

# Queensland voters

You were misled about  
**North Straddie** last election

A message from the Quandamooka people  
The traditional owners of North Stradbroke Island



# Yura Yura Yura

## Why not come on over

Yura is the Quandamooka word for Welcome.

Because that's exactly what we want to do  
- welcome you to our "Country".

Come and feel the spirit of Quandamooka Country on  
Queensland's magnificent North Stradbroke Island.

Despite the issues we currently have with the State  
Government the good news is  
**North Straddie** still has plenty to offer

- beautiful beaches, great bush walking, wildlife  
encounters on land and sea, great coffee, good  
dining and the list goes on.

So the Quandamooka people say: **Come on over.**

Yura, Yura, Yura! Welcome, Welcome, Welcome!

You can:

- enjoy a day trip;
- stay for a romantic weekend;
- hold a work conference; or
- enjoy a longer family vacation.

And they are just a few ways to enjoy yourself  
on one of the world's largest and prettiest sand  
islands - North Stradbroke Island, on Brisbane's  
door step.

Check out some of the options for an enjoyable stay  
in Quandamooka Country, North Stradbroke Island:

[www.qyac.net.au](http://www.qyac.net.au)

Feel the spirit of Quandamooka Country

Authorised by Cameron Costello, CEO of QYAC, 100 East Coast Road, Dunwich, QLD 4183

# Don't Undermine our Rights

## Sibelco runs pro-LNP campaign; LNP favours Sibelco

During the 2012 State election Queensland voters received information attacking agreed sand mining laws for beautiful North Stradbroke Island. Most of the information was paid for by Belgium-based company, Sibelco, whose North Stradbroke mining interests the LNP promised to favour. The Liberal National Party (LNP) heavily politicised the issue and attacked the original laws as a Labor pitch for Greens preferences. That was not true. Queensland electors were misled about the nature of the issue.

The LNP failed to point out it was effectively proposing to tear up a legal agreement between the State of Queensland and North Stradbroke Island's traditional owners, the Quandamooka people.

## LNP tears up Native Title agreement – the steps

### Early 1990s

Australia acknowledges Native Title.

### 2000-11

Lengthy negotiations between the Quandamooka people, State Government and other stakeholders over recognition of Native Title rights on North Stradbroke Island and parts of Moreton Bay.

### 2011

Quandamooka Native Title rights over North Stradbroke Island recognized by consent with all stakeholders. Queensland Government signs Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) with the Quandamooka people. It enacts laws that give effect to the contents of the ILUA. This includes extending sand mining on an expired lease until 2019. Mining to then cease so the Quandamooka can fully exercise their Native Title rights.

### Early 2012

LNP "promises" to "tear up" this agreement with the Quandamooka people and misleadingly claims it is a "Greenies" issue. Sand miner, Sibelco, also runs a public campaign along these lines, with a heavy emphasis on Campbell Newman's electorate of Ashgrove.

### 24 March 2012

LNP wins election. Campbell Newman wins Ashgrove, becomes LNP premier.

### 2012-13

LNP favours Sibelco and overturns North Stradbroke Island outcomes agreed with the Quandamooka.

Sibelco's campaign consultants, Rowland, claim there was considerable interaction between, Sibelco, its agents and the new LNP State Government:

*Post-election engagement with key ministers, and the government's establishment of a working group to develop new policy and legislation followed this early endorsement. Following the election, the new Minister for Mines and Natural Resources announced an extension to operations until 2035. (Source: Rowland. Achieving social, environmental and economic progress in an island community: sand mining and its benefits on North Stradbroke Island.)*

The Quandamooka people are sidelined; no genuine negotiations occur with the Native Title holders of North Stradbroke Island. In fact, in the post-election period the Quandamooka people regularly sought discussions with the State Government about its North Stradbroke Island policy and were rebuffed.

New North Stradbroke Island sand mining laws are drafted without the consent of the Native Title holders.

### Late 2013

New North Stradbroke mining laws favouring Sibelco are introduced into parliament.

A parliamentary committee agreed the LNP government had not consulted the Quandamooka people.

However, the LNP rams the new laws through parliament, giving Sibelco more than it originally sought.

### 2014

The Crime and Corruption Commission is asked to look into links between Sibelco's 2012 State election campaign, including the Ashgrove electorate component, and the LNP's new North Stradbroke Island laws.

The Crime and Corruption Commission, whose powers were significantly altered by the LNP State Government, advises the Quandamooka people:

*"Our assessment is that while the allegation you have raised may, if proved, amount to suspected corrupt conduct, the assertion of favourable treatment for Sibelco and a connection between the donations by Sibelco and the recent legislative amendments is speculative. Accordingly, the CCC is not able to take any further action." (CCC letter to QYAC, 16/10/14)*

## Conclusion

The Quandamooka people believe the electors of Queensland were misled during the 2012 State election campaign about the North Stradbroke Island sand mining issue.

It was characterized as an environmental issue, when in fact the issue involved attacks by the LNP on the rights of North Stradbroke Island's traditional owners and effectively tore up a legal agreement or contract between the State of Queensland and the Quandamooka people.

The mining company, which benefited from this LNP action, spent a significant amount of money providing political support to the LNP, including in Campbell Newman's electorate of Ashgrove.

Public relations and political lobbying firm, Rowland, was a major adviser to Sibelco on this campaign and claim it was "extremely successful and the overall goal exceeded". The overall goal being the extension of sand mining until 2027, while the "newly-elected (LNP) government committed to extending sand mining operations to 2035".

*Source: Rowland. Achieving social, environmental and economic progress in an island community: sand mining and its benefits on North Stradbroke Island.)*

The screenshot shows a news article from the Brisbane Times. The headline is "CCC says no inquiry into 2012 \$91,000 Sibelco sandmining ads". The article is dated November 18, 2014, at 12:00AM. The author is Tony Moore, a senior reporter. The article includes social media sharing options (Twitter, Facebook, etc.) and a photo of a sand mining operation on North Stradbroke Island. A caption below the photo reads: "The CCC will not investigate a Quandamooka complaint about Stradbroke Island sandmining advertising and the Ashgrove electorate. Photo: Robert Rough".

## Who are the Quandamooka People?

- The Quandamooka people are the people of Moreton Bay and the traditional owners of North Stradbroke Island - "Quandamooka" is the Aboriginal word for Moreton Bay and the islands within it.
- The Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC) manages their native title rights and interests. Yoolooburrabee means 'people of the sand and sea'.



"The Quandamooka people have been sidelined. The LNP has looked after a mining company, which campaigned for it during the 2012 State election, and failed to consult the Quandamooka people about its new North Stradbroke Island laws.

We cannot understand why the Crime & Corruption Commission will not clear things up one way or the other. Queensland should not be governed like this."

Uncle Bob Anderson, Quandamooka elder

Brisbane Citizen of the Year 2001  
Queensland Great Recipient 2001

For more information on this issue or to make a donation to the Quandamooka people's Don't Undermine our Rights campaign visit

[www.qyac.net.au](http://www.qyac.net.au)

also visit us on Facebook



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