



Rev. Dr.(hon) Raymond Minniecon.
Scarred Tree Indigenous Ministries
St John's Anglican Church
Glebe. 2037.
New South Wales
Australia.

24th February 2025

To: My Jewish Friends

My Dear Beloved Friends,

I write to you with a heavy and contrite heart—a heart burdened by the weight of injustice and the pain of racism that you and your people have experienced here on these ancient, sacred Aboriginal lands of my peoples. As an Indigenous Christian Elder, I feel both the call of our ancestral wisdom and the mandate of Christ's teachings to speak truth and love into the spaces stained by racism.

I am deeply sorry for the racism that has been inflicted upon you. I recognize that, in a land rich with history and spiritual heritage, acts of discrimination have wounded not only your spirit but also the collective conscience of our community. The teachings of our ancestors, which hold all creation as sacred, and the Biblical call to love one another unconditionally, remind us that every human being is a cherished child of the Creator. Yet, too often, the beauty of this truth has been overshadowed by fear, ignorance, and prejudice.

I acknowledge that the racist attitudes and systemic injustices you have encountered are unacceptable and must be confronted. It grieves me deeply that the shared spaces of our lands—places where the earth tells stories of our resilience, pain, sorrow, and hope—have also borne witness to words and actions that have hurt you. I stand with you in your pain and in your pursuit of justice, and I offer this sincere apology for the failures of our broader society to uphold the dignity and respect you deserve.

Like William Cooper, an old Elder from our people who stood with you in your darkest hour, I ask that you accept this apology to be more than words. I will try to commit myself to listening intently to your experiences, learning from your wisdom, walking with you, and using my voice and influence to challenge and change the systems that permit racism to thrive. May we continue to work together to build bridges of understanding, foster

environments of healing, and transform our shared spaces into sanctuaries of compassion and equality.

I pray that in the spirit of reconciliation and mutual respect, we may join our hearts and hands in a journey toward healing—a journey that honours the deep histories of both our peoples and the sacred land that sustains us. May forgiveness, understanding, and a renewed commitment to justice guide us forward.

With deepest respect and heartfelt sorrow,

Shalom!

R. Minniecon

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