



THE PKKP ABORIGINAL  
CORPORATION RNTBC

ICN 7638

## MEDIA STATEMENT

June 17, 2020

**Media request:** Response sought to story by Joe Aston in the Australian Financial Review on June 15, 2020 about content of “secret recording” at Rio Tinto staff meeting on June 10, 2020.

<https://www.afr.com/rear-window/secret-recording-rio-tinto-not-sorry-for-cave-blast-20200614-p552eh>

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### **To be attributed to the Puutu Kunti Kurrama and Pinikura Aboriginal Corporation:**

“The Puutu Kunti Kurrama and Pinikura Aboriginal Corporation and Traditional Owners have been working with Rio Tinto in an effort to restore our fractured relationship after the devastating destruction of two 46,000 year old rock shelters in the Juukan Gorge.

“As recently as Friday, we personally met with senior Rio Tinto officials, including Chris Salisbury, in the Pilbara. To date, our discussions have been productive and we believe Rio Tinto’s apologies to be genuine and sincere – both in terms of the physical destruction of the Juukan Gorge rock shelters, as well as the trauma caused by the loss of this globally significant heritage site.

“Monday’s story by Joe Aston in the Australian Financial Review raises questions relating to the sincerity of Rio Tinto’s apologies, including those made publicly and privately by Mr Salisbury.

“We will be addressing this matter with Rio Tinto so as to ensure transparency and trust in our conversations as we continue to determine the way forward.”

### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

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