

HONEST HISTORY

25 September 2023

The Hon. Kim Beazley AC
Chair of Council
Australian War Memorial

Dear Mr Beazley

I am writing on behalf of Defending Country Memorial Project Inc. to seek a meeting with you to discuss the proper recognition and commemoration of the Australian Frontier Wars at the Australian War Memorial.

We could meet either in Melbourne or Canberra or electronically, but not before 14 October.

Since your original (10 March) offer to meet us, the Honest History website has tracked events and we have kept you informed.

We have delayed taking up your meeting offer while we have been developing a new website, devoted explicitly to Frontier Wars issues, and called defending-country.au.

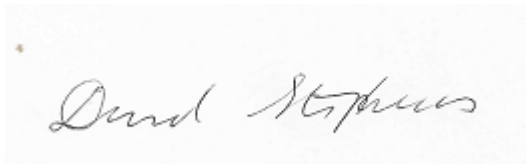
We were encouraged by some parts of the letter to me from Minister Keogh's Chief of Staff, dated 14 September, though other parts of that letter left us perplexed. The letter noted that your offer of a meeting 'still stands'.

We expect to launch the Defending Country site after 14 October. We are seeking senior First Nations people as Patrons of the site.

Draft material for the site appears on honesthistory.net.au as five articles under the heading 'Time to be honest about the Australian Frontier Wars'.

We will copy this letter to the Minister.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Stephens". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

(Dr) David Stephens
Editor, Honest History
For Defending Country Memorial Project Inc

0413 867 972

Defending Country Memorial Project Inc. has been formed to encourage the Australian War Memorial to properly recognise and commemorate the Frontier Wars. Its members are Noel Turnbull (Secretary), Professor Peter Stanley, Dr David Stephens, Dr Carolyn Holbrook and Pamela Burton.