



Submission FOB148

Shirley Saywell

From: [REDACTED]
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Saywell, Shirley - Redistribution TAS - Submission on the proposed Tasmanian redistribution (feedback)

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Submission on the proposed Tasmanian redistribution details

Category: Boundaries
Details:

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) has officially proposed renaming the Tasmanian federal electorate of **Franklin** to **Tongerlongeter** as part of the state's major electoral redistribution.

What a beautiful name, what a powerful story belongs to this Tasmanian hero. There can be no more worthy name holder. As a strong advocate for indigenous recognition and justice, I urge you to give positive consideration to this proposal. Such small steps can bring momentous change. Now is a good time to shift our lop-sided history telling to one of truth and real heroes.

As both a former Kiwi, and proud Australian, I understand how critical language is to appreciation and celebration of culture. And while I have spent way less of my life in NZ than I have in Australia – I regret that my understanding of Australian aboriginal culture comes nowhere close to my grasp of Māori; both in language, history and culture. It is up to those of us who can to make the change. And it must happen soon. The requirement for truth-telling is a priority as we work to “close the gap” in Australia. With this comes an unprecedented opportunity; to link significant places to our indigenous history, to weave the past into the future, and to bring respect to our stories.

I really hope that with Aboriginal peoples consent, you will use this moment to advocate for a name change of the electorate.

Shirley Saywell

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