



Australian Government

Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations

**oric.gov.au**

Email: [info@oric.gov.au](mailto:info@oric.gov.au)

Freecall: 1800 622 431

Fax: (02) 6133 8080

Level 1, Charles Perkins House

16 Bowes Place

Woden ACT 2606

PO Box 29

Woden ACT 2606

ABN 30 429 895 164

**18 May 2021**

Ms Sarah Redden  
Acting Committee Secretary  
Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Redden

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION TO ESTIMATES TESTIMONY**

I am writing to provide some information to supplement the testimony I provided at the Cross Portfolio Indigenous matters Senate Estimates hearing on Friday 26 March 2021.

In my opening statement to the Committee, I noted that we had undertaken a proactive bulk deregistration program of corporations that have been inactive and dormant for an extended period. I undertook to provide the exact number of corporations that were deregistered. Senator Thorpe also asked what was being done about corporations that were inactive (page 19 of the Hansard), and again I undertook to provide the exact number that had been deregistered. In the December 2020 bulk deregistration round we deregistered 158 corporations.

As at 30 September 2020, there were 3398 corporations registered under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006*, and as at 28 February 2021, this figure was 3304. This reflects the deregistration of 163 corporations in total (including the 158 in the bulk round), the registration of 68 new corporations, and the reinstatement of one corporation.

Senator McCarthy asked why ORIC had not published a year book since 2018-19 (page 14 of the Hansard). Later during the hearing, Senator Stoker noted that ORIC was not legislatively required to publish a year book. To clarify this point further, while the Registrar is an independent statutory officer, the Office of the Registrar is provided by the National Indigenous Australians Agency, and is not a portfolio body. ORIC reports as part of the NIAA Annual Report (see Appendix B of the NIAA 2019-20 Annual Report).

However, successive Registrar's have voluntarily chosen to publish a year book to provide more detailed information on the work of the Office and its achievements.

In 2021, ORIC also engaged Inside Policy to work with us to develop our new Corporate Plan. That plan is nearly finalised, and will be published on the ORIC website by the end of the financial year.

I trust this information provides a broader understanding of the work of the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations.

Yours sincerely

Selwyn Button  
Registrar