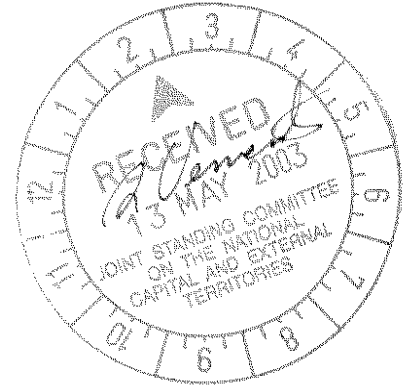


P.O.Box 311
Norfolk Island 2899.
6th May 2003

SUBMISSION 12

FILE COPY



Senator Ross Lightfoot
Chairman
Joint Standing Committee on the
National Capital and External Territories
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Senator Ross Lightfoot,

Thank you for inviting me to lodge a submission to the pending Norfolk Island Governance Inquiry. Regrettably I only recently received your letter.

However, for what it is worth I do have some thoughts on our Governmental system and in response to points raised in your letter I make comment accordingly.

I would support our election papers having an additional notation asking if this candidate would be the voters preferred choice of Chief Minister and to mark the paper accordingly.

I am strongly opposed to fixed terms of Government. The status as at present should remain with the people having right of referendum.

I consider the system of government and financial revenue base on Norfolk Island adequate. Any problems being experienced is, in my opinion purely one of poor management, both past and present. Getting the right managers is the difficulty, not the system.

NI Government services provided is adequate pro rata to our budget, however from a personal point of view it appears some areas are or have been poorly administered, both managerial and ministerial.

My personal preference is that Norfolk Island should be allowed to continue on the promised path of internal self government.

Yours sincerely,

Lisle D. Snell.