



Email Notice Board of the Social Action Office

27 May 2008 - Number 170

Close the Gap in Queensland ...
*The great divide, the fundamental underspend
on Indigenous health*
-- Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council

Welcome to **SAO BYTES 170**

Included in this Notice Board are:

- [Northern Territory Intervention - Call for Action](#)
- [Brisbane Meeting on the Intervention tomorrow](#)
- [Reconciliation Event, Multi-Faith Centre - 29 May](#)
- [The Dreaming Festival Woodford: 6-9 June](#)
- [International Church Action for Peace in Israel and Palestine: 4-10 June](#)
- [Wellbeing and Right Relationships - An Earth Link Initiative](#)
- [Action for Climate Change](#)

Northern Territory Intervention – Call for Action

Join in the **National Day of Action on 21 June** to urge the government to:

- Repeal all "NT Intervention" legislation
- Restore the Racial Discrimination Act
- Fund infrastructure and community controlled services
- Sign and implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.



21 June marks one year since the Howard Government announced the **NT Intervention**. The universal quarantining of welfare payments, the closure of many Community Employment Development Projects (CDEP) and the compulsory acquisition of Aboriginal property has forced thousands of people from their communities into urban centres. Aboriginal people are experiencing shame and humiliation as they participate in segregated service delivery in Centrelink, in supermarkets and in schools.

In July the government will begin **a review of the Intervention**. A massive injection of funds and resources into communities is badly needed, but cannot come at the expense of basic human rights. Only an approach which **respects self-determination** will lead to improvements in community life.

Please print off the [attached petition](#) and **circulate it** in your workplaces, organisations and communities. The aim is to have thousands of signatures from all around the country. Return petitions to: Aboriginal Rights Coalition Sydney, PO Box 433, Newtown NSW 2042 by 14/06/2008.

[Top..](#)

Brisbane Meeting on the Intervention tomorrow

The **Aboriginal Rights Coalition** will hold a meeting to hear about the **impact of Government interventions** in the Northern Territory and Cape York. It will be held on **Wednesday 28 May** at 7.00pm on Level 2 of the TLC Building, 16 Peel Street, South Brisbane. Speakers will include prominent activists, **Vince Forrester from Mutitjulu** and **Gracelyn Smallwood from Queensland**.



[Top..](#)

Reconciliation Event, Multi-Faith Centre – 29 May

On **Thursday 29 May** 2.30-4.30pm The Multi-Faith Centre at Griffith University (Brisbane) presents **Indigenous Spirituality, Core Beliefs and Practices and Role in the Contemporary World**. The speaker is **Barry Malezer**, Coordinator, ATSI Cultural Studies Centre, Inala. Registration is free. The **Reconciliation Day celebration** will follow immediately after the lecture from 4.30 to 5.30pm. For more information contact Virginia Cawagas on (07) 3735 7051 or v.cawagas@griffith.edu.au.



[Top..](#)

The Dreaming Festival Woodford: 6-9 June

The Dreaming is a vibrant, exciting and a valuable destination where local, national and international audiences look forward to their annual ceremony time along with the most comprehensive showcase of **Indigenous artists** from across the country and around the world.



This **three day and four night festival** will have performing arts venues, bars, ceremony grounds, traditional healing, galleries, rituals, campfire story circles and a mass of stalls, workshop avenue and food outlets. The program will also feature film & literature components, performing arts, new media and digital technologies, food & wine fare, comedy, ceremony, exhibitions, performance artists, physical theatre, visual arts, craft workshops, music program, street performers, musicals and a youth program. [Click here](#) for more information and online ticketing.

[Top..](#)

International Church Action for Peace in Israel and Palestine: 4-10 June

The Heads of Churches in Jerusalem are urging Churches around the world to **pray for peace in Palestine and Israel** on **Sunday 8 June**. [Click here](#) to download the specially prepared prayer (PDF file).



[Top..](#)

Wellbeing and Right Relationships – An Earth Link Initiative

Come to this workshop if you want to **live well with self, others and the environment**: **Saturday 14 June**, 10.00am-3.30pm at Mercy Place, 271 Simpson's Road, Bardonia. [Download the flyer](#) containing more information and a map. RSVP by 9 June to Earthlink on (07) 3425 3138 or earthlink@mercy.org.au.



[Top..](#)

Action for Climate Change

2020 target for greenhouse gas emissions

Please support the [Australian Conservation Foundation campaign](#) for strong 2020 targets.



[Top..](#)

That's it for this **SAO Bytes!**

Please post your news on this Notice Board.
Just email details to ktynan@sao.clriq.org.au.

Stay tuned for the next **SAO Bytes** on **10 June**.

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Social Action Office - CLRIQ
PO Box 8304, Woolloongabba Q 4102
Ph (07) 3891 5866
Fax (07) 3891 5868

Contact for Bob Chambers cfc:
rbchambers@edmundrice.org

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Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes, Queensland

[TOP](#)