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27th April, 2005

The Secretary
Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

RECEIVED
24 MAY 2005

BY: ATSLA

Dear Sir/Madam

Indigenous Employment Inquiry

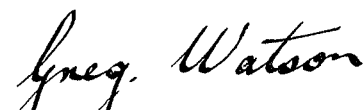
Thank you for your letter of 31st March 2005 to the Country Mayors Association of NSW seeking contributions to your inquiry into Indigenous employment outcomes in the public sector.

Shoalhaven City Council participates in various programs to assist local Indigenous persons in gaining employment in the Local Government Sector. Council has had three (3) successful employment initiatives over the last couple of years resulting in career development opportunities for young Indigenous persons as outlined below:

- (a) Council applied for the Elsa Dickson Aboriginal Employment Program funding for a young Indigenous employee in the Recreation and Leisure area of Council. The funding was used to subsidise salaries for the employee and to fund specific training for future career development for the employee. The employee has since resigned from Council to pursue a University Degree in a related profession.
- (b) Under the Local Government Aboriginal Employment and Career Development Program, Council employees a Library Trainee where the salary is subsidised over three (3) years. As part of the program the Trainee participates in a structured Training Plan. When Council advertised this position twenty-three (23) applications were received of which four (4) individuals were interviewed. Council intends to re-apply for this funding at the completion of the current Traineeship.
- (c) Under the terms of the National Indigenous Cadetship Programme Council was successful in obtaining funding for a Cadetship – Undergraduate Student to attend the University of Wollongong to study a Bachelor of Science (Land and Heritage Management). Our Cadet has since finished his studies and as gained employment with Council as a Natural Resources Officer – Fixed Term.

If you require any further information please contact Michelle Harrison – Human Resources Coordinator on (02) 4429 3556.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Watson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G".

Greg Watson
Mayor

2506-02