

Hello,

[REDACTED]
ALPA manage the store as a Not For Profit (selling Cigarettes and coke to the people they are supposed to be charitable towards).

From my understanding the Ramingining store turns over more than 10.5 million dollars/year. ALPA are making so much money they have had to set up subsidiaries to sink money into.

The community should own the store and it should be run as a for profit business and the profit should be put into a trust fund for the community and in one generation should alleviate them from welfare dependency and vulnerability.

There are some healthy foods in the shop but the yolngu do not know what they are or how to prepare them. They have often got no refrigeration and no equipment to prepare food at home. If no yolngu staff come to work the shop doesn't open and everybody goes hungry. This is ALPA policy to give people incentive to work.

Generally this shop is better than a lot of shops but I have paid 12/ punnet for raspberries which are moldy, 17 / punnet for blueberries which are moldy with strawberries, green beans, cabbages, lettuce etc.

Because we are in NT everything is imported to the NT and then spends 1 week on a barge.

Meat is expensive and sometimes thaws out and they refreeze and sell frozen rotten meat.

The people here need to learn about food prep and eating healthy foods from the shop.

Cigarettes are nearly 50/ packet and nearly everybody smokes.

Surely a Not for Profit shouldnt sell cigarettes. Any competition to the store immediately gets shut down so there is a monopoly and they can charge whatever they like.

There is no reason the store could not be operating as a for profit with yolngu ownership or more in the spirit of a not for profit with basic food boxes delivered to all houses every week as well as food nutrition and preparation programs. There should also be government subsidies for basic foods, meat, dairy, fruit and veg.

[REDACTED]