### **EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING**

# SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1

Output Group: 1. – Assistance for individuals including those with special needs

**DEST Question No. E009\_07** 

Senator Crossin asked on 31 May June 2006,

#### Question:

Northern Territory Mission Schools

Are you able to provide this committee with a copy of either that exchange of letters or that interim funding agreement?

#### Answer:

Northern Territory Mission Schools

Yes. A copy of a letter from the Chief Executive of the Northern Territory Department of Employment, Education and Training (NTDEET) concerning the provision of assistance at the five remote Catholic schools is attached.



#### Executive

GPO Box 4821 Darwin NT 0801 Talephone: (08) 8999 6857 Facsimile: (08) 8999 3537 Email: margarot.banks@nt.gov.au

Our Reference: DOC 2006/004275

Mr Chris Evans Schools Resourcing Group Manager Department of Education, Science and Training Location 743 GPO Box 9880 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Evans

## RE: RESOURCE AGEREMENT FOR CATHOLIC INDIGENOUS SCHOOLS

The Northern Territory Government has approved a Resource Agreement between the Department of Employment, Education and Training (DEET) and the Catholic Education Office (CEO) for the provision of educational services at the five remote Catholic schools that are listed below:

- Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Thamarrurr Catholic School and Kuy Homeland Centre, Wadeye Port Keats.
- Murrupurtiyanuwu Catholic School and Wurunkuwu Homeland Centre Nguiu, Bathurst Island.
- St Francis Xavier School and Woodikupildiya Outstation School, Daly River.
- · Xavier Community Education Centre, Nguiu, Bathurst Island.
- Ltyentye Apurte Community Education Centre, Santa Teresa via Alice Springs.

The Resource Agreement is to commence from 1 July 2006 and provides a governance framework for the schools together with an acknowledgement of the level of resources that are to be provided to the schools each year.



2

As part of the development of the Resource Agreement, the CEO has agreed to the schools being treated as government schools, for the purposes of Australian Government financial assistance only.

As discussed at an officer level, I am seeking your assistance with providing Australian Government financial assistance to the five remote Catholic schools on the same basis as that applied to government schools.

Your urgent assistance with this matter would be greatly appreciated. The contact officer is Trevor Saunders on 8901 4949.

Yours sincerely

MARGARET BANKS CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Nagar Ban

15 May 2006