

**THE HANK YOUNG**  
FOR ABORIGINAL WELFARE  
AND EDUCATION



**FOUNDATION**

# *Reconciliation Action Plan*

2007 - 2008

*Planting the seeds for a better future*

*The Hank Young Foundation for Aboriginal  
Welfare & Education Pty Ltd  
Rivermount Drv, Yatala Qld 4207  
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Trustee: Koorie Welfare & Education Pty Ltd  
ABN: 42631 491 436*

*The Hank Young Foundation acknowledges the traditional owners of the land upon which the Foundation offices are located, the Kombumerri People. We pay respect to the Elders, past, present and future for they hold the knowledge, memories and traditions of Australia's Indigenous culture and the hopes of the future.*

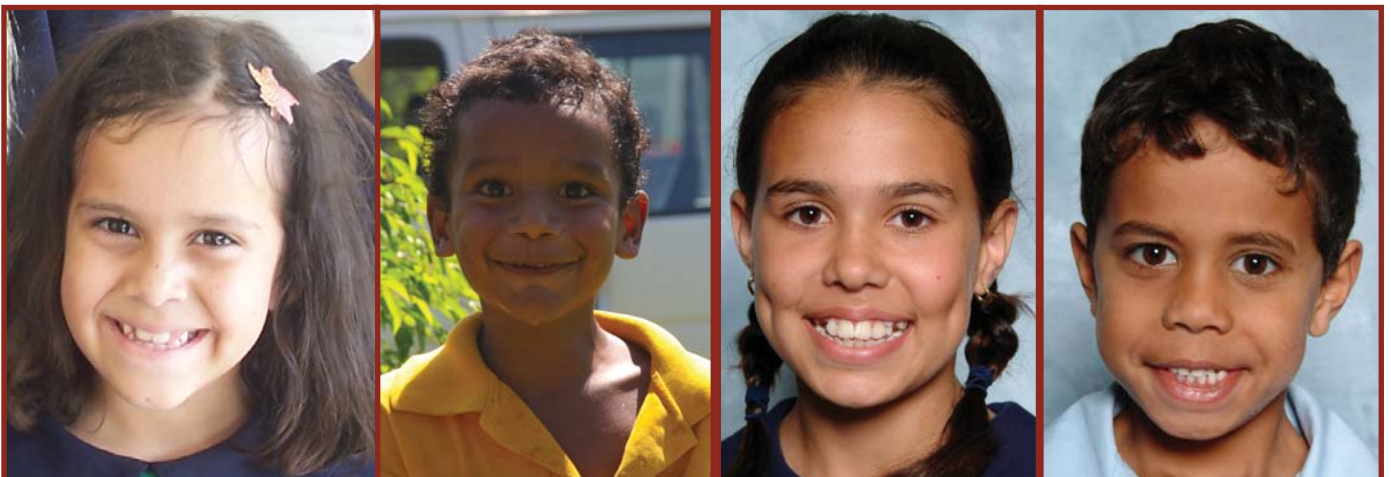
## *Our Vision*

It is the vision of The Foundation to provide guidance and financial support to projects associated with the education and welfare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their communities so that they may participate as equal members of Australian society.

The Hank Young Foundation for Aboriginal Welfare and Education is committed to projects & activities which contribute to:

*The peaceful and harmonious relationship and co-existence of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people of Australia, and*

*Reinforcing the self-esteem and personal dignity of the Aboriginal people, both as individuals and as a cultural group.*



*“Let’s not have anymore sorry time in this country, let’s work towards understanding each other and respecting each other’s cultural differences and accepting that everyone is different.*

*Let’s look towards the day when we can all stand as Australians, as one and rich in knowing that we all have a cultural heritage*

Anthony Johnson  
Past student of Rivermount College & Hank Young Foundation Scholarship student

# Our Commitment to Reconciliation

The Hank Young Foundation acknowledges the Indigenous people of Australia, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, as the original inhabitants of this land. It is the commitment of the Foundation to provide educational and welfare support to members of the Indigenous community so that they may share in the many opportunities of our nation as equal members.

The Foundation is committed to education as the force of change that will encourage all Australians to develop a greater awareness of the history, conditions and general welfare of the Indigenous people and respect the unique cultural heritage of all people regardless of race.

Through understanding, acceptance, respect and recognition, it is the mission of The Hank Young Foundation to eliminate cultural alienation, racism and social negative attitudes within our society.

The members of The Hank Young Foundation and the Directors of the Foundation Trustee (Koorie Welfare & Education Pty Ltd) are commitment to a reconciled nation where all Australians are able to live in harmony.

*“It is my great desire that by it’s activities, the work of the Foundation will help in overcoming social, educational & economic discrimination as well as personal & cultural alienation, racism & negative social attitudes.”*

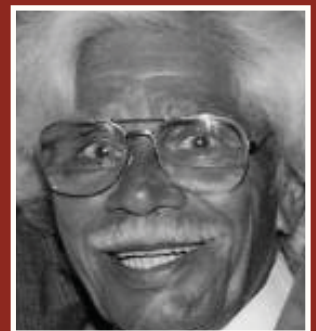
Mr Hank Young AM  
Founder—The Hank Young Foundation



Mr Hank Young AM



Mr Colin Young



Dr Neville Bonner AO

# Our Business

The Hank Young Foundation is a charitable trust fund established in 1989 by Mr Hank Young AM. With the support of his brother, Colin Young, the Foundation is able to provide guidance and financial support to projects associated with the education and welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

The main objective of the Foundation is to use and hold the trust fund and any income thereof for the welfare and education of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, specific objectives include:

*to provide finance and other support for activities contributing to the relief of poverty including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, activities contributing to income generation, job creation and micro, small and medium businesses and other self-help activities;*

*to identify, support, initiate, control and conduct effective educational institutions and programs;*

*to identify, support, initiate, control and fund non-profit activities, such as workshops, co-operatives and other similar non-profit projects;*

*to identify, initiate, develop, control and fund projects for housing, accommodation, community welfare and development projects, including health and services, child care, hostels and retirement homes;*

*to fund scholarships for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students and provide funds to individual Indigenous students;*

*to employ staff for, and assist with social, pastoral and welfare activities, including homeless, youth and prisoners;*

*to provide and fund leadership training in education, business and social, pastoral or welfare work;*

*to fund research programs;*

*to provide funds to other charitable funds, institutions and associations*

# Our Projects

## PROJECT 1: RIVERMOUNT COLLEGE, YATALA, QUEENSLAND

(Established in 1991)

Rivermount College was established by The Hank Young Foundation with the specific purpose of building bridges between the indigenous and non-indigenous people of Australia. Throughout the entire curriculum, from Prep to Year 12, the Foundation seeks to provide educational, vocational and developmental courses that aim to disseminate information that will support a greater awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, their history, conditions and general welfare and education.

The Hank Young Foundation acknowledges the support and commitment of the late Dr Neville Bonner AO as the Founding Patron of Rivermount College.

The College provides a non-denominational co-educational Christian education for students from Prep to Year 12. The campus is located approximately half way between Brisbane and the Gold Coast. The traditional owners of the land are the Kombumerri People. It is the vision of the Founders that Rivermount College will promote awareness of and appreciation for the rich and diverse culture of the Indigenous people of Australia. It is the aim of the Foundation that, as a leader in education, Rivermount College will proactively support the building of a community that embraces a future built on unity and harmony.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Performance Indicator</i>
Continue the Mission and Vision of Rivermount College to provide a quality educational institution to Indigenous and non-Indigenous students from Prep to Year 12	Ongoing	As per the Mission Statement and Aims of Objectives of Rivermount College
Continue to provide Education Scholarships to students of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent	Ongoing	Successful enrolment at Rivermount College as per the terms and conditions of the Scholarship
Ensure the staff at Rivermount College are trained in the appropriate instruction of Aboriginal Studies across the curriculum	Ongoing	Feedback from members of the College community. Regular in-service & consultation with Teaching staff
Provide financial support to projects including but not limited to student excursions, camps, workshops and Indigenous community relationships that support the curriculum ethos of Indigenous education	Ongoing	Feedback from staff and students
Provide resources to assist in the appropriate delivery of curriculum materials across all year levels	Ongoing	Regular consultation with Principal and Teaching staff

*“This isn’t about Indigenous Australia or white Australia -this is about ALL Australia”*

Michael Long, before the Long Walk in 2004

# Our Projects

## PROJECT 2: SEED FUNDING FOR INDIGENOUS PROJECTS (North Stradbroke Island—Minjerribah)

In 2007 The Foundation established a working relationship with the Indigenous people of North Stradbroke Island. The Foundation has provided seed funding to the Salt Water Indigenous Art Society and the Minjerribah Respite Centre to assist with the ongoing work and future development of these organisations.

The Hank Young Foundation has established a working relationship with Mrs Margaret Iselin, Elder of the Minjerribah/Moorgumpin Council on North Stradbroke Island.

The Indigenous people of North Stradbroke Island have a traditional heritage that stretches back to 1803 when Matthew Flinders, the first recorded European landed and came into contact with the local Aboriginal people.

Minjerribah is the traditional Indigenous name for North Stradbroke Island. The traditional land owners of the Island are the Nunukal, Nughie & Goenpil peoples. The Indigenous people of North Stradbroke Island have a close affiliation with the Moorgumpin people of Moreton Island. This was a result a traditional relationship formed before the separating of the two islands thousands of years ago.

The Island of North Stradbroke is located 30 km southeast of Brisbane

<i>Action</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Performance Indicator</i>
Provide funding to the North Stradbroke Island Minjerribah Respite Centre to provide numerous services to older and frail residents of the Island	October 2007 (Completed)	Funds used for purpose of objective
Provide seed funding to the Salt Water Indigenous Arts Project to support the ongoing work of local Indigenous artists	November 2007 (Completed)	Funds used for purpose of objective
Ongoing and appropriate consultation with relevant members of the Indigenous community on North Stradbroke Island	Ongoing	Successful negotiation and implementation of desired funding for project use

*We must respect each other's right to choose a collective destiny, and the opportunity to develop the legal and political rights for Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples so that we may enjoy the right to maintain our culture, our heritage and our land, as a united Australia*

Jackie Huggins  
Aboriginal Rights Activist

# Our Projects

## PROJECT 3: RADIANT LIFE COLLEGE, INNISFAIL QLD

In 2007 The Hank Young Foundation sought Government approval to establish an additional campus of Rivermount College at Innisfail in North Queensland. It was anticipated that the Innisfail campus would commence in January 2008. Former students of Innisfail Christian College (Radiant Life College) will receive financial support from the Foundation in 2008.

The Foundation has allocated funds to develop the facilities and educational programs of the campus to cater for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students in the region.

Radiant Life College is located in the Johnstone Shire of Innisfail, North Queensland. The Hank Foundation is committed to working with Pastors Anthony and Selena Edwards to establish a non-denominational Christian College for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students.

The community of Innisfail is populated by a substantial percentage of Indigenous people of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent. It is envisaged that the campus will attract additional students from Papua New Guinea.

The Ma:Mu people are the traditional owners of the land in the region of Innisfail.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Performance Indicator</i>
Obtain approval and funding by way of submission to the State (Qld) Accreditation Board to operate Radiant Life College—Innisfail as an Independent P-10 School	September 2008 (Approval granted to commence 1 September 2008)	Approval by The Non-State Schools Accreditation Board
Refurbish current facilities to accommodate an intake of 40 or more students in 2008	December 2007 (Completed)	Completion of additional and refurbished teaching facilities
Provide funding and guidance for administration and educational management of the campus	Ongoing	Successful establishment & implementation of funding procedures
Provide financial support to current students of Radiant Life College to attend the school as students of Rivermount College	Ongoing	Enrolment of students in 2008 under the Governance of Rivermount Education Ltd
Source additional enrolments from Indigenous and non-Indigenous students in the region	Ongoing	Increase in student enrolments

*“We stand diminished as a nation unless we act immediately and decisively to address the marginalisation of Indigenous people across all areas of life”.*

Part of the declaration by 90 future leaders at the 2006 Australian Future Directions Forum