

30 July 2022



UNSW SRC SUPPORTS THE INVASION DAY RALLY

The UNSW (University of New South Wales) Student Representative Council recognises that 26th January was not a day of celebration but one which reflects the pain suffered by our First Nations community. If we want to move forward and grow as a community, we cannot do this if the growth of this multicultural nation is unkind to the suffering and destruction of First Nations language, cultures, traditions.

As students and as part of the UNSW Community, it is important that all of us take the opportunity to reflect and respect the voices of First Nations people who have expressed ongoing grief over the celebration of this day. Understanding the true impact of these historical atrocities on our First Nations people by showing up to rallies, by listening to their voices, by supporting businesses and organisations that prioritise First Nations health, education and justice is a crucial role we must all undertake.

As quoted by Zebediah Cruickshank, our NUS (National Union of Students) First Nations Officer, "As Aboriginal people we can celebrate our survival and our growth in a country that has stolen our lands and our children. We can continue to build our strength and our voices. We at the NUS encourage all to ensure they do what they can to understand the true history of this country."

The UNSW SRC (Student Representative Council) supports the survival concerts and activities of Invasion Day held across communities. We will continue to prioritise the voice of our First Nations students and staff when furthering our advocacy and activism as a representative body. We call on the University and the student community to reflect on how they can include First Nations students and staff in their activities and efforts.

President, UNSW SRC

Nayonika Bhattacharya