

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2006-2007 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
2ND NOVEMBER 2006**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

INDIGENOUS BUSINESS AUSTRALIA

Outcome 1: Stimulating the economic advancement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples

Output 1.3: Business Development and Assistance

Question Number: W551-07

Question:

Senator Siewert asked in writing: IBA significantly funded First Australians Business to deliver business training to Indigenous Australians throughout Australia in 2005/06. (a) How much funding was provided? (b) Given that a significant amount of funding was provided for training, what were the reasons that IBA selected First Australians Business (given that they are not a Registered Training Organisation or RTO) to provide training? (c) What processes did IBA use to consider alternative training providers throughout Australia for 2005/06? (d) How much money has been allocated to First Australians Business this financial year for training?

Answer:

- (a) IBA provided two forms of funding to FAB for the 2005-06 financial year. \$1,148,400 plus GST for the delivery of 46 small business workshops and \$268,030 plus GST for mentoring services.
- (b) FAB were utilised for workshops rather than accredited training so it was not considered essential that the workshops be delivered by an RTO. FAB and the Government have had a long relationship with delivery of capacity building workshops to Indigenous people, and the funding for 2005-06 was provided on the basis that FAB had a proven track record in the delivery of this style of workshop.
- (c) During 2005/06 IBA reviewed a number of requests to deliver capacity building and small business management workshops and training. As a result of the internal review IBA have gone to tender in September 2006 to establish a network of workshop and training providers to deliver a variety of workshop and training services on an application and demand basis to Indigenous people Australia wide.
- (d) Nil.