



Supporting Traditional Decision-Making

through a Contemporary Prism.

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Overview

- Traditional Communities
- NMAS 'Self-determination'
- Tools and techniques
- Case Study
- Conclusions

Traditional Communities

Victoria, Australia



A Disengaged Community

- Allegations of nepotism in employment
- Fraud or mismanagement of community funds
- Low levels of collaboration and cohesion
- Limited opportunities for capacity building
- Threats and aggressive behaviour surrounding group meetings

Traditional Decision-making Processes

- Physical
- Non Physical
- Binding Decisions

National Mediator Accreditation System

PART III 2 The mediation process

- Assists **participants to make their own decisions**
- Promotes the **self-determination** of participant

Supporting Self-determination

Disempowered



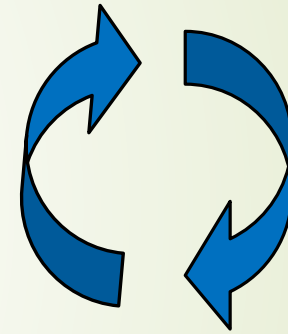
Self-absorbed

Negative
Destructive
Alienating
Demonising

➤ **Empowerment shift** ➤

➤ **Recognition Shift** ➤

Empowered



Responsive

Positive
Constructive
Connecting
Humanising

Openness

Honesty

Transparency

Empathy

Compassion

Safety



Strengthening Traditional Decision-making

1. Process Design
2. Family meetings
3. Family Re-Engagement Process Draft Report
4. Traditional Owner Forums
5. Re-engagement Implementation Plan
6. Implementing the plan

The Plan

as determined by the BGLC community:

- Engagement and Communication
- Safety and Managing Conflict
- Governance
- Training and Skills building
- Renegotiation of 2005 Native Title agreements

Conclusions

“A transparent, cohesive and sustainable organisation reflecting respect, culture and its diversity”

- Vision developed by the board
- Re-engagement plan being implemented by the board
- Community celebration of 10th anniversary of obtaining Native Title

Questions / Further information



Come and say hello

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