

BTG PARTICIPANTS QUOTES 2017

"An insightful day...learned more about Indigenous culture, communication, culture shock, kinship and lots more ...so much that is essential knowledge for us who work in Indigenous communities but it seems that governments and agencies don't think we need any special knowledge at all. I read Richard's book in the first week I arrived in Aurukun Cape York Qld 5 years ago, and hoped I'd get to understand the local Wik culture there but they have no advocate like Richard, so none of us could learn. There was no dialogue, we worked in a 'foreign country' and did our best. Keep doing what you're doing Richard."

NT Medic: Nhulunbuy 2013

"We should have been taught the things you just taught us when we first arrived or even before we got here. I have been stressing out Yolngu people by trying to talk to them in the wrong way, but I have also been stressed out by not knowing why the people were not responding. It is crazy we are not taught this stuff."

Participant: Nhulunbuy 2013

"Respectful. Relevant. Great tips on effective communication."

NGO worker 2012

"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

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

Anonymous 2012

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

Anonymous 2012

"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