



**Malarndirri McCarthy**  
MINISTER FOR INDIGENOUS POLICY

25 November 2009

## **Jabiru Native Title Claim Settled**

The Indigenous Policy Minister Malarndirri McCarthy today congratulated all parties, including the Federal and Northern Territory governments and the Mirarr traditional owners, on reaching a settlement agreement for the Native Title claim over Jabiru township.

“The claim was filed in 1997 by Yvonne Margarula on behalf of the Mirarr Gundjehmi people,” Ms McCarthy said.

“The settlement recognises the Mirarr people as the Traditional Owners of Jabiru and surrounding areas through scheduling and grant of the claim area under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act*.

The settlement agreement proposes that the Mirarr immediately lease back the township area for 99 years. This settlement will ensure certainty for all stakeholders and for the future sustainable management and regional development of Jabiru.

“This agreement highlights the Northern Territory and Australian governments’ commitment to resolve complex land issues with Traditional Owners.”

Local member Marion Scrymgour also expressed strong support for the announcement.

“With the settlement agreement, community members of the Jabiru region will be able to work together to ensure sustainable development that creates long term jobs,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“You get these positive results when all parties sit down and negotiate in good faith.”

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