

Our Ref: GEN033 Your Ref: NA Office: Perth

Date: 8 August 2021

To: National Indigenous Australians Agency

PO Box 2191

CANBERRA ACT 2600

Attn: CATSI Act Review Team

Sent via email: CATSIActReview@niaa.gov.au

Dear CATSI Act Review Team,

RE: YMAC Submission in response to the Exposure Draft of the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Amendment Bill 2021

I write to you in my capacity as the Chief Executive Officer of Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) in response to the National Indigenous Australians Agency's (NIAA's) current request for feedback on the Exposure Draft of the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Amendment Bill 2021* (the Amendment Bill).

As you are aware, YMAC is the Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) for what are described as the Pilbara and Geraldton regions of Western Australia. YMAC is run by an Aboriginal Board of Directors, representing several native title groups, each of whom have their own language, culture, traditions, and protocols. YMAC provides a range of services, including native title claim and future act representation, heritage services, community and economic development assistance, and natural resource management support.

YMAC is also a proud regional member of the National Native Title Council (NNTC) – the national peak body for the native title sector. Through this affiliation, YMAC has been afforded the opportunity to review and provide input to the NNTC's response to the Amendment Bill and, therefore, wishes to endorse all matters raised and recommendations made in its submission to this same inquiry.

In addition to the details outlined in the NNTC submission, however, YMAC would also like to note its concerns and suggestions regarding 'AGMs for small corporations (Rec 24)'. While YMAC supports this amendment in principle, we consider the changes do not go far enough. It is suggested that a less restrictive approach would be more appropriate, so that the provision could be utilised by a greater number of small corporations. It is recommended that consideration should be given to adopting a higher maximum consolidated revenue threshold for the previous financial year. It is suggested that somewhere between \$5,000 and \$10,000 would be appropriate.

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Should this response generate any questions or concerns, please contact

Yours sincerely,

Simon Hawkins

Chief Executive Officer

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