

IAS Submission on behalf of Mingaletta Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation based at Umina NSW.

We refer to the recent decision relating to the allocation of funding under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy: Mingaletta was advised by email that we were unsuccessful.

- Mingaletta ATSIC Believes that the tendering process for the Indigenous Advancement Strategy has been flawed from the beginning: this has had a negative effect and impact on this organisation.
- Mingaletta ATSIC application for funding was rejected without consultation via email.
- Mingaletta is a non-profit Aboriginal Organisation with over 300 members We provide ongoing services on a daily basis. We are the only Aboriginal Community organisation on the peninsula Central Coast NSW. In our applications Mingaletta ATSIC sought seed funding to keep the doors open by employing an Administration person and a Manager, these positions are desperately needed for this community controlled organisation, as we are only operating with volunteers, and have no staff on paid wages.
- The need for these two positions has been strongly identified, Mingaletta have a strategic plan 2012-2015, a strong board, with excellent Governance skills, we are compliant with ORIC, we have monthly meetings for members, we have recently signed a six way partnerships with BARANG our partners are Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Lands Council, NAISDA, Bungree, Bara-Barang and The Glen. We also have partnerships with Area Health and Medicare Local and Jarwan.
- We receive no Federal or State funding.
- We are surviving on donations, fundraising and volunteers to keep the organisation running.
- The information that was required was confusing and conflicting with a very short time frame, submissions were called for in September 2015 with the closing date middle October 2015.
- I would also like to add to the enquiries attention the divisive process that has mainstream and Aboriginal Organisations competing against each other for funding that is clearly identified for Aboriginal people. It appears not many Aboriginal Organisations were successful in this round of funding.
- We ask that you review the decision made regarding funding Mingaletta ATSIC so we can continue to provide a much needed service to the community.
- The process that Aboriginal people have been subjected to in the “Indigenous Advancement Strategy” has been disempowering for this organisation.
- The Board of Mingaletta invites a representative of your organisation to visit Mingaletta to see what services is provided to the community with little money and only volunteers to provide open doors to the community.

Yours Sincerely

Dianne O'Brien
Chairperson
Mingaletta Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation