Commonwealth funding of Indigenous Tasmanians Submission 10

My name is Leslie Roy Dick and I was born in Burnie (Tasmania) in 1966 and I am 50 years old. On my mother's side of her ancestry I am a direct descendant of the North East Coast Tribal Chief Mannalargenna. Mannalargenna was a Clever Man (Medicine Man) and a Sacred Fire Keeper who could change the pattern of the weather with his Fire Stick. Mannalargenna was a Toogee and was descended from the Brayleny the most spiritual hierarchy of the Tasmanian Aborigines. Apparently Mannalargenna had a treaty with Augustus Robinson and my friend Ian McFarlane has the details about this matter. I am also a Sacred Fire Keeper and Aboriginal Smoker which I obtained through ancestry and my bloodline. I brought back the Sacred Aboriginal Smoking Ceremony to Tasmania in 2002 and have performed this Ceremony across the State. I also perform the Sacred Welcome to Country Ceremony. The Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre (TAC) members saw me perform this Ceremony on the television and then they started to perform Smoking Ceremonies after copying what I was doing. In 2002 I attended an Administrative Appeals Tribunal (General Administrative Division) Hearing at the Smithton Supreme Court and was successful in proving that I am a person of the Aboriginal Race of Australia. This decision was to give me and 130 other people the right to vote in the 2002 Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania election. The Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre (TAC) then to stop us from voting they just didn't hold the election. In 2012 The Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania elections were held again after all that time and I sent the Tasmanian Electoral Commission a copy of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal decision that said that I was a person of the Aboriginal Race of Australia but I was informed by the Electoral Commissioner that my document was invalid as State law over rides a Federal decision. I then made contact with the Australian Human Rights Commission and also made contact with Hon Ruth Forrest MLC the independent Member For Murchison. The Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania elections are being held again this year in 2014. I had taken my Administrative Appeals Tribunal document to the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre's Burnie office in 2002 to apply for membership but was informed that the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre (TAC) did not recognise or accept my document. I then contacted the Anti-Discrimination Commission. The Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre get 15 million dollars and more annually from the Federal Government because of land that has been handed back to the Tasmanian Aboriginal Lands Council. This came about after the Eddie Mabo land hand back decision off the mainland of Australia. To access this money annually the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre tell the Federal Government that there are 22,000 people of Aboriginal descent in the State but the money and services are only provided to the 300 Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre's (TAC) members. Another issue that also needs to be looked into in this State is where do people of Aboriginal descent stand in regard to Native Title Rights as they were Hunter Gatherers in regard to their hunting and fishing rights. Another issue is should people of Aboriginal descent have to pay Park fees to enter State National Parks.

Yours Sincerely

Leslie Roy Dick