



25 October 2022

Budget delivers important milestone on path to a referendum on an Indigenous Voice to Parliament

From the Heart welcomes the \$75.1 million in budget funding to prepare for a referendum on a Voice to Parliament in the next financial year, including funding for preparatory work by the Australian Electoral Commission that confirms a national ballot will likely be held in late 2023 or early 2024.

From the Heart Campaign Director Dean Parkin said: “This is another important milestone in the campaign for constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through a Voice to Parliament.

“With funding now committed to the logistics of preparing Australia for its first referendum in more than 20 years, we are a step closer to delivering practical and meaningful change in how government approaches the challenges for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

“We know there is a huge amount of goodwill amongst Australians towards a Voice to Parliament as a fair and practical proposal, and research shows Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from all over Australia overwhelmingly support this too.

“Giving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people the opportunity to have a say on matters that affect them will deliver better results on the ground and mean less wastage on programs and services that don’t make a practical difference.

“With each announcement such as this, we are a step closer to a single, short and powerful word that Australians are ready to say: Yes.”

Dean Parkin is available for interviews on Wednesday

Contact: media@fromtheheart.com.au

About From the Heart:

From the Heart shows Australians that an Indigenous Voice to Parliament enshrined in the constitution is fair, is practical, and that it is time that we make this change in the interests of our shared future. From the Heart is administered by the Cape York Institute and made possible through the generous support of our partners. Find out more at www.fromtheheart.com.au