

# EXPLORING THE INDIGENOUS VOICE TO PARLIAMENT



**John XXIII College is hosting a panel discussion** on the Voice to Parliament ahead of the upcoming national referendum.

The event offers the College community and the wider public the chance to learn about the Voice from leading experts in Indigenous rights and cultural understanding.

**Meet our panelists overleaf.**

- Tuesday 18 July, 6:30pm–8:00pm
- Gonzaga Barry Lecture Theatre  
John XXIII College, John XXIII Avenue  
Mount Claremont

**RSVP by Monday 17 July 2023 at**  
**[www.trybooking.com/1075683](http://www.trybooking.com/1075683)**



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## OUR PARTICIPANTS



### Compere – James Back

James understands how to work together to achieve reconciliation – it has been his passion for 25 years. He celebrates deep, rich relationships and connections with the Martu People of the Western Desert and the Noongar People of the South West.

James is a founding partner of Wonnil Partners, a reconciliation specialist consulting business. He has lived and worked in remote Aboriginal communities and held various roles within reconciliation, health and education.

James was the inaugural CEO of Reconciliation WA, and is currently an Expert Director for the Noongar Karri Karrak Aboriginal Corporation in the South West and an Independent Director for the Puutu Kunti Kurrama people and the Pinikura people.



### Collene Castle

Also a founding partner of Wonnil Partners, Collene is a proud, strong Menang Ngudju Noongar yok (woman) with kinship connections throughout the Noongar and Yamatji regions in WA. With over 25 years of experience, she knows

what's needed to coach organisations through their reconciliation journey.

Collene was awarded the 2022 Perth NAIDOC Outstanding Achiever Award, recognising her contribution to national reconciliation and Aboriginal prosperity.

She is also a member of the West Coast Eagles RAP committee and a member of the Water Research Australia Board.



### Fr Frank Brennan sj

Frank is a Jesuit priest and Rector of Newman College at the University of Melbourne.

He is a Distinguished Fellow of the PM Glynn Institute at Australian Catholic University, an Adjunct Professor at the Thomas More Law School at ACU

and a research professor at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture.

He chaired the National Human Rights Consultation for the Rudd Government and was a member of the Turnbull Government's expert panel for the Religious Freedom Review. The Morrison Government appointed him to the Voice Co-Design Senior Advisory Group.



### Kate Chaney (Class 1991)

Kate Chaney is the Independent Member for Curtin in Western Australia – WA's first female Independent in the House of Representatives.

Raised on Wadjuk country, Kate attended John XXIII College and graduated from UWA with

a law degree. She was Aboriginal Affairs manager at Wesfarmers, working in partnership with Indigenous organisations. This experience informed her passionate support of the Voice to Parliament – a platform pillar on which she was elected at the 2022 Federal election.

Kate sits on the Joint Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs and the House Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs.



### Kelsi Forrest

Kelsi Forrest is a Wadjuk, Balardong, Mineng Nyoongar with kin connections to Yamatji and Wongi countries. She graduated in 2017 with a Law and Arts degree from UWA, majoring in Political Science and Indigenous Studies. Kelsi has been practising

as a lawyer in the Indigenous Law team at boutique firm Roe Legal Services for seven years, representing a number of native title claim groups, Aboriginal corporations and trusts all over WA. Kelsi is a member of the Law Society of WA's Indigenous Legal Issues Committee and has campaigned for Recognise, the former campaign for constitutional recognition.



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