

23 November 2025

Via email ceo@djabugay.org.au

Hi Gemma,

Apologies for not replying to your text messages on Friday. I was on Grandma duty that day :-) and didn't have time to collect my thoughts and reply to you.

Following your phone call and text messages (attached), I'm not sure what legal position you are seeking Gemma?

I am merely advising you of the misinformation Mr Michael Quinn has perpetrated on our community for 30+ years.

Here is a video version of my letter, provided here for better accessibility and educational purposes:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_wcLeY-holg

What are you going to ask a lawyer to threaten me with? Being mean to Mr Quinn whom I asked five (5) years ago to stop with his nonsense and start helping fix the problem he started? Mr Quinn is now wasting my time by not owning up to his mistake and assisting our community to put things right.

Litigious? Defamation? How about you called me a 'crazy person' - is that not defamation of my character? Are you telling others that is your opinion of me? I haven't called you, personally, or Djabugay corporations, any mean names. I am only being clear that a super-language-group invented by the linguists is not true, has nothing to do with history, or traditional law and custom of this area. A "Djabugay Nation" of language dialects is, indeed, a fabrication. That is not my opinion. There is categorical proof of that factoid which I have provided to you in the letter (Letter to Kuranda Organisation Office Bearers, 27 Oct 2025).

I may not be Aboriginal myself but your assertion that I have no right to say anything about a whiteman's misinformation perpetrated on our community – black, white or brindle - is outrageous. How long have you lived in Kuranda? Are you knowledgeable about the extent of the damage Mr Michael Quinn's misinformation has caused over decades?

I have a right to contact office bearers of organisations (public information) to warn them of Mr Michael Quinn's misinformation. I apologise if you received multiple copies that must mean you hold multiple offices in the corporations – hence a copy for each role? There are more Aboriginal people than just Djabugay people who have been affected by Mr Quinn's misdirection, and they have a right to know the truth too. So perhaps best you don't speak for all Aboriginal people - and just stick to Djabugay - as their CEO?

I am working on behalf of my client Mr William Cecil Brim who is an Aboriginal person and a traditional owner of this area. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5yL_b9srRQ4

I am not the enemy Gemma – I haven't done anything wrong. Mr Michael Quinn is the wrongdoer here by perpetrating untruths on our vulnerable community – particularly since he has been advised numerous times he is incorrect. I'm certainly not denying that Mr Quinn did some excellent work recording the Aboriginal languages from the Elders back in the day – I've already said that to him in my letter ([LETTER-Dear-Michael-Quinn-8-October-2023.pdf](#)). I think he will be leaving an awesome body of work for future generations to access.

What I am putting forth is that Mr Quinn was wrong about the super-umbrella-language-group and so-called dialects, as Linguistics Professor RMW Dixon has indicated clearly. I am also saying that I believe Mr Quinn, perhaps in all the excitement of saving an Indigenous language back in the day, misunderstood the academic terminology used by linguists, which is the reason we're in this pickle now. Is Mr Michael Quinn an academic? What is his degree and which university did he attend? Have you seen his degree certificate? I certainly would like to see it.

As far as your accusations of me being a racist, I think if you ask anyone who knows me they will tell you that I am, in fact, quite the opposite.

I'm pretty sure you, as a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) can't just threaten legal action until you consult your board of directors. Engaging a lawyer requires your board directors to be educated about the topic, to formally agree, and vote, recorded in minutes, etc. Have you discussed it with your board yet?

Here is a link to all of my work since 2016 on this local Kuranda issue, compiled on this page, for easy access, for your board and lawyers:

<https://kurandaregion.org/correcting-the-records-project-2020-2030>

For the sake of transparency, attached is the transcript of our phone conversation 11.45am Friday, 21 November 2025 (1:38), for your records. Also attached are the text messages we shared after our phone call ended, and a PDF version of this Reply email.

Kind regards,

Jo Martin

for Correcting the Records Project 2020-2030

<https://kurandaregion.org/correcting-the-records-project-2020-2030>

history@kurandaregion.org