

- why bother becoming involved if someone else is doing the job?

The Native Title Indigenous Youth Forum will be a frank exchange of views on the native title vision for the future: how are the steps built to achieve benchmarks, goals, and the realisation of dreams? How do we work together to achieve common goals?

The CLC is inviting the NTRBs, high schools and Indigenous youth groups in Central Australia to nominate young Indigenous people to attend this important forum. This forum provides a space for the future generation of Indigenous leaders to come together and discuss matters of critical importance for the future.

To find out more about the Native Title Indigenous Youth Forum and to register your nominations please contact:

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Agreements Database - the launch

Dr Lisa Palmer

The research team working on the ARC Linkage Project, *'Agreements, Treaties and Negotiated Settlements with Indigenous Peoples in Settler States: their role and relevance for Indigenous and other Australians'* is pleased to announce the upcoming public launch of our online Agreements Database. The launch of the first phase of the Agreements Database will be held at the Native Title Conference in Alice Springs on June 4. This database is an important part of a broader project that is examining treaty and agreement-making with Indigenous Australians and the nature of the cultural, social and legal rights encompassed by past, present and potential agreements and treaties. This project will include an examination of the legal history and foundations of agreements and treaties, an audit of current agreements, their purposes, status and outcomes, and will include international comparative research on treaty

and agreement-making. While many of the agreements examined relate to land, the research also includes non-land based agreements such as those agreements made in the areas of health, education and research.

The project began in March 2002 and the research will be conducted over three years. Outcomes of this project will also include the publication of a collection of papers.

It is anticipated that the project will contribute to the efforts of Indigenous organisations to secure political and economic rights through agreements with governments, industry and the broader Australian community.

Along with our industry partner, ATSIC, this project involves researchers from both The University of Melbourne (Professor Marcia Langton, Chair of Indigenous Studies, and Ms Maureen Tehan of the Faculty of Law, and Dr Lisa Palmer, Postdoctoral Research Fellow) and The University of Technology Sydney (Professor Larissa Behrendt of the Faculty of Law and Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning and Ms Lisa Briscoe, PhD candidate). The project is also supported by AIATSIS.

We have written to many stakeholders requesting their assistance with this project. Such assistance may, in the first instance, involve the provision of actual agreements or information relating to agreements for inclusion in our database. We continue to seek any individuals and organisations able to provide information on and/or make available agreements (or parts of agreements) which contain information which could be made available in the public domain.

If you can assist us with our research or if you would like further information about our project please contact us. Dr Lisa Palmer, Postdoctoral Fellow, on 03 8344 3462 or email lrpalmer@unimelb.edu.au or visit our website:

<http://www.indigenous.unimelb.edu.au/atn>
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