

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committees

PO Box 6100

Parliament House

Canberra ACT 260

To whom it may concern;

I wish to make a submission outlining the exceptional job the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre has delivering essential services to the Aboriginal community in Tasmania. For years the TAC has helped out some of Tasmania's most vulnerable people and given them opportunity for change in their lives through the various programs they run state-wide for Aboriginal people.

Programs like palawa kani (Aboriginal language group), pliri group (boys group), pakana kitina (little fellas group) and pakana ripana (youth group) connect Aboriginal children to culture, heritage, and history of our country, while also providing them that vital connection to community and identity.

The TAC provides culturally appropriate health programs and services that enable Aborigines to fulfil their full potential, remain healthy and slowly bridge that health gap between Aborigines and the wider community. This is vitally important as we as Aborigines are so far behind in this area and the community intervention work they do in the area of health and wellbeing is addressing these issues.

The TAC has always put the Aboriginal community first and strives for the best for the Aboriginal community in all facets of our lives. They have spent their money ensuring that the Aboriginal community has been supported, and given opportunity for real and sustained change, not just window dressing.

Jay McDonald