

TALKING

Native Title

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL NATIVE TITLE TRIBUNAL

JUNE 2008

Unprecedented agreement makes new partnership

Former Mayor of Toowoomba City Council, Dianne Thorley, greets the Nunukul Yuggera Aboriginal dancers after their performance at the agreement signing ceremony on 27 February 2008.



Against the misty backdrop of Tabletop Bushland Reserve, the Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul People and Toowoomba City Council

gathered to sign an agreement establishing how their native title and local government interests can coexist.

The reserve, over which the indigenous land use agreement (ILUA) has been reached, is in the Toowoomba City Council region and part of the Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul People's native title claim in south-east Queensland. The reserve is also the site of one of the last major battles between traditional owners and European settlers in 1843, The Battle of One Tree Hill.

By establishing how the native title claimants and the city council will work together cooperatively

to manage and protect the reserve, the agreement ensures the protection of Aboriginal places and the broader community use of the area.

Former council Mayor, Dianne Thorley, said the achievement was unprecedented in Toowoomba's history. "The agreement marks the beginning of a partnership between council and the traditional owners for this particular part of Toowoomba City," she said.

Under the ILUA the council has recognised the Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul People as the traditional owners of the area.

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