

KOORI • MURRI • GOORI AND PALAWA STORYLINES

A NEW MILLENNIUM ... 2001 – PRESENT

Stolen Generations' experiences are widely discussed and the Federal Parliament Apology (2008) marks an important symbolic recognition and change in direction for the Australian Government.

The Northern Territory repeals mandatory sentencing laws after protests, and apologises to the Stolen Generations. Marion Scrymgour is elected Member for Arafura (NT) and is the first Indigenous woman to be Deputy Chief Minister in 2008.

Aden Ridgeway becomes Deputy Leader of the Democrats, the second Aboriginal person to be elected to Federal Parliament.

Federal Court overrules 1995 Hindmarsh Island (Kumarangk) Royal Commission which found that Ngarrindjeri women fabricated their 'secret women's business' case opposing bridge.
2001

The film *Rabbit-proof Fence* based on Doris Pilkington Garimara's book is screened widely, bringing Stolen Generations issues into popular discussion.

The *National Indigenous Times* first published.

Valerie Linow is awarded compensation for the sexual assault and injuries suffered after removal from her family.

Keith Windschuttle* argues that numbers of Aboriginal people killed during invasion and colonisation are exaggerated. Robert Manne*, Henry Reynolds* and others argue against Windschuttle in debates known as the 'History Wars'.
2002

Teenager TJ Hickey's death sparks Redfern riot over policing, racism and conditions.

Cameron Doomadgee (aka Mulrunji) of Palm Island dies in police custody, re-igniting discussion about police and Aboriginal communities.

Casey Donovan wins *Australian Idol*, a popular TV program for aspiring singers.
2004

The Northern Territory Intervention (2007) sparks controversy, with the suspension of the *Racial Discrimination Act (1975)*, welfare quarantining and the exchange of leases for basic services.

Aboriginal Languages syllabus introduced in NSW schools by Board of Studies.

ATSIC (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission), the national elected Aboriginal representative body, dismantled and replaced by government-selected 'advisers'.
2005

First Stolen Generations compensation scheme is set up in Tasmania.

10 Canoes directed by Rolf de Heer* in collaboration with the people of Ramingining, NT, is released – possibly the first-ever feature film in an Aboriginal language (mainly Ganalbingu).
2006

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stories and histories feature prominently in film, TV, music, art, publishing and language revival. Several works achieve international and popular success.

Federal Parliament apologises to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people removed from their families and communities by government organisations.

The first Welcome to Country is held in Federal Parliament by Ngunnawal people.

The World Indigenous Peoples' Conference on Education (WIPC:E) held in Melbourne on the country of the Kulin nation.

Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu, who sings in Gumjatj language, wins numerous ARIA awards and has the best-selling World Music album in UK, Switzerland and Germany for 2009.

The NT Government announces compulsory teaching in English for the first four hours of each school day, arguing that remote bilingual schools did not perform well in national skills tests.
2008

Some people support the action, but there is also ongoing community opposition.

Federal Parliament refuses to endorse the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
2007

Samson and Delilah wins the Camera d'Or (best first feature film) at Cannes Film Festival, and seven AFI awards.

Federal Parliament endorses UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Deputy Leader of NT Government, Marion Scrymgour, resigns from Cabinet over the homelands policy. Fellow NT Indigenous Labor MP, Alison Anderson quits over Intervention-related housing issues. Scrymgour later returns to the NT Government.
2009

PAULINE McLEOD LIFE STORY

2001
The book of Dreaming stories *Gadi Mirrabooka* published in consultation with Aboriginal Story custodians including Pauline McLeod.

LINDA BURNEY LIFE STORY

2002
Burney is awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Charles Sturt University for her services to education.

2002
Pauline McLeod tells Dreaming stories on Sorry Day.

2003
Pauline McLeod dies during first week of a National Children's and Youth Law Centre (NCYLC) project for young people, which she co-produced.

I'm going to be a black swan for a while.
– from an interview on SBS TV

2003
Burney is the first Aboriginal person elected to NSW Parliament as Member for Canterbury, a culturally diverse electorate in Sydney.

2004
The Pauline McLeod Award for Reconciliation founded to acknowledge people's contributions to the community under the banner of Reconciliation.

2004
Tania Major, a Kokobera woman from Kowanyama in Cape York, becomes the youngest person elected to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC).

2007
Burney is appointed NSW Minister for Fair Trading, Youth and Volunteering.

2007
Tania Major is named Young Australian of the Year.

2009
Burney commences her term as President of the Australian Labor Party (elected in 2006) and is also appointed NSW Minister for the State Plan.

2009
Queensland Court of Appeal orders new inquest into Mulrunji's death in custody in 2004.

2009
Mick Dodson of Yawuru people near Broome (WA), who was the first Indigenous law graduate (Monash University) in 1974, and is now a Professor at Australian National University College of Law, is named Australian of the Year.