

SUBMISSION 86



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22 May 2008

Committee Secretary,
Joint Standing Committee on the
National Capital & External Territories,
Dept. of the House of Representatives,
P.O. Box 6021,
Parliament House,
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Committee Secretary

In March of this year I wrote to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Honourable Allan Griffin M.P., and the Minister for Home Affairs, the Honourable Bob Debus M.P., suggesting that, with the future of the National Capital Authority (N.C.A.) being discussed, now would be an opportune time to consider transferring the responsibility for Guided Walking Tours of ANZAC Parade from the N.C.A. to the Australian War Memorial.

In that correspondence I provided reasons for my view.

Thus far I have not had a formal response from either Minister.

I now submit to the Joint Committee copies of this correspondence for its consideration and for action that the Committee deems appropriate.

I look forward to the response of the Committee in due course.

Yours sincerely,

W.A.Higgie O.A.M.

35 Waller crescent
Campbell ACT 2612

18 March 2008

Tel. (02) 62 476 886

The Honourable Bob Debus MP
Minister for Home Affairs
Parliament House
Parkes Canberra 2600

Dear Minister

I enclose a copy of my letter written today to your colleague the Minister for Veterans' Affairs on the subject of tours of the Memorials of ANZAC Parade, Canberra (formerly conducted by Veteran Volunteers).

I should be grateful for your consideration of the matter raised and for your response in due course.

Yours sincerely

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W.A. Higginson O.A.M.

have far greater exposure and a new rich element would be added to the attractions of our National Capital.

I have sent a copy of this letter to your colleague the Minister for Home Affairs, the Honourable Bob Debus.

I had thought of sending it to the Joint Committee on the NCA but decided I would await your reaction and that of Minister Debus first. I have no objection to this letter being sent to the Joint Committee if you think this appropriate.

With best regards and wishes in your important task.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'W.A. Higginson O.A.M.', with a flourish extending to the right.

W.A. Higginson O.A.M.

P.S. The "Veterans' Walks" to which I have alluded were the "brainchild" of Mr. Ron Metcalfe OAM. Around 1986. I was "recruited" by Ron and was a participant from the start. Numerous other veteran explainers have also taken part over the years. The tours were conducted mainly at weekends and on special days and/or public holidays.

Over the years the tours attracted hundreds of visitors many from overseas.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ron', with a flourish extending to the right.

CC. The Minister for Home Affairs.