

Committee Secretary  
Joint Select Committee on Cyber-Safety  
Department of House of Representatives  
PO Box 6021  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600  
AUSTRALIA

### **Submission to the Joint Select Committee on Cyber Safety**

This submission is made by the Community Technology Centres Association as the representative peak body for Community Technology Centres (CTCs) in NSW.

This submission particularly focuses on the topic:

- the role of parents, families, carers and the community.

CTCs are not for profit community organisations that act as community hubs supporting economic, educational, cultural and social life in regional, rural and remote NSW. CTCs use technology as a platform for programs and services. CTCs provide services such as access to online health, legal, education, and welfare resources, training services such as basic ICT literacy training, IT services such as technical support and computer maintenance; economic development such as business skills training and social development services including support programs for youth, children, the aged and people with disabilities;

The CTC Association is the peak body representing them. It is a member based organisation that exists to promote technology and information hubs that enable regional communities to develop and access services and programs that support the economic, educational, cultural and social life of rural and regional communities. The CTC Association provides information, training, resources, communication channels and project delivery support.

A particular role that the CTCs play in their communities is the promotion of awareness of Cyber Safety issues through distribution of materials provided by various organisations, media alerts in local media, advice and assistance to the citizens of their communities and the provision of training in how to be Cyber Safe. However CTCs have no ongoing funding from the governments who helped establish them and this lack of funding severely inhibits the amount of services that they can provide for free to assist their communities in issues such as Cyber Safety.

We seek an increased recognition of the role that CTCs and the CTC Association play in the area of Cyber Safety in their rural communities and urge government to consider more effective funding to support programs of education and support in those communities via the CTC network.

This submission is made with the authorisation of the CTC Association Chair – Peter Bray, and the CTC Association Executive Officer - Colin Kemp. Contact details are provided in the heading of this letter.

Yours faithfully,

Colin Kemp  
Executive Officer  
Community Technology Centres Association  
23 June 2010