



Northern Land Council

MEDIA STATEMENT

Appointment of new CEO

10 June 2008

Northern Land Council (NLC) Chairman, Mr Wali Wunungmurra, today announced the appointment of a new chief executive officer, Kim Hill.

Mr Wunungmurra said, “Kim Hill has started work as our new CEO, and the NLC is very happy to have him on board.

“Kim is not a stranger to us, and he brings to the NLC his broad knowledge and wealth of experience of Indigenous issues and public administration.

“He has been at the forefront of fighting for our rights at a local, national and international level - as an ATSIC Commissioner, and as a senior public servant, and as a Ministerial Adviser to the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory.

“Kim joined me and the Executive Council at the Barunga Festival, and we’re now at our Full Council meeting where he has been formally introduced as our new CEO.

“We are looking forward to working very well with Kim, and to a new era at the NLC.”

The new CEO, Kim Hill, said it is a privilege and an honour to take up his new role.

“I’m looking forward to working with Aboriginal people across the Northern Land Council regions, particularly getting out and talking to traditional owners,” said Mr Hill.

“I have worked with many traditional owners across the regions, from the days of major Land Claims through to representing them a national level, and I am keen to renew old friendships”.

“Together with Aboriginal landowners I want to enhance further development and aspirations with governments, the private sector and other major stakeholders so we can have an equal say in how Aboriginal people are represented socially, economically and politically.”

Kim Hill was born and bred in Darwin and has extensive family connections across the Territory, including the Hill, Man Fong, Ah Kit and Weetra families.

Ends.

Attached is a short biography of Kim Hill.

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Kim Hill - Biography

Kim Hill was born and bred in Darwin and belongs to a number of language groups including the Ngarriman, Tiwi and Jingili peoples of the Northern Territory. His extensive family connections include the Hill, Man Fong, Ah Kit and Weetra families and he is well known throughout the Territory. His grandfather was well respected in the sporting and pastoral industry, and his late father was a member of the stolen generations (and was a plaintiff in the *Kruger v Commonwealth* 1997 Stolen Generations case) who was raised by families on the Tiwi Island.

Kim was educated in Darwin at both St John's College and then Darwin High School. After a short stint in Perth playing football, Kim returned to Darwin and commenced working at the old Diamond Beach Casino, and then with Darwin Cold Store delivering ice around Darwin.

From 1988 to 1994 Kim worked at the Northern Land Council in their Land Claims section. Following this he joined the now defunct Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) as a Project Officer and moved to Katherine.

He has also worked as the electorate officer of Mr Jack Ah Kit (former MLA), and as an Aboriginal Consultant to the Family Court of Australia.

In 1990 he was elected to the Yilli Rreung ATSIC Regional Council in Darwin and very quickly was elected as its Chairman. Ten months later he was ATSIC Commissioner for the North Zone due to resignation of the late Mr Djerrkura – and served two terms.

During this time he was appointed by the ATSIC Board of Commissioners as their representative on the Board of Indigenous Business Australia.

Kim Hill has represented Aboriginal people at local, national and international forums.

For the past two years he has been a senior government advisor to the Northern Territory Chief Minister, the Deputy Chief Minister and the Business Minister.

Kim Hill is married with three kids. He loves hunting, fishing and sports, politics.