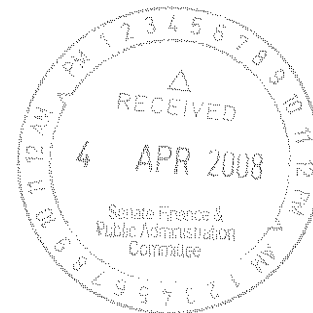


**Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio  
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
Additional Estimates Hearings 18 February 2008



**Question: PM53**

**Outcome 1, Output 2**

**Topic: Apology**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 119-120**

**Senator Abetz asked: Senator ABETZ - The article said:  
The Prime Minister's office has offered the traditional people of Canberra, the  
Ngunnawal ...**

**Did that occur? Did the Prime Minister's office offer the traditional people of  
Canberra the right to open the Sorry Day proceedings on the Wednesday to end  
what was described as 'a bitter rift'? Either his office did or did not offer.**

**Ms Belcher - Senator, I will have to check on that. It had been my understanding  
that it was the minister's office, but I can take that on notice.**

**Answer: The office of the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services  
and Indigenous Affairs communicated with the Ngunnawal people about the  
Parliamentary proceedings and related events on Wednesday, 13 February 2008.**