



# Suggestion 54

Rudolf Blums

2 pages

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 24 November 2023 4:29 PM  
**To:** FedRedistribution - VIC  
**Subject:** Casey Federal Seat name change

**Categories:** [REDACTED]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Australian Federal Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

There is confusion with The city of Casey, in Melbourne, and the Federal Seat of Casey in Victoria, not far from Melbourne Casey.

A suggestion to change the Federal seat of Casey to that of William Barak, an indigenous Wurundjeri man.

Also known as the last chief of the Yarra Yarra tribe.

Born in Brushy Creek, near Croydon, 1824-1903.

A respected leader of his people & while a member of the Police Force, was part of the tracking group to find Ned Kelly and his gang, hiding in thick scrub.

William Barak permanently settled in Coranderrk, an Aboriginal mission established to provide indigenous people with land of their own on which to build a community.

William Barak played an important part in petitioning for the end and building a thriving indigenous community at Coranderrk.

He undertook further schooling at the mission and converted to Christianity.

Upon the death of headman Simon Wonga in 1875, William Barak became the last of the Wurundjeri elder.

He was a leading advocate and spokesperson for his people.

Barak's advocacy and leadership for indigenous people and culture also took form in his painting which preserved important stories and tradition for his people.

A portrait of William Barak, commissioned by Scottish born philanthropist Ann Fraser Bon, hangs in the State Library of Victoria.

Barak's own works are appreciated by art lovers and found in homes, museums around the world.

One tribute to William Barak is the William Barak Bridge constructed in his honour between Birrarung Marr and the MCG.

The name change of Casey to William Barak would be a most suitable honour for a Wurundjeri "last chief of the Yarra Yarra tribe".

Sincerely

Rudolf Blums



(Federal Seat of Casey)