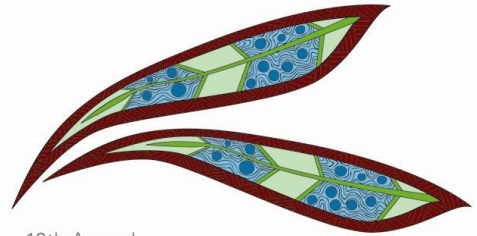




**AIATSIS**  
Australian Institute of Aboriginal  
and Torres Strait Islander Studies



Native Title Services Victoria Ltd



10th Annual  
NATIVE TITLE CONFERENCE 2009  
SPIRIT OF COUNTRY · LAND · WATER · LIFE

*Bunji Aka: Bik, Paen, Mooroop*

Tuesday 2 June 2009

## MEDIA ALERT

### Smoking ceremony to open 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Native Title Conference

A traditional smoking ceremony by the Wurundjeri people will open the 10th Annual National Native Title Conference tomorrow, Wednesday 3 June, at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

More than 650 people will attend the conference, co-convened by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) and Native Title Services Victoria (NTSV) from Wednesday 3 June to Friday 5 June.

Through workshops, speeches and discussions, participants will explore the theme *Spirit of Country, Land, Water, Life*.

The annual Native Title Conference provides an opportunity for people involved in every aspect of native title to come together to exchange ideas, develop better practice and learn from the experiences of others.

**What:** Traditional Welcome Ceremony, Native Title Conference 2009  
Smoking ceremony outside Gate 2, 5.15-5.45pm  
Welcome to Country speeches and dance performance Members Dining Room, 6-6.40pm

**Where:** Melbourne Cricket Ground

**When:** Wednesday 3 June 5.15pm – 6.40pm

**Who:** Wurundjeri representatives  
AIATSIS Chairperson, Professor Mick Dodson  
NTSV Chairperson, Mr Graham Atkinson  
Conference participants

All media are required to register in person at the Registration Desk, located in the Percy Beames Bar at the top of the escalator at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. The Registration Desk will be open on Wednesday 3 June from 8.00am – 7.30pm. For more information on registering at the conference please email [suzi.clark@aiatsis.gov.au](mailto:suzi.clark@aiatsis.gov.au)

The full conference program can be found at:

<http://ntru.aiatsis.gov.au/conf2009/NativeTitleConferenceWebsite/index.html>

Media interested in attending the conference should contact: AIATSIS Director of Public Affairs, Suzi Clark, on (02) 6261 4254 or 0419 978 035 or [suzi.clark@aiatsis.gov.au](mailto:suzi.clark@aiatsis.gov.au) or Chris Ryan on 0408 688 026.