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Dear Committee Secretary,

I thank you for the opportunity to speak with you on this very important topic..... however I would have prefer to speak with you on a more casual basis and face to face.....with the native title act and Traditional owner groups.....the joint management agreements between T.O and the relevant Government departments should be encouraged to develop local strategies which while embrace agreed management arrangements their focus should be to somehow incorporate strategies to include our rich tourism market. An appropriate model similar to the Mossman Gorge Koko Yangi enterprise south of Cairns North Queensland could be adopted in other Traditional areas....which could include food and refreshment mobil vans etc. These type of arrangements should include Traditional tours and cultural experiences....and local traditional art and crafts.

Regional enterprise development programs.....put to tender for individuals, indigenous businesses or companies and or indigenous community organisations should be coporated, developed and set up.....enterprises such as kangaroo culling[for lean meat], Vegetable, Polutry, Pigery, and cattle farming, some local T.O already have the land base, Barrumundi, red claw, ell, and prawn farming.....once again T.O groups and some indigenous community organisations have the land to do this.....and then perhaps a condition of successfully securing a local tender is that each enterprise will service the local indigenous people and communities by participating in a market day...by mobil vechiles visiting rural and local indigenous communities and selling their produce competitively. Excess produce and or other produce could then be marketed at the wider public community and or trafficed off into other Indigenous communities out side their own regions.

Tenders should be set up to encourage indigenous building and construction workers to service all of our indigenous housing needs and maintenance. This type of business could also tender for other construction tenders put out by government and indigenous housing organisations. This type of enterprise should be encouraged to also recruit and train apprenticeships in carpentry, building, electricians, plumbers, plasterers, and painters.....etc.

Our local art and craft industries should be controled by local indigenous people.....this market is controled by fat cat business man who have the cash base to manipulate and control whole sale prices....to extent that some operators when purchasing quantity from our people pay the lowest prices and on some products marking up the same product 300 and 400% and higher in some instances.....if one or more local indigenous enterprises could be financially set up to service our people and bring some equity to our mob and our mob only sell to them in order to control the local indigenous art and craft market it would not only benifit our local mob but encourage other indigenous people and businesses to participate and set up operations. Regional indigenous enterprises should also be funded to exhibite and sell off shore.....the european market is ripe for the taking.....internet selling is also very much needed to support and encourage our industries. Governments should be developing strategies in all of these areas to help set up and financially support indigenous workers and enterprises and communities to tap into this market demand.

Traditional Owners[T.O] who live on our coastal areas should be given the opportunity for fishing liciences, barrumundi, prawn farming and the likes...and should be set up with mobil and fixed cold rooms with the same tender conditions to competitively service our local communities and people by partipicating in a local market day and servicing other indigenous communities etc.

I think it would be fair to say that the majority of our people are living under the povety line....and these type of strategies will not only assist every household but every indigenous person to in the region.

Peter. Leo