



TASMANIAN ABORIGINAL CENTRE INC.

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Press Release

Invasion day march and rally
Tuesday 26th January 2016
11:00 am start

While Australians are celebrating Australia day this year, the Tasmanian Aboriginal community will take to the streets of Hobart in protest of the celebration of a date that marks the downfall of our people.

“Aborigines call the 26th of January ‘Invasion day’ because it is the anniversary of the arrival of the first fleet of British in Australia in 1788 and it is symbolic of the invasion of Aboriginal peoples lands and the atrocities and injustices Aboriginal people have been subjected to ever since”, said Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre State Secretary, Trudy Maluga.

“For years we have heard talk on a national level of reconciliation between whites and blacks, but how can we that ever be achieved if Australians won’t change the date of their national day to a day that doesn’t offend and marginalise Aboriginal people”.

“In Tasmania, Premier Will Hodgman hasn’t made any effort to change the date of Australia day despite his repeated statement that he is committed to ‘resetting the relationship’ with the Aboriginal community”, said Miss Maluga

“We are calling on the wider community, state and federal politicians, local councils – everyone, to support changing the date of Australia day to a more inclusive and less racist date. There are a lot of supportive people in the wider community already but we need influential people to show leadership and elevate the campaign”.

The Tasmanian Aboriginal community will be marching from the Hobart TAC office in Elizabeth Street at 11.20 am to Parliament lawns starting at 11.50 am. All supporters are welcome to attend. There will be a rally on parliament lawns following the march with several speakers and entertainment.

Trudy Maluga
State Secretary