

## WHAT IS THE JOB OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY TREATY COMMISSIONER?

My name is Mick Dodson and I have been chosen as the NT Treaty Commissioner.

Two main things you should know about my job are:

- a. My job is not a part of the Northern Territory Government.
- b. To do this job, I must follow the rules in the 'Terms of Reference'.

## WHAT IS MY JOB?

I must tell the Northern Territory Government things like this:

- How many people want a Treaty?
- What would be good if a Treaty was made?
- What would be bad if a Treaty was made?
- What else might happen if a Treaty was made?
- Should there be one Treaty or lots of Treaties?
- What is the best way to build a model for a Treaty with Aboriginal people?
- How should we negotiate a Treaty or Treaties?
- What sorts of things would Aboriginal people want in a Treaty in the Northern Territory?

It is important that you understand that it is NOT my job to negotiate a Treaty or Treaties. That will happen after my job is finished. My job is to listen to Aboriginal people and tell the Northern Territory Government what Aboriginal people are saying about a Treaty.

## WHAT I WILL DO NOW

I will be talking and listening with First Nations and Aboriginal people and organisations or workplaces that talk for Aboriginal people in the NT.

I will do this job in two stages:

### Stage 1

Stage 1 will take about a year. When that has finished I will write a small report that I will give to the Chief Minister.

I will also write a short story about my work so everyone can see what I have been doing.



This small report and the short story should be ready by March 2020.

During this time, I will mainly be talking and listening to organisations or workplaces that talk for Aboriginal people.

I will also be doing research to learn more about Treaties.

## Stage 2

Stage 2 is when I will be listening very hard to Aboriginal people to understand if everyone agrees on what was written in the short story.

I will listen to what Aboriginal people say should be put in or taken out.

There will always be lots of time for you to tell me about what you think. I will always listen to what you say.

I will also talk to Non Aboriginal people about what they think of a Treaty.

## FINAL REPORT

I will give the last report to the Chief Minister after I have finished listening to Aboriginal people.

I will write down all the recommendations in the last report.

I will also write about what Aboriginal people have told me is the best way to do a Treaty with the Northern Territory Government.

The Northern Territory Government will put this story on their web site so that everyone can read it. They will also read this story and think about what Aboriginal people have said.

The Northern Territory Government will take some time to think about how to do a Treaty with Aboriginal people.

My work will be finished in 2 to 3 years' time.

## COMMISSIONER MICK DODSON AM

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Look at the Web site: [treatynt.com.au](http://treatynt.com.au)  
Send an Email to: [admin@treatynt.com.au](mailto:admin@treatynt.com.au)  
Or call this number: 08 8999 54