

Struggle against KLC

Ngallagunda Aboriginal Community wishes to offer support to the Kandiwal Aboriginal Corporation in their struggle with the Kimberley Land Council (KLC).

While we acknowledge the work the KLC did in the development of land rights, they seem to have overstepped the mark with their current operations.

We are unhappy that in the early stages, the KLC made us tell them all our birth stories.

These documents were never returned to us and they are a resource list of all our sacred sites and birth sites.

We believe it is this resource that now leaves us vulnerable to tourist exploitation and makes us feel cheated.

It is hard for us to tell our children our stories when we know the places that we tell them are sacred and must be protected are no longer secret.

We, as elders of both this community and the Ngarinyin people, want to be able to decide our own destiny, not have the KLC talk for us.

We are not happy with their habit of taking ex-employees and ex-committee members along as 'stand in' elders, who they then say speak for us, when they are, in general, not people from our country.

Mining companies now have to talk to the KLC and so we no longer have access to them...we do not know what is going on and so we have no way of talking to these companies when we have the knowledge of our land and we have the sacred charge of keeping it safe.

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