

GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIPS ACQUITTAL GUIDELINES

(Cash funding over \$5000)

PLEASE NOTE THAT ORGANISATIONS WHO FAIL TO SUBMIT A GRANT ACQUITTAL WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR FUTURE FUNDING UNDER ANY CITY OF SYDNEY GRANTS PROGRAMS.

Organisations funded under the Grants and Sponsorships Programs are required to provide the City of Sydney with a Grant Acquittal at the completion of the project for which funds were provided.

Your acquittal should be sent to the City of Sydney by the due date in your Grant Agreement or, where no date is specified, within three months of the completion of your project. Send your acquittal to:

Cultural Development Manager
City of Sydney
GPO Box 1591
Sydney NSW 2001

Your acquittal must include the following information, and must be typed:

Name of Project: Australian South Sea Islanders Seed funding to establish organisation

Date of Project: (include year) January – December 2011

Name of Organisation: Australian South Sea Islanders Port Jackson

1. Narrative Report of your Project *(you may refer to an attachment)*

PLEASE REFER TO APPENDIX 1

- (a) What were the objectives of your Project and to what extent did it meet these objectives?
- (b) What were the benefits of the project to the City of Sydney and the City community?
- (c) What was your target audience and how well did you reach this audience?
- (d) How many people used your service/attended your activity/accessed your information?
- (e) What were the outcomes, positive and/or negative, of your project?
- (f) How will your project affect your future planning or activities?

2. Promotional Material

Please attach copies of any relevant visual images, reports and promotional materials which publicise or report on your project, or which acknowledge the support of the City of Sydney.

Please list here a summary of additional material provided. Eg. 12 images, 1 poster, 1 flyer, 3 published reviews.

12 Images (appendix 4)

Vanuatu Government, Scenic rim Regional Council and Southern Cross University
Support letters (appendix 5)

National Indigenous Times article (appendix 6)

3. Results of your Performance Indicators

Please include here the Aims, Objectives and Outcomes as listed in your Grant Agreement. In addition, please provide details of Results against these indicators including reasons for variances, where applicable. *(please do not refer to an attachment)*

You are also welcome to include any additional information which you feel is relevant.

If research was undertaken, please also attach this information.

Aims	Objectives	Outcomes (forecasted end result)	Results (details of actual results of your project)
<i>Communicate with Sydney based South Sea Islander community</i>	<i>100 members</i>	<i>220 members</i>	<i>Participation of Sydney members in national conference</i>
<i>Legally incorporate organisation</i>	<i>Attract further funding through incorporation</i>	<i>Australian South Sea Islanders (Port Jacksons) Limited registered with ASIC</i>	<i>Registered 2011</i>
<i>Securing partnerships</i>	<i>Assistance with setting up a office space for administration</i>	<i>Partnership with Zakumi consulting services</i>	<i>Likely to occur 2012</i>
<i>National conference</i>	<i>Community consultation with representative survey of the South Sea Islander community in Australia</i>	<i>Clear guidelines and feedback from community members about what services our organisation could assist them with</i>	<i>Conference set to take place 22012 in Bundaburg.</i>



A New Page in the History of Slavery in Australia

Story and images supplied by Emelda Davis

The Australian South Sea Islander (ASSI) community made history this week, unanimously declaring that a dedicated national body was necessary to give a new push to Australian South Sea Islander affairs.

The ASSI community brought together one of the biggest and most representative meeting of ASSI people ever, as they hosted a Vanuatu delegation that included a State Minister, parliamentarians and chiefs from Vanuatu and representatives from organisations (and individuals) working to reconnect the families whose descendants were brought to Australia as part of the Blackbirding trade. Delegates from all over the Australian Eastern Seaboard including Cairns, Townsville, Bundaberg, Mackay, Bowen, Hervey Bay, Sunshine Coast, Caboolture, Brisbane, Ipswich, Beenleigh, Gold Coast, Tweed Heads, and Sydney represented the ASSI community.

In an emotional and inspirational gathering, all parties presented a statement of intent towards the establishment of a national body to represent the interests of the disparate ASSI communities. The meeting resolved to hold a national ASSI congress in Bundaberg in Easter (6-9 April) 2012 to elect the executive of a new national representative body, with representatives from the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu to be invited.

The Monday meeting formed a part of a broader program of engagement between Vanuatu and Australian individuals and organisations, which also included:

- The chiefly ordination (in accordance with the customs of the Shepherds Islands) of Chief Colin Tarere, a Brisbane-based ASSI and community leader,

- A meeting of representatives from the Queensland Music Festival, the Vanuatu Government, Wantok Musik Foundation, Southern Cross University, Fest'Napuan Association, the Brisbane Multicultural Arts Centre and the Vanuatu Historical Council of Chiefs, where an agreement was reached to build a collaborative research project and musical production which could support

and facilitate more sustainable relations and community development in both countries, especially around the issues of recognition and reconciliation;

- Visits to sites in southeast Queensland which hold historical significance for ASSI people. Even though the largest of the ASSI communities in Australia is in the Mackay, Rockhampton and Bowen areas, the Blackbirding "first fleet" landed in south-east Queensland and the first indentured labourers were set to work on Beaudesert's cotton plantations;

- Presentations of the Vanuatu coat of arms by the Vanuatu delegation to the Government of Queensland, on behalf of the Australian Government, and to the elders of the ASSI community in Australia.

Members of the Vanuatu delegation included the Hon. Ralph Regenvanu, Minister for Justice and Community Services, MP's David Abel and Paul Telukluk, and Chiefs from the Vanuatu Historical Council of Chiefs. Also in the delegation were several individuals who have been working on an ad-hoc basis to connect members of the Vanuatu and ASSI families who were seeking restoration of the familial ties.

The Hon. Ralph Regenvanu, Minister for Justice and Community Services in the Vanuatu Government, expressed his and the Vanuatu Government's concern that, while many different relationships are now being forged between communities in Vanuatu and ni-Vanuatu descendants in Australia, there was no national representative body in Australia that could claim to speak on behalf of ni-Vanuatu descendants as a whole. Minister Regenvanu was invited to Chair the meeting, and in a rousing official opening, he said, "We need a nationally representative body that can talk with both the Vanuatu and Australian Governments to help build more sustainable relations that facilitate the needs for community development in both countries, including issues of recognition and reconciliation. You have all come here to work together. You have all come here for the same reason. Now is the time!"



Above: Shireen Malamoo, Adviser on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs to the City of Sydney Council and Tongoa descendant, with (l-r), Chief Vincent Boulekone, Hendon Kalsakau, MP Paul Telukluk and Marcellino Telukluk. Image supplied

Members of the Sydney-based "Australian South Sea Islanders (Port Jackson)" also expressed their views that a dedicated national body was necessary to give a new push to Australian South Sea Islander affairs. Ms Emelda Davis (Tanna descendant), said, "2012 is the 20th anniversary of the 1992 Call for Recognition and we need to revitalize ourselves on this momentous occasion. Our board has been working diligently and consistently refining our strategies with the support and lobbying of State and Federal Parliamentarians who have all embraced and endorsed our cause, including the securing of some seed funding from the City of Sydney towards development of our draft Strategy in 2010".

Shireen Malamoo (Aboriginal Kanak descendant from Tongoa), said, "This is about

identity and recognition of our forefathers. We are now in the 21st Century and the footprints are still here. So many don't know of the Blackbirding era or that the primary industries, in particular the sugar industries, were built on the backs of Kanaka slave labour. The white Australia policy was bought in by the Labour Party of the day in the early 1890's sending back 7,000 odd. Historians have referred to it as a form of ethnic cleansing. Many were dumped up on the Torres Strait Islands in particular St Pauls and have been referred to as the 'forgotten people'. This period in Australian History has been buried".

ASSI member Lola Forester said, "Our kids need to know what it is to be a South Sea Islander, there is so much confusion out there as they know they are but not what it means".

GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF VANUATU
Ministry of Justice &
Community Services -
Private Mail Bag 9084
Port Vila, Vanuatu
Tel: (678) 24845
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GOVERNMENT DE LA
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Ministère de la Justice et du
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OFIS BLONG MINISTA / OFFICE OF THE MINISTER / BUREAU DU MINISTRE

27th December 2011.

To Whom It May Concern :

LETTER OF SUPPORT
for the Australian South Sea Islanders (Port Jackson)
as the main organising body of the
inaugural Australian South Sea Islanders National Conference

I am pleased to write this letter of endorsement and support for the organisation of the inaugural Australian South Sea Islanders National Conference and for the "Australian South Sea Islanders (Port Jackson)" as the main organising body for this National Conference.

The Government of Vanuatu, the Vanuatu National Council of Chiefs and the "Vanuatu Indigenous Descendants Association" have all been actively participating in the process which has resulted in the resolution to hold this inaugural Australian South Sea Islanders National Conference (ASSINC) on the Easter weekend in 2012 (6th to 9th April) for the purpose of electing a National Executive to represent Australian South Sea Islanders of Vanuatu-descent in Australia.

The Government of Vanuatu in partnership with the Chiefs' Councils and a number of Australian South Sea Islanders organisations in Australia are working together to prepare for this National Conference, and we have all agreed that the Australian South Sea Islanders (Port Jackson) (ASSIPJ) will be the lead agency coordinating the organisation of the Conference. In Vanuatu we are working towards funding the participation of a delegation of Vanuatu chiefs and other stakeholders to participate in the Conference, led by myself as the official delegation head.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'RR' or similar initials.

Ralph Regenvanu
Minister for Justice and Community Services
Government of the Republic of Vanuatu.

Email: rregenvanu@vanuatu.gov.vu

Ref: 130-080-000044



18 March 2011

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PO Box 25
BEAUDESERT QLD 4285

Tel: 07 5540 5111
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mail@scenicrim.qld.gov.au
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ABN: 45 598 234 971

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Letter of Support for Australian South Sea Island Project 2013

As Deputy Mayor in the Scenic Rim Regional Council, I am pleased to write in support of the Australian South Sea Islander commemoration project which is scheduled for 2013.

Scenic Rim Regional Council, along with other Local Government bodies of South East Queensland and Northern New South Wales, have come together to assist in this project. We acknowledge the contribution that Australian South Sea Islanders have made in shaping the history and identity of the region. In 2013 it will be 150 years since the first South Sea Islanders were brought into Australia.

The first destination of the South Sea Islanders was a cotton plantation owned by Mr Robert Towns in Townsville which is now known as Veresdale. They arrived at Redbank and walked to the plantation at Townsville, stopping to break the journey at Jimboomba station. Following the failure of cotton growing on the Logan, South Sea Island labour continued to be used to develop the sugar industry throughout Queensland.

During the period of use of South Sea Islanders as indentured labour up to 60,000 islanders were brought to this country. Their descendants are scattered across Queensland and New South Wales and have made significant contribution to communities across Australia.

Participating Councils include ourselves, Logan City Council, Redland Regional Council, Ipswich City Council and Gold Coast City Council. Together we will present a series of exhibitions and associated events to acknowledge and commemorate the contribution of Australian South Sea Islanders in the development of our Country and the contributions towards the identity and development of each area represented by the participating local government bodies.

The commemoration activities will take place over a period in 2013. Local Government will work together and with other stakeholders including Australian South Sea Islanders to guide these projects. The scope of this particular project is limited to South East Queensland and Northern New South Wales but acknowledges and is happy to connect to projects that may be occurring in other parts of Queensland and across Australia and internationally.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. J. Cockburn".

Cr Dave Cockburn
DEPUTY MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR DIVISION 4

Scenic Rim Regional Council
82 Brisbane Street
BEAUDESERT QLD 4285

PO Box 25
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Tel: 07 5540 5404
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Emelda Davis
Australian South Sea Islanders (Port Jackson)
PO Box 117, Pyrmont
SYDNEY NSW 2009

November 12, 2011

Dear Emelda

Re: National Meeting of ASSI Communities and 150 year anniversary of ASSI communities in Australia

We would like to officially offer our support to the Australian South Sea Islanders (Port Jackson) as the organisers of the National Meeting scheduled for April 2012 and also the 150 year anniversary of ASSI communities in Australia in 2013. We offer our full support for these projects and any funding requests which may be relevant.

The Centre for Tourism, Leisure and Work (CLTW) is a Southern Cross University Research Centre hosted by the University's School of Tourism and Hospitality Management. Incorporating research and extension in the areas of tourism, exercise science and leisure and the economic driver of work, CLTW has a focus on planning, policy, management for tourism, sport, leisure and organisations in regions. The aim of the CLTW is to:

- * promote community connections and development
- * contribute to social and economic development for regions
- * foster innovation in research and practice.

In line with these aims, the CLTW will support the Australian South Sea Islanders activities and projects over the next few years as a way of connecting the communities of Vanuatu with Queensland, and Northern New South Wales and the Eastern Coast. We further support the ASSI communities in developing its National body in the region and building connections with the Vanuatu community. This fits within our broader "Regional Revitalisation" project.

Our support for the project will take the form of \$2000 cash towards the National Meeting. We can further offer the support of two dedicated Event Management internship students who can provide facilitation and coordination to the extent that this fits with their research projects.

We are proud to confirm that we can provide this support. We will also act as Sponsor for the Visa Application for the Vanuatu-based members of the group attending the meeting.

We look forward to working with you and the ASSI communities.

Yours sincerely

Kerry Brown
Director,
Centre for Tourism Leisure and Work







Strategic Plan

September 2010



Australian South Sea Islanders (Port Jackson) Limited.

P.O. Box 117 Pyrmont, NSW 2009 mobile: +61 (0)416 300 946 fax: +61 2 9571 4326
email: assi.pj@gmail.com ABN: 95143172589

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1.0 Executive Summary

About Us:

The Australian South Sea Islander, Port Jackson (ASSI.PJ) is a not-for-profit organisation committed to community development principles by providing access and equity, relating to cultural awareness and social well-being.

History:

Australian South Sea Islanders have a unique place in Australian history as a distinct cultural group. Our story is unique because we do not have an Indigenous or immigration heritage. The original South Sea Islanders were first brought to Queensland between 1863 and 1904 from eighty Pacific Islands, primarily Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands, where for nearly 50 years they were the principal labour source in the fledgling sugar industry.



Like some aspects of Australian history, the treatment of South Sea people would not be accepted in today's society. They were often lured into coming to Australia or kidnapped through "blackbirding". They worked long hours in physically demanding tasks for little return which to many descendants, this treatment was akin to "slavery". And while there is evidence that the Government eventually legislated to control the worst excesses of the system, the harshness of their existence is shown by a death rate five times greater than European settlers of the time. (Source: Call for Recognition: Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission 1994)

Unfortunately, legislation was also used to regulate their movement and employment and to eventually exclude them from the sugar industry. One of the first acts of the new Commonwealth Parliament, formed after Federation, called for mass deportation of the community. The "White Australia Policies" added another chapter of hardship.

By this stage many South Sea Islanders had started families and had been separated from their former homelands for extended periods of time. Through community protest some exemptions were obtained to deportation. The descendants of those who remained are Australian South Sea Islanders (ASSI).

In 1991, the Evatt Foundation wrote a report resulting in the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission publishing "The Call for Recognition" in 1992.

Following this call for recognition, in 1994 the Federal Government formally recognised Australian South Sea Islanders as a distinct ethnic group.

ASSI. PJ

This recognition flowed into the Queensland Government in their adoption of a formal Recognition Statement in July 2000 and subsequent action plan. These documents acknowledged the social and economic disadvantage suffered by the community and to promote the development and cultural significance within the community landscape.

Also in 1994, the NSW Premier Bob Carr published Memorandum 95-42 to his Ministers advising that them in regards to ASSI community and valuing their distinct ethnic status. Furthermore he request that agencies in their portfolio be aware of ASSI community groups in NSW ensuring that our needs are adequately reflected in the programs and services. To date no action has followed this request in NSW.

1.1 Vision and Mission

Vision:

Enhance awareness of the ASSI community to empower cooperative, productive and balanced lives of social inclusion for the ASSI people and broader community.

Mission:

ASSI will achieve this vision by being:

A resource hub - a research and information centre that, identifies and responds to the needs within the ASSI community. This will be achieved through establishing a web-based information hub that sustainability gathers information and distributes resource to the community.

A learning haven - a life-based learning environment that maintains relevance in cultural context to develop effective lives and leaders for work and service within the broader community.

A catalyst for community - providing thought-leadership, management support, and governance systems for socially inclusive projects that builds community and provides for the welfare needs of the ASSI people.

1.2 ASSI Identification

The definition provided of ASSI identification is duly.

An Australian South Sea Islander is an individual who accepts that he or she is:

1. A descendent of a person who entered Australia from the Pacific Islands in the period between 1863 and 1904 as an indentured laborer in Queensland.

2. Is able to establish this descent in a way that is acceptable to the current South Sea Island Community.

Claims of descent that are non-factual are rare. If there is an issue of dispute this would normally be resolved by the elders of the community by considering the claims and deciding to resolve or accept the identification of an individual or family.

1.3 Values

We, the Australian South Sea Islanders, recognise and acknowledge our Melanesian ancestry and take pride in our forefathers contribution in the development of our Australian nation and are committed to developing a socially inclusive community holding to five core values:

1. Access and Equity:

Our organisation aims to provide access and equity to services for South Sea Islanders living in the Port Jackson and broader NSW (With further research) communities. We acknowledge that the South Sea Islander communities face the same issues of access and equity as Indigenous Australians in relation to health care, education, housing. Our organisation will increase access to these services and focus on improving the wellbeing of the ASSI community living in the inner city of Sydney and NSW(with further research).

2. Empowerment:

The ASSI.PJ organisation will work towards empowering the community by implementing the principles of social justice and self determination for our peoples. Our community will be self empowering in discerning the needs and relevant modes of service delivery through an inclusive process of community consultation.

3. Interdependence

The ASSI.PJ organisation is a hub of knowledge, cultural strength with a focus on community development giving the forgotten people a place of identity.

4. Partnerships and Cooperation:

ASSI.PJ acknowledge the first peoples of this nation and identifies with Indigenous Australia. Our aim is to work in partnership with already established resources and service providers. We aim to work within a philosophy of partnerships and cooperation in all the work we do.

5. Respect:

Our organisation will work and offer services and programs in ways that are respectful of the dignity, safety and integrity of community, stakeholders, management and staff.

1.4 Keys to Success

The following factors are essential to the successful implementation of this strategic plan:

- Registration as a charity with Deduct able Gift Recipient Status (DGR)
- Move NSW government from Recognition to Active engagement and support.
- A dynamic, responsive leadership depth of the ASSI Board, staff and members including sound governance and effective management.
- Financial sustainability of all ASSI projects.
- The integration of services with other government and community agencies.
- Employee attraction, development and retention.
- Thinking that is innovative and entrepreneurial.
- Stakeholder and community satisfaction with service quality.

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2.0 Organization Summary

Organisations Name: Australian South Sea Islanders (Port Jackson)

Trading Name: ASSI PJ

A company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital.

ABN: 95143172589

Postal Address: PO Box 117 Pyrmont NSW 2009

Physical Address:

Phone Number: 02 9518 8981

Mobile Number: 0416 300 946

Fax Number: (02) 9571 4326

Contact person: Emelda Davis (CEO; Chairperson)

Email: assi.pj@gmail.com

GST Registered: Yes

3.0 Governance

ASSI. PJ is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital, registered under the Corporations Act. The Constitution list the objects of the Company, its legal powers, composition of the Board, office bearers, conduct of elections and general meetings, membership, and so on. Copies of the Constitution are held in the office and are available to all members and staff of the organisation. (Copy attached)

ASSI.PJ - BOARD MEMBERS 09/2010:

1) *Emelda Davis*

- Chairperson ASSI.PJ
- Coordination Federal & State Government Indigenous community initiatives
- Delivered community projects for National Indigenous Television
- Proposal writing and 1st draft budget experience
- Broader community women, youth and children's initiatives
- Marketing Arts - Entertainment, Media

2) *Graham Mooney* AM

- Current president of Sydney Inner City AEGC.Inc (metropolitan east region)
- Senior Management
- Visual and Performing Arts
- Social Worker / Community development officer
- Cultural Mentor

3) *Matt Poll*

- Current assistant curator Macleay Museum, Sydney University which has 12000 cultural artefacts relating to South Sea Islander cultures.
- Planning, Logistic and Community liaison
- Cultural protocol and community expectations of audience driven projects
- Artistic Company Director
- Policy development

4) *Shireen Malamoo*

- Current ATSI Advisory Panel for City of Sydney
- Currently sits on the Justice Health Board and has done for some years now. Shireen, in her own words writes "*I have always been interested in art in all its forms. My art depicts the political and spiritual experiences of my life*"
- Former ATSI Commissioner (1991-1993) and sat on the NSW Parole Board for 9 years (1994 - 2003).
- Extensive experience in the management of non-government services for the Aboriginal community including the Aboriginal Legal Service, the Aboriginal Media Association and the Aboriginal Medical Service in Townsville.

5) *Sonya Parter*

ASSI. PJ

- Current ADHC Employment and Case Manager
- Sonya has worked for ATSI Federal and State Government Departments such as DEEWR and Centrelink in areas of Health, Education and currently as the contract-negotiating manager with ADHC in contract accountability.

6) Eloise Watego

- Legal issues regards to Company compliance and reporting requirements
- Providing legal advice to members regarding business development
- Mentoring youth membership in relation to studying Law
- Experience in production and presentation in relation to television and media profile of company
- Public relations

7) Avis Deguara

- *Currently Indigenous Liaison Mental Health.*
- *Attended Blacktown TAFE Targeted out after family raising, The Opportunities for Indigenous Women.*
- *Advance College of Education Sydney updated to University of Technology Sydney*
- *Part-time working at the university as Administration officer*
- *Board member Murawina pre-school approx 2years the preschool operated for 5years then closed.*
- *Currently Board Member Marist Hays Emerton Mt Druitt Homeless Youth Hostel*

8) Markou Pangas

- Currently GREEN TOMATO CARS HIRE CAR DRIVER DRIVING HIGH STANDARD CLIENTELE WITHIN THE METROPOLITAN AREA
- COMMONWEALTH CAR DRIVER DRIVING FEDERAL POLITICIANS VISITING DIPLOMATS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
- CAPTIVE MEDIA:TRUCK DRIVER, DRIVING ADVERTISING BILLBOARDS, LIAISING WITH THE PUBLIC

9) Ross Bell MSW MBE BSW B Ed Dip T MAASW (Accredited) JP

- Professional Councillor
- Degree in teaching
- Policy development

10) Jane Chapman

- Current TAFE NSW Chief Education Officer
- Responsible for acquiring state and government funding and management of associated contracts. Jane stems from a teachers background and has worked extensively with the access and equity culturally and linguistic diverse communities. (CALD)

4.0 The Community Today

The Community Today

Australian South Sea Islanders live predominantly in coastal Queensland and Sydney NSW. The community has played a major role in the economic, cultural and regional development, contributing to many industries and fields of endeavour beyond the sugar industry.

South Sea Islanders are very proud people who have retained significant aspects of their culture and customs. They tend to be family oriented, Christian and have great respect for their elders and believe strongly in kinship. Organisations within the community are usually established within the extended family network. And while South Sea Islanders have much in common, the cultural background of communities is influenced by religious affiliations and the island origins of families. Many individual South Sea Islanders have excelled in their chosen professions including teachers, nurses, business people, public servants, artists, clergy, athletes and defence personnel, to name but a few. The community also has a strong tradition of doing voluntary work.



Clancy Fatnowna: Officer in Charge. Queensland Ambulance Service

Further Research Required

The following table contains statistics from the 2006 Census of SSI people within Sydney and surrounding districts. Further research is necessary which will be a part of our development and research setout in section 7.0, under the Network and Resource Hub Strategy. (Source: <https://secure.abs.gov.au/website/D3310114.nsf/home/census+data?opendocument>)

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Table: New Table

Country of Birth	Inner West	North West	West	South West	Sydney Metro
New Caledonia	23	8	157	34	667
New Zealand	3,377	2,541	46,896	8,844	131,301
Papua New Guinea	89	135	1,389	207	6,422
Solomon Islands	13	21	144	26	692
Vanuatu	11	17	138	26	498
Guam	3	4	13	0	22
Kiribati	3	0	39	4	113
Nauru	4	6	29	5	82
Cook Islands	183	5	1,586	310	2,600
Fiji	1,420	757	28,884	8,799	33,926
French Polynesia	5	0	50	3	197
Niue	7	0	194	35	412
Samoa	575	18	7,605	2,534	7,344
Samoa, American	10	0	85	15	77
Tokelau	19	0	319	8	221
Tonga	551	39	4,023	735	6,256
Tuvalu	3	3	21	3	11
Wallis and Futuna	0	0	12	0	8
Polynesia (excludes Hawaii), nec	0	0	0	0	18
Totals	6,296	3,554	91,584	21,588	190,867

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4.1 Further information

Useful publications for more information include:

- Evatt Foundation, A Report on the Current Status of South Sea Islanders in Australia, Sydney, 1991
- Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, The Call for Recognition, 1992 Mercer P, White Australia Defied;
- Pacific Islander Settlement in North Queensland, James Cook University, 1995
- Moore C, Kanaka: a history of Melanesian Mackay, Port Moresby: Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies and University of Papua New Guinea Press, 1985
- Fatnowna N, Fragments of a lost heritage, Angus and Robertson, 1989

5.0 Service Providers Partnerships.

ASSI PJ recognises that as needs emerge, currently existing services, if reasonable access and equity partnerships were provided, would adequately support ASSI community needs.

Some of these prospective services include:

- Centrelink
- Department of Community Services
- Department of Health and Ageing
- Community Housing NSW
- Department of Education and Work Place Relations
- NSW Premiers Department
- NSW Sport and Recreation

6.0 Government Strategy

1. In supporting the Federal Government's desire to assist disadvantaged groups, Congress believes that the process must also extend to South Sea Islanders.
2. The South Sea Islanders now living in Australia are the descendants of South Sea Islanders most of whom were brought forcibly to this country in the 19th century as slaves and indentured labour in the cane fields of Queensland and northern NSW, commonly referred to in derogatory terms as Kanaks by some Australian historians.
3. Australian South Sea Islanders are a black minority group, who have been and are discriminated against because of their colour. Because of a fairly high rate of intermarriage with Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders they are often assumed to be of these groups (especially in statistics which determine the level of services made available to them) and are discriminated against in similar ways.
4. South Sea Islanders' distinguishing feature is that they have no claim for land rights. South Sea Islanders were forced from their lands and brought unwillingly to Australia. Their land cannot be restored to them. They cannot claim land in their new country, neither can they claim the land of their forebears.
5. Unlike Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders, they are not an indigenous people although they suffer discrimination and hardship for similar reasons.
6. South Sea Islanders are discriminated against in regard to employment, housing, health services, training, and their children are discriminated against in education. They are recorded in disproportionate numbers among the unemployed, the poorly educated and untrained, the impoverished, those in prison and the unhoused. South Sea Islanders are not eligible for the special benefits available to Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders unless they claim to be Aboriginal people or Torres Strait Islanders, a denial of their origins and culture.
7. South Sea Islanders have for a long time retained pride in their identity, but have recognised that for all intents and purposes they were treated as Aborigines or Torres Strait Islanders. They sometimes identified themselves as such on the census because there appeared to be no other appropriate category. They identified themselves as such for benefits because they knew that their people had been instrumental in obtaining those benefits. They knew also that they would not be able to maintain their households, educate their children or find employment without the assistance of these benefits.
8. South Sea Islanders ask that they be eligible for the same special benefits given to Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders (excluding land rights) as they consider they should be entitled to these benefits, many of which were won with their support.
9. Australian South Sea Islanders are seeking to be recognised as a group in their own right and to have their national organisation, Australian South Sea Islanders United Council, acknowledged as the appropriate body for their representation.
10. The Government must implement immediately remedial programs to redress the disadvantages suffered by this minority group because of their ethnic origin.
11. Congress resolves that the A.C.T.U. will work to assist South Sea Islanders being recognised as a group in their own right and to this end the A.C.T.U. will encourage the Federal Government to:-
 - give consideration to the introduction of federal legislation for South Sea Islanders, recognising their history, their contribution to the Australian Society and their special needs
 - make South Sea Islanders eligible for benefits similar to those provided to Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders in relation to Housing, Education and Training, Health and Legal Services, and economic development (but not

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land rights benefits).

- give responsibility for the co-ordination of all policies and programs relating to South Sea Islanders to the Prime Minister's Department through one of its already existing units such as the Office of Multicultural Affairs.
- provide for a specific reference to South Sea Islanders on future census forms.
- recognise a national organisation representing the South Sea Islanders such as the Australian South Sea Islanders United Council and make available adequate funding for the effective operation of such a body which would provide a channel of communication between governments and the South Sea Islander communities
- provide core funding to the order of \$100,000 to enable the Evatt Foundation to commission a proper population survey in known areas of concentration of South Sea Islanders to bring to attention the extent of poverty, unemployment, lack of education and skills training, health, housing and other special needs within the South Sea Islander communities
- put in place urgent remedial programs aimed at redressing discrimination suffered by South Sea Islanders because of their ethnic origin and in particular that South Sea Islanders be included as an identified category in the Commonwealth Public Service Equal Opportunity Program
- provide adequate funding to train South Sea Islanders in skills for staffing resource centres including health, legal, mediation and conflict resolution

6.1 Strengths

New South Wales Charter of Principles for a Culturally Diverse Society

Preamble

The Government of New South Wales (NSW) regards the cultural and linguistic diversity of the state's population as a valuable national resource which enhances all aspects of life.

In order to maximise this resource, the Government has adopted a Chapter of basic principles to guide all Government activity. These principles will apply to all aspects of the social, cultural, political, legal and economic life of NSW on which public institutions impact. Pursuant to the Government's commitment, all NSW institutions will be required to diversify their policies and activities in order to realise the full potential of the population.

Principles for a Culturally Diverse Society

1. All individuals in NSW should have the greatest possible opportunity to contribute to, and participate in, all levels of public life.
2. All individuals and public institutions should respect and accommodate the culture, language and religion of others within an Australian legal and institutional framework where English is the primary language.
3. All individuals should have the greatest possible opportunity to make use of and participate in relevant activities and programs provided and/or administered by NSW

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- government institutions.
4. All NSW public Institutions should recognise the linguistic and cultural assets in the NSW population as a valuable resource and utilise and promote this resource to maximise the development of the state.

Application

This Charter will be reflected in all Government policies, activities, and in its dealings with the non-government sector. It will inform and influence all public institutions. It will establish objectives for the NSW public sector. Public sector managers will demonstrate commitment to the Principles of this Charter.

Within this framework, the Minister for Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs will be the principal reference point for all Ministers and the Ethnic Affairs Commission of New South Wales will be the principal reference point for all departments, instrumentalities, institutions and agents on issues related to this Charter.

Sydney, February 1993

7.0 Strategic projects

As components of the overall Vision and Mission for ASSI we have identified 3 strategic projects for the period 2010-2013.

1. **Sport**

There are two significant reasons why sport is a key health and community strategy to ASSI PJ.

i) *The growing concern of poor physical health of the community.* Based on strong medical evidence the most cost-effective and sustainable way to tackle these problems and to support positive social development is by preventing them through increased physical activity levels and healthier lifestyles. Raising awareness in society about the benefits of physical activity and sport among policy and decision-makers, health professionals, the media, education and sport community, local leaders, and the public at large is crucial. (Source [http://www.goforyourlife.vic.gov.au/hav/admin.nsf/Images/WHO_statement_on_health_and_PA.pdf/\\$File/WHO_statement_on_health_and_PA.pdf](http://www.goforyourlife.vic.gov.au/hav/admin.nsf/Images/WHO_statement_on_health_and_PA.pdf/$File/WHO_statement_on_health_and_PA.pdf))

ii) *The role of sport in supporting community building and harmony.* Evidence indicates that aspects of "strengthening residents commitment to their neighbourhood; building mutual interest; acting together to achieve objectives, by engaging in sports activities diminishes anti-social behaviour and benefits social harmony. (Source http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/assets/pubs/industry/study_communitybuilding.pdf)

The South Sea Island people have a significant sports presence in Australia.

Mal Maninga, as pictured below, is a Queensland and Australian Rugby League player and Ambassador to the Queensland ASSI community.



This program will promote:

- Outreach programs in training and skills development
- Primary, High School recruitment
- Children, Women's and Men's teams; NSW representative development
- Fee free training government funded through scholarship / educational qualification
- Friday night basketball youth club
- Hip Hop and Hoop showcase development.

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- National tournament participation
- Elite skills training workshops
- Masters Coaching Clinic

2. **Culture, Arts and Media Education**



A significant barrier breaker, used effectively across the world, is the use of story telling through active media.

Through digital stories, film, music, drama or any other medium with a pulse or a pixel, this project aims to engage the imagination and heart of people through stories of the extraordinary.

Included in this program will be:

- Education in the use of cutting edge technology, specialising in digital media and community cultural development.
- Education in film, television and radio production.
- A support program and information exchange for artists and cultural activities.
- Scholarships similar to Queensland ASSI community (See <http://www.australiansouthseaislanders.org.au/about/about/scholarships.html>)

A product of this program will be the coordination of the bi annual fundraising events where the students will showcase their art and productions.

3. Network and Resource Hub

Key to the mission of ASSI is the need for a sustainable research, development, and support service where referral and partnerships can be developed. This service centre will be the central data gathering and response centre, providing information and support.

7.1 Awareness Strategy

First, South Sea Islanders have suffered from a century of racial discrimination and harsh treatment which are the major factors contributing to their being in a state of disadvantage today. In fact, the statistical profile indicates that they are one of the poorest groups in Australia.

Second, South Sea Islanders as a group are in a situation of high need, with particular difficulties observed in school retention, employment skills, home ownership and health.

Third, until recently, it has been relatively easy and common for South Sea Islanders to access a broad range of government programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Both

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officially and unofficially, governments have developed de facto policies which permit such access.

Fourth, while giving material benefits to South Sea Islanders, governments have denied South Sea Islanders recognition as a distinct black minority group. This lack of recognition has over time contributed to increased tensions amongst the South Sea Islanders themselves, and between them and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Fifth, as South Sea Islanders are now being denied access to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programs, they are forced into mainstream programs which are seen by them to be culturally inappropriate, with the result that they are not used.

The Call for Recognition 15-12-2010

Australian South Sea Islander Recognition

Queensland Government Recognition Statement Australian South Sea Islander Community

The Queensland Government hereby formally recognises Australian South Sea Islanders as a distinct cultural group.

Australian South Sea Islanders are the Australian-born descendants of predominantly Melanesian people who were brought to Queensland between 1863 and 1904 from eighty Pacific Islands, but primarily Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands.

Australian South Sea Islanders are not indigenous to this country. South Sea Islanders were brought to Australia as a source of cheap labour for Queensland's primary industries. Many people were tricked into coming, others were kidnapped or "blackbirded". Men, women and children were forced to work long hours at exhausting manual work for low or no wages while living in very poor conditions. Many were treated like slaves. In early 1880s, the death rate among South Sea Islanders was five times higher than the comparable European population.

Between 1906 and 1908 South Sea Islanders were deported under the White Australia Policy. South Sea Islanders Protested and petitioned the Government against deportation. The descendants of those who remained in Australia are known today as Australian South Sea Islanders. The generation of South Sea Islanders who remained after the deportation were subjected to ongoing racial discrimination and harsh treatment, including restrictions as a consequence of government legislation. Some trade unions also adopted exclusionary practices which disadvantaged the community. Many Australian South Sea Islanders are today still living in conditions well below the standard of living enjoyed by most other Australians.

The Australian South Sea Islander community has played a major role in the economic, cultural and regional development of Queensland. Australian South Sea Islanders provided labour to help build local economies and key industries. They played a significant role in the sugar industry. They also contributed to the development of farming and grazing, as well as the maritime industry, pearling, mining, the railways, domestic services and childcare. Individual Australian South Sea Islanders have excelled in politics, government, religion, sports, art, business, health and education. They have also served the nation as members of the defence force in times of peace and war. While their work benefited the State as a whole, Australian South Sea Islanders remained in a state of poverty.

Australian South Sea Islanders' unique spirituality, identity and cultural heritage enrich Queensland's culturally diverse society. For more than a century their culture, history and contribution to Queensland have been ignored and denied. Even today there is little knowledge or understanding among the Australian community about Australian South Sea Islanders.

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The Government acknowledges and regrets that Australian South Sea Islanders experienced unjust treatment and endured social and economic disadvantage, prejudice and racial discrimination. The Government also recognises that Australian South Sea Islanders continue to face significant disadvantages.

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring that present and future generations of Australian South Sea Islanders have equality of opportunity to participate in and contribute to the economic, social, political and cultural life of the State.

The Queensland Government requires its departments and other agencies to act on this commitment through their policies, programs and services.

Last reviewed: 4 September

7.2 Fundraising Strategy

ASSI's funding strategy covers 6 core initiatives namely:

- Membership contributions and sponsorship
- Key Fundraising events
- Micro Enterprise
- Funding Grants
- Education and workshops
- Monthly News Letter "Asks"

Membership Contributions and Sponsorships

ASSI has a diverse and growing number of members who make a yearly contribution. Additionally, members, corporations and community have opportunity to sponsor ASSI administration and projects. All sponsors primarily come through a direct relationship with the ASSI community which has been fostered over many years and maintained through regular phone calls, letters, emails facebook contact.

Key Fundraising events

ASSI hold several annual cultural events with the dual purpose of being fundraisers. The key to this fundraising strategy is to create ownership of the event by the ASSI community and engage the broader community with our cultural traditions and heritage. *Some* key events include:

- "We Belong You" - held bi-annually in-conjunction with Recognition day (25th August), Australia Day (25th January) or other similar Australian date. This event will showcase the music, dance and cultural diversity, building the awareness of the ASSI Community and their significant influence and value to Australia.
- Formal Gala Ball - held prior to the end of financial year, funds raised via invitations and fundraising activities on the night.
- Key Business Group Breakfast - through relationship ASSI arrange for executive's from large corporations to speak at a breakfast function. Key speakers may come from corporations such as Woolworths, Coles, Myer, Harvey Norman etc. Funds raised via registrations and auction items.

Education and workshops

- A workshop on traditional dance, music and culture that has the added feature of film and digital production.

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- Sports workshops and camps
- Beauty therapy education.

Micro Enterprise

ASSI plan for Micro -Enterprise to generate income from initiatives that add value to community that will also generate a cash flow for the day to day operations of ASSI. This enterprise, in the form of a "Cafe and Heritage Centre" will provide a gathering place where community can have fellowship and refreshment while engaging their artistic senses in displays of ASSI art, craft and apparel.

Funding Grants

Grants will be a source of funding from Government , corporations and Trusts that will provide specific needs of ASSI community. The particular targets of this funding source will be to improve the recognition of the ASSI community and addressing the identified needs in relation to access and equity.

This funding will also enable ASSI PJ to deliver programs of cultural relevance to strengthen the ASSI communities social wellbeing.

Monthly News Letter "Asks"

- Regular "Ask" letters to our data base: Letters such as these are designed to increase our donor base as well as target key times such as Recognition Day, and the end of financial year.

8.0 Appendix

- Bob Carr: Premier of NSW; Letter of support; 1994
- Bob Carr: Premiers Memo 1995-42
- Extract from; The Call for Recognition: Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission
- Australian South Sea Island United Council: Announcement of Recognition Day
- Ronald Wilson: Human Rights Australia: Letter to Attorney General
- Australian South Sea Islander Port Jackson Constitution

8.1 Letter from Bob Carr

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Premier of New South Wales
Australia

Memorandum 95-42
(Memorandum to Ministers)

THE AUSTRALIAN SOUTH SEA ISLANDER COMMUNITY

The Australian South Sea Islanders are the descendants of people from the South Sea Islands who were brought to work in Queensland between 1863 and 1904.

Precise numbers are difficult to obtain, but most live in Queensland, while around 1,400 are thought to live in the Lismore-Tweed area of NSW with several hundred in the Sydney area.

In 1994, the Federal Government recognized the community as a distinct ethnic group. Following preparation of a report *The Call for Recognition: A Report on the Situation of Australian South Sea Islanders* by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission. One consequence of this recognition is that members of the community no longer have access to services specifically targeted to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

As members of the Australian South Sea Islander Community value their distinct ethnic status, I request firstly that you ensure that agencies in your portfolio area are aware of this community in NSW. Secondly I request that you ensure that the particular needs of Australian South Sea Islanders are adequately reflected in the programs and services of agencies, particularly those operating in the Far North Coast Area.

Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Bob Carr
Premier

8.1.1 Premiers Memo



Premier
& Cabinet

M1995-42 The Australian South Sea Islander Community

Status: not current

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Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Bob Carr
Premier

Issued: 9 November 1995
Contact Officer: Ms Linda Pettersson
Tel: (02) 716 2254
Ethnic Affairs Commission

ATTACHMENT

ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN SOUTH SEA ISLANDER COMMUNITY

Size of the community

The precise size of the Australian South Sea Islander community is difficult to obtain as this community is not reflected in Census data. Estimates suggest that there are approximately 15,000 in