

# HOW TO APPLY FOR A CULTURAL RECOGNITION ORDER

Steps on how to apply for a cultural recognition.

Here are the six steps to include:



**Step 1:** Check your eligibility

**Step 2:** Download an application form (adult and child)

**Step 3:** Complete the application form

**Step 4:** Complete the addendum form

**Step 5:** Submit your application

**Step 6:** Commissioner review of an application

## NEED HELP?

If you need help with an Application for a Cultural Recognition Order, general enquiries and advice bookings, call our office on

 **1800 571 102**

(free call) we'll assist you through the whole process

 [www.ocmokk.com.au](http://www.ocmokk.com.au)

## CONTACT US

**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER**  
Meriba Omasker Kaziw Kazipa

### CAIRNS

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**P : 1800 571 102**  
**E : [office@ocmokk.qld.gov.au](mailto:office@ocmokk.qld.gov.au)**

### THURSDAY ISLAND

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1/46 Victoria Parade Thursday Island,  
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[www.ocmokk.com.au](http://www.ocmokk.com.au)

Please feel free to contact our office if you have any questions.



# Cultural Recognition Order

A Process for Legal Recognition of Ailan Kastom Traditional Child Rearing Practices

## THE ACT

**On 8 September 2020, the Meriba Omasker Kaziw Kazipa (Torres Strait Islander Traditional Child Rearing Practice) Act 2020 was successfully passed in the Legislative Assembly and received formal assent on 14 September 2020.**

The Act officially came into effect on 1 July 2021, with the exception of sections pertaining to the appointment of the Commissioner (1 April 2021) and the establishment of the Office of the Commissioner (17 August 2021) and the Meriba Omasker Kaziw Kazipa Program Support Office (4 January 2022).

## WHAT IS A CULTURAL RECOGNITION ORDER?

**The Act establishes a formal procedure for Torres Strait Islander families to seek legal recognition of their traditional child-rearing practices. When families apply for legal recognition, their requests will be reviewed by the Commissioner, who will determine whether to issue a Cultural Recognition Order.**

A Cultural Recognition Order permanently transfers a person's parentage from their birth parents to their cultural parents. Following this, individuals can apply for a new birth certificate through the Births, Deaths, and Marriage's registration process.

## ABOUT US

If you wish to access more information about us please go to our web page.  
[www.ocmökk.com.au](http://www.ocmökk.com.au)



## MEET THE COMMISSIONER MERIBA OMASKER KAZIW KAZIPA

C'Zarke is deeply committed to advancing the rights and well-being of First Nations people.

His primary focus is to achieve historical, legal recognition of Torres Strait Islander traditional child-rearing practices. This groundbreaking initiative aims to heal the community and establish culturally appropriate laws for First Nations individuals.



## SERVICES

For information on services provided by our friendly staff in the Office of the Commissioner Meriba Omasker Kaziw Kazipa, Program Support Office

