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TO THE REVIEW COMMITTEE

I wish to express my entire satisfaction with all that museum has achieved since its opening.

The displays have fulfilled a great need in the community in their application to things relevant both in our past and in our recent history. As a living monument to much that is very special to us in our country of adoption it is quite unique and deserves the greatest encouragement and praise.

I have heard much in recent times of the relevance or irrelevance of oral history. Having grown up and lived in Africa for some years I can, as could so many, vouch for the power of oral history and I deplore the tendency in our society of denouncing such history because it is not part of our culture. When one hears stories retold innumerable times from a very early age, and in a family setting, from those who command the most respect, there is no doubt that one retains them to the end of one's life

I have not heard many Christians or scholars denouncing the Bible, our most read book, on the grounds that many parts of it were oral history for centuries before being committed to writing.

In particular I feel that we must acclaim the Indigenous exhibitions which are a window into so much of which we have not had an opportunity to explore. The culture of the Museum has been refreshingly questioning and open to further debate which is only to be applauded.

There are two areas of great disquiet that I would raise and indicates for me a certain lack of legitimacy in the enquiry.

**1. Why is there no historian on the committee?**

More importantly

**2. Where is the input from the Indigenous people on the Committee?**

Joan Kitchin

