

MEDIA JOINT STATEMENT - DUAL NAMING

This Statement is in response to the submission of Toomaroombah Kunama Namadgi Indigenous Corporation ICN 8520 [TKNIC] to the NSW Geographical Names Board [GNB]

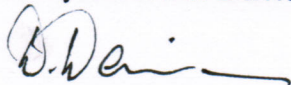
1. The Monero-Ngarigo representatives on the Southern Kosciuszko National Park MOU Committee and the Polish Community represented by Kosciuszko Heritage Incorporated support the notion of Dual Naming as identified in the KNP Plan of Management, providing the name is one agreed to by the Monero-Ngarigo People.
2. The aspiration of the Monero-Ngarigo People and other surrounding Custodian groups to Dual Naming the Park and places in the Park was identified during the development of the Plan of Management 2006, p. 23, p. 88, p. 99, p. 290.
3. The publishing of the Kosciuszko Plan of Management in 2006 articulated that aspiration and it was the catalyst for bringing the Monero-Ngarigo and Polish communities together. The ensuing years have seen the development of a deep respect and genuine friendship between us, fully respectful of each other's heritage and stakeholdership in this issue.
4. We are of the firm belief and conviction that the current TKNIC proposal to the GNB regarding Mt Kosciuszko is fraught with complexity and competing interests.
5. While Kosciuszko Massif rests on the Traditional Lands of the Monero-Ngarigo People there is no agreement regarding traditional names as each surrounding People and Language Group may know them by different names.
6. Consequently, we believe that there should be due diligence applied to who speaks for the Country and extensive research and investigation undertaken to identify the Monero-Ngarigo Language name for it. There

must be proper engagement of all those groups who may have an interest in this matter before any proposal for dual naming is considered and progressed by the GNB.

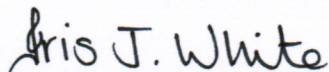
7. Until the above steps are taken, the name of Kosciuszko for Mount Kosciuszko should remain as is, in agreement with KNP Plan of Management, p.88.
8. The Polish Community recognizes the Inherent Sovereignty of the Monero-Ngarigo People over their Traditional Lands including Mt Kosciuszko. We would also like to see more information, made available to the public regarding the value and significance of the current name of Mt Kosciuszko, as related to Tadeusz Kosciuszko, a champion of liberty, freedom, equal rights and a supporter of indigenous people.

On behalf of the Monero Ngarigo People

Aunty Deanna Davison, Monero Ngarigo Elder

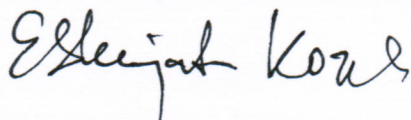


Iris White Chairperson of the Southern Kosciuszko MOU Committee

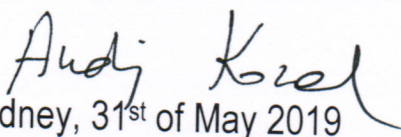


On behalf of the Polish Community in Australia

Ernestyna Skurjat-Kozek, President of KHI



Andrzej Kozek, Vice President of KHI



Sydney, 31st of May 2019