

# Participant Quotes

*Excellent. I wish I had been exposed to these learning's earlier. How much better off would Australia as a nation be if we could give every person, aboriginal/non-aboriginal the gift of understanding and tolerance.*

**Human Resources - Mining Company**

*I love the constant visuals on the whiteboard and the fact that you had traditional owners/people included, validating your program and knowledge.*

**Centrelink- Indigenous Policy Implementation: Darwin 2011**

*I was raised in predominantly Aboriginal areas. My father is a policeman and due to his job I really only got to see the crime associated with Aboriginal people. Although my father tried to explain to me the Aboriginal culture and way of life, what I saw contradicted this. This seminar opened my eyes and I can now see the other side to the Aboriginal culture. It has been a great experience. Thank you.*

**Anonymous**

*This message needs to get to the people who influence decision making for the benefit of our first nation peoples.*

**NGO Community Worker: Darwin 2010**

*Much more in-depth than the old 'cross-cultural awareness' programs from the old days.*

**Education Department: Darwin 2011**

*It has brought home to me the value of knowledge/information in Yolngu society and the traditional ways it was disseminated or taught. Also how it can be abused or problematic if not approached correctly.*

**NT Police Officer**

*This seminar has changed my entire viewpoint. I didn't realise how ignorant I was being. Every single Australian should do this course.*

**Landscape Architect: Darwin 2011**

*The communication information was particularly helpful. Also talking about attainable solutions to particular situations made it very user-friendly. This course has raised so many questions that I realised I didn't know very much.*

**Community Store Worker of 11 years**

*An eye opener - more aware of problems and ways to deal with them.*

**Solicitor - Aboriginal Land Unit**

*I learnt so much it is hard to put down on paper. I learnt that Aboriginal people have a very deep and complex legal and economic past.*

**Office Manager - Land Titles Office**

*This is especially significant being presented by such a well-established, experienced, and active contribution to the Yolngu community - this seminar needs to be presented compulsorily to each non-Indigenous person who works with Indigenous people.*

**Rural Health Practitioner: Darwin 2010**

*Very informative, useful and relevant seminar. Well presented.*

**NGO worker: Darwin 2011**

*Thank you! Relevant to anyone who is Australian, especially working in communities or with Aboriginal people.*

**Anonymous: Darwin 2010**

*"I certainly see this training as relevant and useful for anyone, especially those that work in regional and remote areas or who might engage Aboriginal people whether directly or through policy or planning etc. The messages from Richard and the other presenters inspired me and increased my own knowledge as an Aboriginal person."*

**SAFECOM: Adelaide 2008 (Errol Lovegrove)**

*"Amazing seminar. The amount of information is astounding. Perspectives on Australian history and current issues that are eye opening. Thank you for helping me truly open my eyes."*

**AMRRIC 2012**

*"Love your passion – it has rubbed off onto the audience"*

**Anonymous 2012**

*"Just brilliant. It has made me more culturally aware and now I am interested in learning more"*

**Anonymous 2012**

*Great PD because from any school point of view/context getting you guys for 2 days (and a night) was an unusually long opportunity for us to hear you distil a lifetime into bite-sized moments of learning. I say this because I've been in so many cross.c PD segments that have amounted to 30-60 minute add ons to all the other preparations/housekeeping activities that were going on.*

*You 3 are a great team. One of the great things you did was the natural way you included and relied upon the Yolngu to bring meaning/added authenticity to what you were doing, in the process of putting yourself in the position of learner as well.*

**Peter McNamara** Former Teacher Linguist, Willowra/Lajamanu CEC and Principal Tiwi College.  
2010

*"We consider the Bridging the Gap seminars an essential part of our training for all of our remote staff and key members of our head office team. The course gives a deeper understanding of Indigenous culture and how their history and Balanda contact has shaped their modern views and actions. Our staff leave the course with greater empathy and a better understanding of how to work with Indigenous Australians"*

**Michael Nemarich 2013**

General Manager / Operations and Business Development. ALPA Arnhem Land Progress  
Aboriginal Corporation