**Jeff McMullen**

For over five decades, journalist, author and filmmaker, Jeff McMullen AM, has supported the struggle by First Nations people in Australia and around the world. His focus is on improving education and health while addressing the fundamental human rights of First Peoples.

Best known from his work on television, McMullen has been a foreign correspondent for Australian Broadcasting Corporation, reporter for *Four Corners* and *Sixty Minutes*, anchor of the 33-part issue series on ABC Television, *Difference of Opinion* and host of forums on National Indigenous Television.

McMullen’s film, *East Coast Encounter,* whichexplores Lt. James Cook’s 1770 contact with Aboriginal people screened in 2018 at the British Library in London to present Aboriginal views on the impact of *terra nullius* and dispossession. The *East Coast Encounter* exhibition of the Aboriginal viewpoint is now part of the permanent collection of the Australian National Maritime Museum.

In 2019 McMullen gave the Mabo Address at the Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences in Sydney examining the human factors of leadership that inspire unity and change.

In 2016, McMullen’s “VINCENT LINGIARI MEMORIAL LECTURE” in Darwin outlined “transformational ideas” to shift, wealth, trust and real political power to Aboriginal people to assert control over their destiny.

In his landmark essay, “Dispossession: Neo-Liberalism and the Struggle for Aboriginal Land and Rights in the 21st Century” (Included in the book, IN BLACK & WHITE, published by Connor Court 2013) McMullen analysed the market forces shaping Indigenous policy.

His 2001 memoir, “A LIFE OF EXTREMES – JOURNEYS AND ENCOUNTERS’, published by HarperCollins Australia, examines the global pattern of conflict, environmental degradation and species extinction, as well as sharing ideas from some of the world’s bravest individuals on a brighter future for the human family.

In the book, “INTERVENTION: An Anthology”, published by Concerned Australians 2015 and edited by Rosie Scott and Anita Heiss, McMullen’s essay, “Rolling Thunder – Voices Against Oppression” investigates the Government deceit and propaganda surrounding the federal take-over of remote communities in the Northern Territory.

As a foundational Director of AIME (Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience) McMullen worked from 2005-2019 to grow Australia’s most successful mentoring program for Indigenous students and its introduction in Africa and North America. He served as a Director of the Engineering Aid Australia Indigenous Summer School program 2003-2021.

McMullen volunteered for fourteen years as Honorary CEO of Ian Thorpe’s Fountain for Youth, establishing early learning and the Literacy Backpack program in 22 remote communities. He was also a foundation Trustee of the late Uncle Jimmy Little’s Foundation tackling health issues in remote communities.

Jeff has been prominent in the *Close the Gap* campaign, chairing forums for AIDA and NACCHO as well as the Northern Territory’s first conference focussed on Indigenous suicide prevention. He has worked closely with the Sunrise Health Service Aboriginal Corporation in the Katherine region, developing maternal and infant health programs. He is also an Ambassador of NOFASD, the national organisation working to reduce foetal alcohol spectrum disorder in children.

In 2018 McMullen supported the advocacy of Gilbert & Tobin law firm to change the laws in each State and Territory to recognise the impact on health of foetal alcohol spectrum disorder.

A long-term patron of the *Merry Maker’s* Down’s Syndrome troupe and *Mirabel,* the foundation working to support the extended families caring for children whose parents have died from drug overdose, McMullen also contributed to the University of Canberra’s H*ealthpact Center,* promoting health and social equality for all Australian children.

In 2006 Dr Jeff McMullen was awarded an Order of Australia (AM), for service to journalism and efforts to raise awareness of economic, social and human rights issues in Australia and overseas, as well as service to charity.

*Bachelor Arts (Macquarie)*

*Hon Doctorate Journalism (CQU)*

*Hon Doctorate Letters (Newcastle)*

*Hon Doctorate Letters (Macquarie)*