown is located has, is and always will be Darug land.
- (b) However, despite the suspension mentioned in paragraph (a) there still be an Acknowledgement of the traditional owners and a Welcome to Country at the commencement of Council's functions and events.
- If the council has suspended the fact that Blacktown is Darug land, then how can the council have a welcome to country, the only people who can do a welcome is the traditional custodians, which are the Darug people. NO OTHER person from another nation can do a welcome to country. Therefore the council after all these years makes me think they still don't know what they are doing.
- (c) That this matter be referred to Blacktown City Aboriginal Advisory Sub-Committee for consideration and preparation of suitable wording for Council's deliberation in conjunction with the above report.
The advisory committee has now disbanded due to the elections, and the committee will have to be re-elected. Are Darug people permitted to be a part of the committee if they are not recognised, as a now former member most of the committee are Darug people.
- I am not a Darug person, yet will pay my respects to them and the land I walk on. Very disappointed at Blacktown council for not doing homework on the matter before making such a silly decision.
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75. Name: Colin Locke on Oct 14, 2012
Comments: The land that is encompassed within the Blacktown City Council boundary 'always was and always will be Darug Land'.
Also the name was originally called, by the white settlers, 'The Blacks Town'.
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76. Name: George Bowie on Oct 14, 2012
Comments:
-
77. Name: Jennifer Flood on Oct 14, 2012
Comments: Darug people always were and always will be traditional custodians of this land. Their Ancestry transcends European records and cannot and will not be diminished
-
78. Name: Kathy Schreyenberg on Oct 14, 2012
Comments:
-

79. Name: Gene Riley on Oct 14, 2012
Comments: about time
-
80. Name: Josephine Galea on Oct 14, 2012
Comments:
-
81. Name: Anonymous on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
82. Name: Brendon Lewis on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
83. Name: Anonymous on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
84. Name: Aunty Edna Watson Darug Elder on Oct 15, 2012
Comments: ALWAYS WAS ALWAYS WILL BE A DARUG PERSON
-
85. Name: Jennifer Blackburn (Locke) on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
86. Name: Francine Eades on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
87. Name: Mark Cooper on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
88. Name: John Mcwilliam on Oct 15, 2012
Comments: this is outrageous, how can the council even consider something so drastic, without consultation is beyond me!!! - not happy Jan
-
89. Name: Kathy Gent on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
90. Name: Nikki Parsons-Gardiner on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
91. Name: Christine Nobilia on Oct 15, 2012
Comments: Blacktown Council have acted without consultation with any of the Darug people and this would appear to be a slanderous attempt to damage the reputation of the Darug Tribal Aboriginal Corporation.
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92. Name: Lauren Smith-Mitchell on Oct 15, 2012
Comments: How could Blacktown Council not recognize the Darug as the traditional owners of the land? This is our birth right and heritage and we will continue to fight to preserve it for future generations!.
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93. Name: Lauren Smith-Mitchell on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
94. Name: Lauren Smith-Mitchell on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
95. Name: Ken Smith-Mitchell on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
96. Name: Dane Smith-Mitchell on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
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97. Name: Julie Jones (Webb) on Oct 15, 2012
Comments: BCC's recent policy decision to suspended the recognition of the Darug people is due to claims from other sectors. Claims, not evidence. It has not been done in consultation with the wider Darug Community of which I am a part of and we seem to have been conveniently excluded from the "inclusion" model. Ive always walked proudly in the identity and cultural ways that has/have been handed down to me and will continue to do so and honour my Darug ancestry and ancestors irrespective of what outsiders to my country say or opine about, because that is what I was taught to do. I would like to ask what I'm sure many are thinking..if this isn't Darug Land anymore, whose Tribal land is it? If the Darug Nation of people don't exist anymore, who do you deem me to be? Awaiting an answer.....
-
98. Name: Leanne Tobin on Oct 15, 2012
Comments: Many steps backwards after a hard-earned few forward! :(
-
99. Name: Garry Ansell-Taylor on Oct 15, 2012
Comments: Warami, this is an outrage that Blacktown Council would no longer acknowledge the traditional owners! Why? Vested interests? Disgusting! I am glad to sign this petition. Didjuirigora David for your partition bobbin. Yanu
-
100. Name: Wendy Bryan-Clothier on Oct 15, 2012
Comments: I acknowledge the Darug people as the traditional owners of this land and I acknowledge the elders past and present.
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101. Name: Chris Walker on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
102. Name: Patricia Wallace on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
103. Name: Jacqueline Wallace on Oct 15, 2012
Comments: disgusting Blacktown City Council show some honor and dignity towards the Indigenous people of this Country.
-
104. Name: Dean Burton on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
105. Name: Marina Russell on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
106. Name: Jason Ciolac on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
107. Name: Garry Starkey on Oct 15, 2012
Comments: Please reverse this controversial decision by Blacktown Council and acknowledge the Darug people as the traditional owners of the land.
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108. Name: Glenda Glover on Oct 15, 2012
Comments: This decision is disgusting, If the Darug people didn't own this land who did?
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109. Name: Deborah Drinkell on Oct 15, 2012
Comments: I am a Darug descendant and I object STRONGLY to this recent policy decision.
-
110. Name: Linda Oliver on Oct 15, 2012
Comments: I find this decision by Blacktown Council disrespectful and illconsidered and request further consideration guided by a Darug elder.
-
111. Name: Reeghan Finlay on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-
112. Name: Ken Webb on Oct 15, 2012
Comments:
-

113.	Name: Wayne Smailes on Oct 15, 2012 Comments:
114.	Name: Amy Matthews on Oct 15, 2012 Comments: This decision is insulting to every Darug family member both living and deceased. I ask that Blacktown City Council respectfully acknowledge the proud Darug people as Traditional land owners upon which it's council area sits. Each day this goes on, continues to cause hurt and disrespect to all Darug people.
115.	Name: Brian Cooper on Oct 15, 2012 Comments:
116.	Name: Lorraine Cooper on Oct 15, 2012 Comments: A very bad decision from Blacktown City Council and one further away from reconciliation.
117.	Name: Melissa Webb on Oct 15, 2012 Comments: this is to important to dismiss.
118.	Name: Lewis John Orcher on Oct 15, 2012 Comments: Blacktown City Council has to learn that in any part of indigenous people life, land and culture it is essential to negotiate with original owners as part of civilised manners and respect to do otherwise is to effectively disenfranchise , disrespect and in order to have any meaningful dialogue to head towards a meaningful understanding and respect for one another will not ever be achieved. and really it is not hard if the will is there and the council want to achieve an understanding negotiate to be relevant. if you wish to not negotiate you will be irrelevant and how sad would that be for the future of all concerned become relevant and give the youngsters a chance, Good luck.
119.	Name: Tabitha Hanson on Oct 15, 2012 Comments:
120.	Name: Tabitha Hanson on Oct 15, 2012 Comments:
121.	Name: Patricia Heal on Oct 16, 2012 Comments: This action is disgraceful. Why does Blacktown Council want to change history. This darug land and always will be.
122.	Name: Kellie Ellis on Oct 16, 2012 Comments:
123.	Name: Patricia Lockett on Oct 16, 2012 Comments:
124.	Name: Julie Todd Balaam on Oct 16, 2012 Comments: Blacktown Council should be discused with inn them selves.the land has always belonged to The Darug people.
125.	Name: Anonymous on Oct 16, 2012 Comments: blacktown council should be ashamed
126.	Name: Robyn Dwight on Oct 16, 2012 Comments: It should go back to you before China buys it.
127.	Name: Pamela Taylor on Oct 16, 2012 Comments: I am proud of who I am and where I came from, let's all stand tall together!!
128.	Name: Aunty Chris Burke on Oct 16, 2012 Comments: Darug are the true custodians of the land known as the Sydney Basin. This must be acknowledged and respected.

129. Name: Emma Knight on Oct 16, 2012
Comments: It's just disrespectful!!!
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130. Name: Bassam Imam on Oct 16, 2012
Comments: No one can take away the GOD-given rights of the Darug peoples. They have a GOD-given right to live on their ancestral lands, freely and happily, and without being persecuted or otherwise abused. They are full-fledged human beings like the rest of us; this is one of the main reasons why we must help them fight for their rights.
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131. Name: Sharon Macleod on Oct 16, 2012
Comments: respect to the Darug people as the continuing traditional custodians of the land they sit upon.
-
132. Name: Robert Webb on Oct 16, 2012
Comments:
-
133. Name: Elise Jones (Webb) on Oct 16, 2012
Comments: Not understanding the issue that both blacktown council and the 'land council' have
-
134. Name: Louise on Oct 16, 2012
Comments:
-
135. Name: Daniel Martin on Oct 16, 2012
Comments:
-
136. Name: Dave Robb on Oct 16, 2012
Comments:
-
137. Name: Lyndall Joel on Oct 16, 2012
Comments:
-
138. Name: Cathy Korn on Oct 16, 2012
Comments: All forms of government in Australia should recognise the traditional land owners
-
139. Name: Cathy Korn on Oct 16, 2012
Comments: All forms of government in Australia should recognise the traditional land owners
-
140. Name: Lorraine Jeffery on Oct 16, 2012
Comments:
-
141. Name: Jennell Burrows on Oct 16, 2012
Comments:
-
142. Name: Sharon Fowler on Oct 16, 2012
Comments:
-
143. Name: Thomas Blackburn on Oct 16, 2012
Comments:
-
144. Name: Jackie Lee on Oct 16, 2012
Comments:
-
145. Name: Molly on Oct 16, 2012
Comments:
-
146. Name: Molly on Oct 16, 2012
Comments:
-

147. Name: Barbie Bates on Oct 17, 2012
Comments: Having lived and worked in the Blacktown LGA for over 20 years and as a rate payer I am incredibly disappointed with this recent decision. Please revert immediately to your previous policy. Otherwise this great Darug nation will have been doubly dispossessed.
-
148. Name: Sandra Hickey on Oct 17, 2012
Comments: Where did Blacktown council get their info from?
-
149. Name: Peter Matthews on Oct 17, 2012
Comments: This decision needs to be overturned immediately and an apology delivered to all Darug people!
-
150. Name: Malcolm Joseph Smith on Oct 17, 2012
Comments: how dare that blacktown council doesn't recognise darug clan ownership My great grandfather and mother would turn in their graves I'm a 5th generation, I remember when we lived in tents near woodstock rd and richmond rd and near by areas we had veggie patch and sell them on side of road
-
151. Name: Chris Howland on Oct 18, 2012
Comments:
-
152. Name: Debbie Constable on Oct 18, 2012
Comments:
-
153. Name: Simon Charles Dorante-Day on Oct 18, 2012
Comments: I believe this is an appalling and uneducated decision by Blacktown City Council that does nothing but cause further infighting and division. Moreover, that the manner in which this announcement was made by the council demonstrates a complete lack of cultural appropriateness, understanding or compassion.
- The Darug nation since the beginning of the Invasion of this country have borne the brunt of the violence, disease, and land theft and have been left a decimated nation. It is a tribute to their resilience that they have survived to this day and this action by the council further perpetuates the wrongs that have been done.
- We acknowledge and respect the Darug nation and will continue to do so and send them our heart felt sympathies for this disrespectful decision and support them fully in their fight to be acknowledged as the rightful custodians of the region.
- History has done a disservice to the Darug nation and the continued greed of the councils that rape their lands and get rich off the profits while never returning or equally recognising those who for generations cared for the region needs to be exposed.
- Many people from many nations are now fortunate enough to call Darug land home and they should acknowledge and be grateful for the opportunity they have by at least paying respect to those who have given up so much for the benefit of others...
- Shame on Blacktown City Council....
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154. Name: Gregory John O'Flaherty on Oct 18, 2012
Comments:
-
155. Name: Maddison Miller on Oct 18, 2012
Comments:
-
156. Name: Elvianna Dorante-Day on Oct 18, 2012
Comments: An unjustifiable move by the Blacktown City Council. Shame on you for not allowing the Darug people to be involved in the consultation process. The Blacktown City council must be blinded to the truth that the Darug people are the traditional owners, and to this day these people try to maintain their culture its practices and maintenance of their traditional language. I am asking the Blacktown City Council to reinstate the policy which pays due respect to the Darug people as the continuing traditional custodians of the land they sit upon. In conjunction with a financial plan as to how the Darug people will be compensated for the use of their land by the council and the mining companies.
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157. Name: Cherie on Oct 18, 2012
Comments:
-
158. Name: Karen S on Oct 18, 2012
Comments: Need more Aboriginals on the council panel.

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159. Name: Don Mulholland on Oct 18, 2012
Comments: some one going to get sick.
-
160. Name: Don Mulholland on Oct 18, 2012
Comments: some one going to get sick.
-
161. Name: Karen Small on Oct 18, 2012
Comments:
-
162. Name: Kisha Marie Dorante-Day on Oct 18, 2012
Comments: I am outraged by the actions of the Blacktown City Council in regards to the recognition of the Darug community. They have no right to ignore or disprove that the Darug people are the traditional owners. If other City Councils within the Darug Country can recognise the Darug people Blacktown City Council has no excuse nor does the legal bodies or the government.
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163. Name: Joanne Mara on Oct 18, 2012
Comments:
-
164. Name: Lachlan Dorante-Day on Oct 19, 2012
Comments:
-
165. Name: Joanne Robinson on Oct 19, 2012
Comments:
-
166. Name: Vickie Purvis on Oct 19, 2012
Comments: I am a member of the Darug Tribal Organisation and find this decision appalling and an insult to the Darug Community
-
167. Name: Chief Ikeraam Korana Kellerman on Oct 19, 2012
Comments: i support and agree to this petition as we the aboriginal tribes known as Khoi-San face similar things in South Africa.
-
168. Name: Micheal Graham on Oct 20, 2012
Comments: IF it is the case that certain Elders are not actually of Darug decent then they should not be able to continue being Elders. But that does NOT mean Darugs are not the traditional owners of the land. Myself & my family are very proud to be of Darug decent & we know that our ancestors where from Blacktown/Prospect area.
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169. Name: Rozlyn Byrnes on Oct 20, 2012
Comments:
-
170. Name: Patrick Graham on Oct 20, 2012
Comments:
-
171. Name: Daria Di Mascio on Oct 20, 2012
Comments:
-
172. Name: Kylie Wilson on Oct 21, 2012
Comments: Regardless of the many Aboriginal people living in the Blacktown LGA, it remains Darug country. Always was, always will be. Blacktown Council should consider the views / opinions of all Aboriginal people living in the LGA, however this does not replace consultation with the Darug people first and foremost.
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173. Name: Joanna Kozanecka on Oct 21, 2012
Comments:
-
174. Name: John Kinsela on Oct 21, 2012
Comments: Who do they acknowledge when doing welcome to Country
-
175. Name: Roland Graham on Oct 21, 2012

Comments: I am a member of DTAC and I am dissappointed with the decision Blacktown Council has made ins regards to our Heritage. Shame, shame

176. Name: Shirley Graham on Oct 21, 2012
Comments: My family are descendants of the Darug people and I am dissappointed with the decision Blacktown Council has made in regards to their Heritage. Shame, shame
-
177. Name: Kerri-Anne Smith on Oct 22, 2012
Comments: I acknowledge the Traditional Owners, Custodians and Elders of the Darug Nation,past and present, on whose traditional land I live and work. I happen to work with direct descendants of the Darug people so how can they NOT exist? Shame on Blacktown Council-fix your mistake!!!!
My children and their father are Darug, & are proud of it!
-
178. Name: Amy Michelle Smith on Oct 22, 2012
Comments: I'm horrified that this has happened without the Darug community being consulted first or being given the oppertunty to defend their Traditional Ownership status... do we now live in a country where a people are guilty untill proven innocent???
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179. Name: Sharyn Lilley on Oct 22, 2012
Comments: Given there has never been a treaty signed between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians; given the whole sorry histroy of white occupation of this country; this act by your council is one worthy of rank contempt.by all Australians hoping for an Australia that acknowledges it's history, as it moves to the future, rather than one that continually seeks to hide from it's past.
-
180. Name: Janice Millett on Oct 22, 2012
Comments:
-
181. Name: Amanda Midlam on Oct 22, 2012
Comments: Pay respect to Darug people
-
182. Name: Liz Awili on Oct 22, 2012
Comments:
-
183. Name: Susan Chalcroft on Oct 23, 2012
Comments: After all the suffering Aboriginals have been through Blacktown City Council cannot even recognise the Darug as traditional owners. You are a total disgrace and should be thoroughly ashamed. It's time Aboriginals were not only recognised but the whole country must be handed back as well. Unless this is done we will remain an illegal squat forever.
-
184. Name: Andrew Stone on Oct 23, 2012
Comments: I work with a Darug man. He is very proud of his people and heritage. I feel that all organisations situated on Darug country should acknowledge the Darug people's traditional ownership of the land.
-
185. Name: Narelle Tait on Oct 24, 2012
Comments: Our ancestors Gombeerie and Yarramundi met with Governor Authur Phillip in 1791. This was documented by Watkin Tench. Our heritage is proven. We are alive and we are disgusted by the actions of Blacktown Council. Darug people are proud of their heritage and we are united in our condemnation of the suspension of the recognition of Darug people. We call for the immediate reversal of this decision!!
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186. Name: Ashley Goode on Oct 24, 2012
Comments:
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187. Name: Julie Goode on Oct 24, 2012
Comments: This is yet another example of the atrocities carried out on our first peoples. It was not enough to seperate families, to move them to what was known as "the Black's Camp" to now no longer acknowledge them as the traditional owners of the land. Shame on you Blacktown City Council - you are "un-Australian";
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188. Name: Simon Goode on Oct 24, 2012
Comments: For many years Aboriginal people have fought to gain recognition that they are the traditional custodians of the land and to have the Blacktown council take this position show just how much further we have to go. Shame on you, the representatives of a otherwise caring community.

189. Name: Pamela Anderson on Oct 24, 2012
Comments: It is a matter of respect and the Darug people have the right to be recognised!!!

190. Name: Erin Goode on Oct 24, 2012
Comments:

191. Name: Graeme Goode on Oct 25, 2012
Comments:

192. Name: Jessica Ryder on Oct 25, 2012
Comments:

193. Name: Anonymous on Oct 26, 2012
Comments: This Decision should have been made with the people. The council have have acted in a disgraceful manner. If they feel it is appropriate to make a decision like that without consulting the people make me wonder how fit they are to run the area.
