ROYAL AUSTRALIAN MINT IS COMING TO MINDIL BEACH SUNSET MARKET WITH THE CHANGE OVER TOUR

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Date: Thursday 23 June 2016
Time: 4.00 pm – 9.00 pm
Where: Mindil Beach Sunset Market

* 50th anniversary of decimal currency coins. 2016 50c Circulating Coin ($10.00 pack face value swap only).
2016 20c Circulating Coin, 2016 10c Circulating Coin and 2016 5c Circulating Coin (combined $10.00 pack face value swap only).

FIFTY YEARS OF DECIMAL CURRENCY
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN MINT

NOW that one of Australia’s longest-running and most complicated Aboriginal land claims has finally been settled, a traditional owner hopes the Larrakia people will begin mending the rift dividing the community.

Raelene Singh and her family have been recognised by the government as the rightful owners of the Kenbi site on the Cox Peninsula, across the harbour from Darwin, and in a ceremony yesterday received the title deeds to the land from Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull.

“Today it feels joy and a relief to finally get this land handed back and to become finally Aboriginal land,” she said. Running since 1979, in April the land claim was finally completed, following two hearings, three Federal Court reviews and two High Court appeals.

The final agreement includes 52,000ha as land trust land and 13,000ha as freehold land which can be used for indigenous business development, with about 1600 Larrakia people to benefit.

Some Larrakia people are still unhappy with the resolution and do not support Ms Singh’s family being designated as traditional owners.

As a senior ranger, she said she was looking forward to caring for sacred sites as her ancestors did, and creating more jobs in the community of Belyuen, perhaps starting with an ecotourism venture.

Ms Singh said she hoped that now the handover was complete healing would begin with other Larrakia groups.

“Even though they didn’t win or they never been recognised, still in all, it’s Larrakia land and I want to share,” she said. “I’ve seen a few people who was fighting for this land too, they came and congratulated me and that made me feel more good.”

Darwin Larrakia man Eric Fejo had sharp words for assembled leaders, imploring Larrakia people to reject the government’s mantra of northern development.

Earlier, Mr Turnbull acknowledged the trauma of the past and said the handback proved Australian law could provide “some justices” for indigenous people.

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