



## **COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL**



### **SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT ORDINARY MEETING**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
COFF AND CASTLE STREETS, COFFS HARBOUR**

**28 JULY 2011**

#### **Contents**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
	<b>MAYORAL MINUTE</b>	
MM11/5	ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY	1



**COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT**  
**ORDINARY MEETING**  
**28 JULY 2011**

Mayor and Councillors

**MAYORAL MINUTE**

**MM11/5 ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY**

**Purpose:**

The Yandaarra Aboriginal Consultative Committee has requested Council include an Acknowledgment of Country at the start of Council meetings. An Acknowledgment of Country is a way of showing awareness of and respect for the traditional Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander custodians of the land on which a meeting or event is being held, and of recognising the continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to their Country.

Many Councils, Government organisations and community groups are adopting the practice of acknowledging the traditional custodians at events, ceremonies, meetings and functions. Acknowledgment of Country can be performed by both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

As Councillors are aware, Council's current practice at civic and ceremonial events is to include an Acknowledgment of Country as part of the introduction to the particular event.

Council's Code of Meeting Practice outlines the Order of Business for council meetings. To amend the Code of Meeting Practice, Council must prepare a new draft code, place it on public exhibition, invite submissions and consider any submissions before adopting the draft code.

Until Council's Code of Meeting Practice is amended to formally record an Acknowledgment of Country, I will commence Council meetings with acknowledgment of the traditional custodians.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council, as part of a review of its Code of Meeting Practice in the near future, formally includes an Acknowledgment of Country in the Order of Business.**

**Keith Rhoades AFSM**  
**Mayor**