



Wednesday, 15 August 2012

Supplementary Submission to the Senate Inquiry into the Low Aromatic Fuel Bill 2012

To the committee,

When we gave evidence in Alice Springs we undertook to supply copies of two of our recent discussion papers these are "Targeted Volatile Substances Legislation" and "Youth Development in Central Australia Beyond 2012", both are attached.

We also undertook to provide a summary of the various funding sources that youth programs approach to support their activities. While these are many and diverse it is worth noting that there are actually very few funding programs that directly and deliberately fund youth service provision in its own right and funds from these agencies fall considerably short. As a result in order to secure funding youth services need to 'shop around' and find other types of funding that can be tapped to support the delivery of services to youth. So many of the agencies listed below would not have a primary objective of funding youth services, and may not even realize they are doing so.

It is also worth noting that having multiple funding lines is not necessarily a bad thing. For CAYLUS having multiple funding bodies means we are not totally beholden to any one source. As funding agencies go through ups and downs, cut programs and start new ones we are able to operate with relative confidence, as our funding base is reasonably diverse. At the implementation level the downside of having multiple funding agencies is the administrative burden of meeting the operational and acquittal requirements of multiple agencies. This is not necessarily a burden though if services administrative capacity is adequately supported by the various funders and services are able to put in the necessary time to meet these requirements.

In some ways funding services administrative capacity properly seems more achievable than a streamlined, whole of government approach to youth services. It would at least be a good start.

The funding sources that youth programs in our region (NT) approach to support their activities are

DOHA- through the Binge Drinking program, Youth Wellbeing Program, Health Promotions funding and other programs

Commonwealth Attorney Generals Department

DEEWR – Through Outside School Hours Care funding, Vacation Care funding, Youth Connections, Indigenous Youth Mobility Program, Indigenous Employment Program and other funding rounds

FAHCSIA- through Youth in Communities, Personal Helpers and Mentors Program, CDEP, Reconnect, Petrol Sniffing Strategies Unit Brokerage, Indigenous Remote Service Delivery Flexible Fund and the Aboriginals Benefit Account, Suicide Prevention Fund, Bath Frontline Workers funds

The Australian Sports Commission

NT Health

NT Department of Justice

NT office of Youth

NT Department of Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport- through Sport and Rec and NT Libraries

NT Police

The NT Community Benefit Fund

The Australia Council for the Arts

The Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (formerly AERF)

Dot Com Mob

The Collier Charitable Trust

The Myer Foundation

Finally we have become aware of further information in relation to three issues that we discussed when we gave evidence in Alice Springs and would like to correct the public record;

1. We stated that Laverton Roadhouse had only switched to using LAF after the roadhouse was sold to new owners who were more supportive. We are no longer sure that this is the case (they may have switched to using LAF prior to the sale) though have not been able to confirm the exact chain of events. Regardless we think the wait was too long and that the proposed legislation would be a powerful incentive to retailers like Laverton stock LAF voluntarily.
2. We stated that we (meaning Tangentyere Council our parent organisation) are a member of the NT Chamber of Commerce, however we double-checked and Tangentyere are no longer a member.
3. We stated that the post office at Wiluna may be refusing to supply LAF , whereas the post office is actually supplying LAF and another outlet the supermarket known as Wiluna Traders is reportedly refusing to switch to LAF citing concerns re loss of business to outlets in Meekathara 180kms away.