

Submission No.....	59a
Date Received.....	

TAB A

Peter Cooley

Peter was awarded the Pauline McLeod award for Reconciliation in 2006 and the 2005 DoCS NSW Children's Week Child Development Award for the successful youth programs he has developed.

He sits on the Board of Aboriginal Tourism Australia and is a member of the NSW Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing (ACoRF). He is also the Chairperson of Guriwal Aboriginal Corporation.

His Racing to the Top 2-Stroke Engine/remote control race car building program operates in schools five days a week across Sydney and is in great demand because of its ability to increase student retention rates for Aboriginal and youth at risk students. It is also being run as an after school program where juvenile offenders are required to attend as part of their obligations as youth offenders. His Catch N Cook fishing program has been funded by the Federal Government to run in 10 locations across NSW. He is currently running the last one at La Perouse in conjunction with the local police to try and reduce levels of juvenile offences in La Perouse.

Peter was one of 25 young leaders from around Australia recognised at the 2007 Future Summit held in Melbourne.

The Summit is the main forum for established and emerging leaders from business, government, academia and the community to discuss strategic trends and directions by Australians across all sectors of society.

Each year the Future Summit announces leadership awards for younger, rising leaders in their fields who are given the opportunity to attend the forum and hear from experts in many different areas. Guest speakers included Kevin Rudd, Ms Sharon Burrow, Dr Helen Caldicott and Mr Tom Calma etc. Peter was recognised for the youth programs that he has developed that engage young people in education and skill development.

Recently, Peter organised and supervised a Cultural Educational trip for 8 out of home care Aboriginal youth from the Sydney Metro area to attend this year's Garma Festival in North East Arnhem Land. This trip was an overwhelming success and plans are already being drawn up to return next year with the number of youth being doubled - given the change in their behavior from learning about their culture.

On a sporting note, Peter is currently managing the NSW Aboriginal cricket team and is formerly the manager of the National Indigenous Development Squad who successfully toured Darwin in 2007 playing against Fiji, Papua New Guinea, and Tonga

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