

You are
cordially
invited to
attend:

Nulungu Talking Heads Seminar Series

“Why Land Tenure Reform is Critical for the Social Reconstruction of Aboriginal People and Communities” - presented by Mr Ed Wensing, PhD Scholar at the National Centre for Indigenous Studies at the Australian National University.

Thursday 21st August

12:30 – 1:30pm

Venue: The University of Notre Dame Australia

Kailis Room, 88 Guy Street, Broome, 6725

For further information 08 9192 0670 | cathie.martin@nd.edu.au



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About Ed

Ed Wensing FPIA is an experienced urban and regional planner and policy analyst. Ed holds a Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Political Science from the ANU and technical qualifications from the Canberra Institute of Technology in cartography and surveying. Ed has worked as an urban and environmental planner in government, the private sector and for NGOs. Over the last 18 years he has worked extensively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities, principally on native title, land tenure and urban and environmental planning matters. Ed is currently a PhD Candidate at the National Centre for Indigenous Studies at the ANU and a Visiting Fellow at the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies. His research interests are in the just accommodation of customary land rights in conventional land tenure and contemporary land use planning systems. Ed also holds Visiting Lecturer posts in the Urban and Regional Planning Program, University of Canberra and in the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Science and Engineering, James Cook University and is an Associate with SGS Economics and Planning, and Director of his own consultancy firm, Planning Integration Consultants Pty Ltd.

About the Seminar

The current debate about 'Indigenous land tenure reform' is skewed toward the neo-liberal view of private home ownership and capital accumulation at the expense of communal forms of tenure where the land value capture can benefit present and future generations and somewhat insulate low to middle income households from the vagaries of the housing market, especially in remote communities where no such market exists (if it ever will in its pure form). In this presentation I will give some insights into my current research into the just accommodation of customary land rights and interests into conventional land tenure systems. I will argue, as others have before me, that the current basis for admitting Aboriginal land rights into the Anglo-Australian framework of land law and tenure only continues the dispossession of colonialism, only this time under the guise of inalienability giving the Crown a monopoly power to extinguish customary land rights and interests, and I postulate that it is time to 'puncture some legal orthodoxies' in relating to property and land tenure.