

## **Royal Commissions and Official Inquiries**

### **Victoria**

**1858-59** – *Select Committee of the Legislative Council on the Aborigines; Report together with proceedings and the Minutes of Evidence.*

**1877** – *Royal Commission on the Aborigines, Report of the Commissioners Appointed to Inquire into the Present Condition of the Aborigines of this colony, and to Advise as to the Best Means of Caring for, and Dealing with Them, in the Future, Together with Minutes of Evidence and Appendices.*

**1882** – *Report of the Board Appointed to Enquire into, and Report upon, the Present Condition and Management of the Coranderrk Aboriginal Station, together with Minutes of Evidence.*

**1891** – *Select Committee upon the Settlement of the Mallee Country; Report and Minutes of Evidence.*

**1955** – *Board of Inquiry Upon the Operation of the Aborigines Protection Act 1928 and the Regulations and Orders made thereunder; Report.*

**1984** – *Report upon Inquiry into Compensation for Dispossession and Dispersal of the Aboriginal People by the Social Development Committee.*

### **South Australia**

**1860** – *Select Committee of the Legislative Council upon the Aborigines; Report together with Minutes of Evidence and Appendix*

**1866** – *Commission Appointed by the Governor-in-Chief to Inquire into the Management of the Northern Territory Expedition; Report with minutes of evidence and appendix*

**1899** – *Select Committee of the Legislative Council on the Aborigines Bill, Vol.2*

**1900** – *Justice in the Northern Territory, SAPP 60 of 1900, Government Printer, Adelaide.*

**1913** – *Royal Commission on the Aborigines; Report and Minutes of Proceedings, Evidence and Appendices.*

**1959** – *Royal Commission in regard to Rupert Max Stuart; Report.*

**1969** – *Select Committee of the Legislative Council on the Welfare of Aboriginal Children; Report.*

**1973** – *South Australian Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee, Sentencing and Corrections.*

**1974** – *South Australian Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee, Criminal Investigations.*

**1995** – *Hindmarsh Island Bridge Royal Commission 1995.*

### **NSW**

**1845** – *Select Committee on the Condition of the Aborigines.*

**1858** – *Select Committee on Murders by the Aborigines on the Dawson River; Report together with Proceedings and Minutes of Evidence.*

**1876** – *Select Committee on the condition of the Aborigines.*

**1882** – *Inquiry into working of Aboriginal Mission Stations at Warangesda and Maloga.*

**1938** – *Select Committee on the Administration of Aborigines Protection Board; Report with Proceedings and Minutes of Evidence and Exhibits.*

1966 – *Joint Select Committee on Aboriginal Welfare in NSW: Reports together with Minutes of Evidence and Proceedings.*

**1980** – *Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly upon Aborigines; Reports and Minutes of Proceedings*

## **Queensland**

**1861** – *Select Committee on the Native Police Force; Report together with Proceedings, Minutes of Evidence and Appendices.*

**1874** – *Commission [to Inquiry into] certain questions opened by a petition from a number of residents in the District of Mackay, relative to the employment and protection of the Aboriginal inhabitants of the District; Report.*

**1876** – *Board of Inquiry, Appointed by the Secretary of Land to inquiry into and report upon the state of the Aboriginal reserve at Mackay; Report.*

**1896** – *Commission on the Aborigines of Queensland; Report, together with Appendix.*

**1958** – *All-party Committee appointed for the purpose of conducting an investigation into the social, economic and cultural conditions of Torres Strait Islander; Report.*

**1964** – *Special Committee enquiring into Legislation for the Promotion of the well-being of Aborigines and Torres strait Islanders in Queensland; Report.*

**1976** – *Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations, Report upon the Facts surrounding the Attitude of the Aurukun People to the Proposed Mining Venture.*

**1977** – *Committee of Inquiry into the Enforcement of Criminal Law*

## **Western Australia**

**1871** – *Select Committee of the Legislative Council relative to the Aboriginal natives; Report.*

**1874** – *Select Committee of the Legislative Council appointed to consider and report upon the Bill to promote the efficiency of certain charitable institutions; Report.*

**1883** – *Select Committee of the Legislative Council appointed to consider and report upon the Aboriginal Native offenders Bill; Report*

**1884** – *Commission appointed by His Excellency the Governor to inquire into the treatment of Aboriginal native prisoners of the Crown in this Colony and also into other matters relative to Aboriginal natives; Report.*

**1885** – *Select Committee of the Legislative Council appointed to consider and report upon questions connected with the treatment and condition of the Aboriginal natives of the Colony.*

**1886** – *Select Committee of the Legislative Council appointed to consider and report upon the Aborigines Protection Bill; Report.*

**1904** – *Select Committee of the Legislative Council appointed to report upon the Aborigines Bill; Report.*

**1905** – *Royal Commission on the Condition of the Natives; Report.*

**1908** – *Royal Commission to Enquire into the treatment of Aboriginal Natives by the Canning Exploration*

*Party.*

**1915** – *Select Committee of the Legislative Council on the retirement of Mr GF Gale from the position of Chief Protector of Aborigines; Report.*

**1927** – *Royal Commission of Inquiry into alleged killing and burning of bodies of Aborigines in East Kimberley and into Police Methods when effecting arrests; Report.*

**1935** – *Royal Commission to investigate, report and advise upon matters in relation to the condition and treatment of Aborigines.*

**1948** – *Survey of Native Affairs; Report.*

**1956** – *Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly appointed to inquire into Native Welfare conditions in the Laverton, Warburton Range area; Report.*

**1958** – *Special Committee on Native Matters with particular reference to adequate finance; Report.*

**1973** – *Royal Commission upon various allegations of assaults on or brutality to prisoners in Fremantle Prison and of discrimination against Aboriginal or Part-Aboriginal prisoners therein*

**1974** – *Royal Commission upon All Matters Affecting the Well-Being of Persons of Aboriginal Descent in Western Australia*

**1975** – *Royal Commission to Inquire into and report upon certain incidents in which Aborigines were involved in the Laverton area; Report.*

**1976** - *The Treatment of Baymis Ugle report*

**1984** – *Aboriginal Land inquiry*

## **Northern Territory**

**1964** – *Legislative Council Select Committee on Social Welfare Legislation*

## **Commonwealth**

**1913** – *Department of External Affairs, Aborigines of the Northern Territory*

**1920** – *Royal Commission on Northern Territory Administration*

**1929** – *Commission of Inquiry touching the shooting of certain Aborigines in Central Australia.*

**1929** – *Royal Commission on the Constitution*

**1929** – *The Aborigines and Half-Castes of Central Australia and Northern Australia*

**1936** – *Recommendations of Policy in Native Affairs in the Northern Territory of Australia*

**1937** – *Aboriginal Policy*

**1937** – *Board of Inquiry Appointed to Inquiry into the Land and Land Industries of the Northern Territory of Australia.*

**1961** – *Select Committee on Voting Rights of Aborigines; Report with Minutes of Evidence; Report with Minutes of Evidence.*

**1963** – *Conference of Commonwealth and State Ministers, Aboriginal Welfare*

**1963** – *House of Representatives Select Committee on Grievances of Yirrkala Aborigines of Arnhem Land Reserve*

**1971** – *Senate Standing Committee on Social Environment*

**1972** – *Senate Standing Committee on Social Environment, The Environmental Conditions of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders and the Preservation of their Sacred Sites.*

**1973** – *Aboriginal Land Rights [Royal] Commission.*

**1973** – *The Australian Aborigines*

**1974** – *House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs, Present Conditions of Yirrkala People*

**1975** – *Commission of Inquiry into Poverty, Poverty in Australia*

**1975** – *Commission of Inquiry into Poverty, Poverty in Australia*

**1975** – *Senate Standing Committee on Social Environment, Environmental and Ecological Factors in Aboriginal Advancement Programs and Enterprises*

**1976** – *Commission of Inquiry into Poverty, Homeless People and the Law.*

**1976** – *Commission of Inquiry into Poverty, Community Services: Four Studies*

**1976** – *House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs, Alcohol Problems of Aborigines: Northern Territory Aspects*

**1976** – *Select Committee on the Environmental Conditions of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders and the Preservation of their Sacred Sites.*

**1977** – *House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs, Alcohol Problems of Aborigines.*

**1977** – *Joint Select Committee, Aboriginal Land Rights in the Northern Territory.*

**1978** – *Senate Standing Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders on Queensland Reserves.*

**1980** – *House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs, Aboriginal Legal Aid.*

**1991** – *Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody*

## **Canada**

**1876** – *Report to the Commission to Fix and Determine the Number, Extent and Locality of the Reserve of Reserves to Be Allowed to the Indians of British Columbia*

**1885** – *Royal Commission into Claims for Compensation for Loss or Damage Arising Out of the Late Half-breed and Indian Insurrection in the North-West Territories.*

**1901** – *Commission to Investigate and Adjudicate upon the Claims to Land or Scrip Arising out of the Extinguishment of the Indian Title Preferred by or on Behalf of Half-Breeds.*

**1905** – *Commission to Investigate Certain Charges Made by the Halfbreed Residents of the United States against R.C Macdonald.*

**1908** – *Commission to Investigate and Report upon Certain Claims to Lands on the St. Peter's Reserve, in the Province of Manitoba, and other matters respecting the said Reserve.*

**1912** – *Royal Commission on Indian Affairs for the Province of British Columbia*

**1914** – *Commission to Investigate Condition of Indian Affairs in British Columbia.*

**1923** – *Commission to Investigate and Enquire into the Affairs of the Six Nations Indians*

**1923** – *Commission to investigate and report upon the validity of a claim made by certain Indians of the Chippewa and Mississauga tribes who claimed that the said tribes were and are entitled to a certain interest in lands in the province of Ontario to which the Indian title has never been extinguished by surrender and otherwise and should the said commission determine in favor of the validity of the said claims, to negotiate with the said Indians.*

**1929** – *Commission for the purpose of negotiating an extension of James Bay Treaty No.9 with the Ojibwas and other Indians.*

**1944** – *Commission to inquire into the matters of membership in the Indian bands in Lesser Slave Lake Agency.*

**1947** - *Royal Commission on the Indian Act and Indian Administration in General.*

**1958** – *Commission to inquire into the desirability of establishing a new band of Indians on Seabird Island, British Columbia.*

**1959** – *Royal Commission to investigate the unfulfilled provisions of treaties 8 and 11 as they apply to the Indians of the Mackenzie District.*

**1969** – *Indian Claims Commission 1966-1977*

**1977** – *Special Inquiry for Elder Indians' Testimony.*

**1988** – *Commission of Inquiry Concerning Certain Matters Associated with the Westbank Indian Band (Canada).*

**1991-96** – *Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples*

**1993** – *National Round Table on Aboriginal Justice Issues*

**1991-2009** – *Commission on Inquiry: Indian Claims Commission*

## **New Zealand**

**1868** – *Pokaikai Commission.*

**1873** – *Commission under "Taranaki New Zealand Company's Claims Act".*

**1873** - *Hawke's Bay native lands alienation commission.*

**1880** – *Royal Commission under "The Confiscated Lands Inquiry and Maori Prisoners' Trials Act, 1879".*

**1881** – *Commission on Middle Island native land purchases.*

**1881** – *Ngatikauwhata claims commission.*

**1881** – *Ngatitooa royal commission.*

**1884** – *Commission upon certain native claims to land in Poverty Bay.*

**1886** – *Commission to inquire into terms and conditions under which native reserves at Arahura, Greymouth, Nelson and Motueka are tenanted.*

**1886** – *Inquiry into charges of bribery against certain Native Land Court assessors.*

- 1888** – *Commission on native land claims on Marlborough.*
- 1888** – *Royal Commission on Middle Island native land question.*
- 1888** – *Royal Commission to inquire into the circumstances of a lease of land at Mokau, made by the native owners to Mr Joshua Jones.*
- 1889** – *Commission on decisions of Native Land Court in respect of the Ngarara, Porangahau, Mangamaire and Waipiro Blocks.*
- 1891** – *Commission of inquiry into claims of natives to Wairarapa Lakes and adjacent lands.*
- 1891** – *Commission on Middle Island native claims.*
- 1891** – *Commission to inquire into the subject of the native land laws.*
- 1896** – *Horowhenua commission.*
- 1904** – *Royal Commission appointed under Section 18 of the “Native Land Claims Adjustment Act, 1901”.*
- 1904** – *Royal Commission on Te Akau Block.*
- 1905** – *Commission on the claims of Heni Te Rau (Mrs Brown) and others on behalf of certain of the Ngatimutunga Hapu to Section 6, Block VIII, Waitara Survey District.*
- 1905** – *Royal commission appointed under Section 11 of “The Maori Land Claims Adjustment and Laws Amendment Act, 1904.*
- 1906** – *Royal commission of inquiry into the alleged usury on loans to Maoris.*
- 1907** – *Commission appointed under Section 10 of “The Urewara District Native Reserve Act, 1896” and order made thereon by the Minister of Native Affairs.*
- 1907** – *Commission to inquire into the question of native lands and native land tenure.*
- 1912** – *West Coast settlement reserves (North Island) commission.*
- 1914** – *Commission of inquiry in regard to the existing reserves for landless natives in the South Island and in the Waikato-Maniapoto Native Land Court District and as to the disposition thereof.*
- 1916** – *Commission of inquiry into a claim made by certain natives to an area of land at Waiau, Southland.*
- 1917** – *Commission of inquiry into inquiry petition of Hoori Rewi and others in respect of the land known as Hihiaua Block.*
- 1921** – *Native land claims commission.*
- 1928** – *Royal commission to inquire into confiscations of native lands and other grievances alleged by natives.*
- 1929** – *Committee on employment of Maoris on market gardens.*
- 1929** – *Royal commission to inquire into matters relating to leases of native lands in Waikato-Maniapoto Native Land Court District.*
- 1933** – *Committee on rating of native land.*
- 1934** – *Native affairs commission.*
- 1939** – *Royal commission to inquire into and report as to grievances alleged by Maoris with regard to certain lands at Orakei, in the city of Auckland.*

**1948** – *Royal commission to inquire into and report on claims preferred by members of the Maori race touching certain lands known as surplus lands of the Crown.*

**1948** – *Royal commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants concerning the Mahia Block.*

**1948** – *Royal commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants concerning the Mokau (Manginangina) Block.*

**1948** – *Royal commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants concerning the Pukeroa-Oruawhata (Rotorua Township) Block.*

**1950** – *Royal commission to inquire into and report upon claims made by certain Maoris in respect of the Wanganui River.*

**1951** – *Royal commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants concerning the Mohaka Block.*

**1951** – *Royal commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants concerning the payment of certain moneys by the Aotea District Maori Land Board in respect of the West Taupo timber lands.*

**1951** – *Royal commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants in respect of the Tarawera and Tatarakina Blocks.*

**1951** – *Royal commission to inquire into and report upon matters and questions relating to certain leases of Maori lands vested in Maori Land Boards.*

**1951** – *Royal commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants concerning the Opouturi Block.*

**1952** – *Commission of inquiry to inquire into and report upon the working of the law relating to the taxation of Maori authorities.*

**1965** – *Committee of inquiry into laws affecting Maori land and powers of the Maori Land Court.*

**1975** – *Commission of inquiry into Maori reserved land.*

**1978** – *Committee appointed to investigate problems associated with farming Maori leasehold land.*

**1979** – *Committee appointed to review the operations of the Maori Trustee. The role of the Maori Trustee.*

**1980** – *National advisory committee on Maori education.*

**1980** – *Royal commission of inquiry on the Maori land courts.*

## **South Africa**

**1903-05** – *The South African Native Affairs Commission.*

**1910** – *Native affairs.*

**1914** – *Native grievances inquiry.*

**1916** – *Native land.*

**1917** – *Randfontein native location.*

**1918** – *Local Natives' land.*

**1918** - *Local Natives' land.*

**1918** – *Native land, Western Transvaal.*

**1918** – *Orange Free State local Natives' land.*

**1918** – *Alleged shortage of native labour in the Natal Province.*

**1918** – *Eastern Transvaal Natives' land.*

**1919** – *Alleged ill-treatment of Native by members of the police force during the recent Native unrest in Johannesburg.*

**1919** – *Any grievances of the Natives residing in the Nancefield location.*

**1919** – *Boycotting of Rand storekeepers by Natives.*

**1920** – *Native education.*

**1921** – *Causes of and occurrences at the Native disturbances at Port Elizabeth on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1920 and the general economic conditions as they affect the Native and Coloured populations.*

**1921** – *Native affairs: Israelites at Bulhoek and occurrences in May, 1921.*

**1922** – *Native pass laws.*

**1925** – *Native riots at Bloemfontein.*

**1925** – *Native churches.*

**1927** – *Coloured education.*

**1928** – *Training of Natives in medicine and public health.*

**1929** – *Native riots at Durban on 17-18 June 1929.*

**1930-32** – *The Native Economic Commission*

**1935** – *Certain questions relating to Native labour in Zululand, the Transkei territories and the Ciskei.*

**1935** – *Question of residence of natives in urban areas and certain proposed amendments of the Native Urban Areas Act no.21 of 1923.*

**1936** – *Native education.*

**1938** – *Collection of Native tax.*

**1938** – *Native affairs: token system.*

**1939** – *Mixed marriages in South Africa.*

**1939** – *Native farm labour 1937-39.*

**1942** – *Native affairs: working of the provisions of the Natives (Urban areas) act relating to the use and supply of kaffir beer.*

**1942** – *Social, health and economic conditions of urban Natives*



- 1943** – *Judicial Commission – Pretoria municipal riot.*
- 1944** – *Operation of bus services for non-Europeans on the Witwatersrand and in the district of Pretoria and Vereeniging.*
- 1944** – *Witwaersrand mine Natives' wages.*
- 1946** – *Salaries of Coloured teachers in Coloured schools.*
- 1947** – *Matters affecting Coloured persons on Coloured mission stations, reserves and settlements.*
- 1946** – *Native education*
- 1946-48** – *The Native Laws Commission*
- 1948** – *Judicial Commission: Native affairs in Durban.*
- 1948** – *Disturbances at Moroka, Johannesburg on 30 August, 1947.*
- 1948** – *Use of profits derived from the manufacture, sale and supply of kaffir beer.*
- 1949** – *Native school feeding scheme.*
- 1950-54** – *The Commission for the Socio-Economic Development of the Bantu Areas Within the Union of South Africa*
- 1950** – *South West Africa Native labourers*
- 1950** – *Acts of violence committed by Natives at Krugersdorp, Newlands, Randfontein and Newclare*
- 1951** – *Native juvenile employment on the Witwatersrand and in Pretoria.*
- 1951** – *Native education.*
- 1951** – *Disturbances in the Witzeishoek Native Reserve.*
- 1954** – *Provision of separate training facilities for non-Europeans at universities, 1953-54.*
- 1956** – *Coloured education commission, 1953-56.*
- 1957** – *Unrest and disturbances in the Linokana and other native areas in the district of Marico and in the native areas in the adjoining districts.*
- 1958** – *Non-European education in South West Africa.*
- 1962** – *Financial implications of a possible transfer of Coloured education from the provinces to the central government.*
- 1965** – *Library services for non-whites.*
- 1976** – *Matters relating to the Coloured population group.*
- 1977-80** – *The Manpower Utilization Commission*
- 1977-81** – *The Labour Legislation Commission*

## **United States**

**1789** – *Senate special committee investigation into how the status of Indian treaties would be approved within the new constitutional structure.*

**1867** – *Commission of the Indian Tribes: Report of the Joint Special Committee, Appointed under Joint Resolution of March 3, 1865*

**1867** – *Indian Peace Commission.*

**1928** - *The Meriam Report (official title was *The Problem of Indian Administration*).*

**1943** – *Survey of Conditions of the Indians in the United States.*

**1944** – *The Mundt report.*

**1952** – *Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs investigation into Bureau of Indian Affairs activities with the aim to formulate legislative proposals*

**1954** – *Termination of the Federal Supervision Over Certain Tribes of Indians.*

**1977** – *The American Indian Policy Review Commission.*

**1983** – *Presidential Commission on Indian Reservation Economies*