



[TLG 72 attachment]

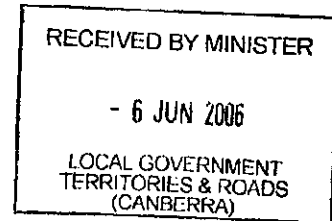
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

In reply please quote:

NORFOLK ISLAND 2899

91/30

25 May 2006



The Hon Jim Lloyd MP
Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

Please find enclosed, for your information, a copy of a letter of resignation by Dr John Walsh of Brannagh from the Norfolk Island Administrative Review Tribunal, the Court of Petty Sessions and the Norfolk Island Gaming Authority.

Dr Walsh lodged the enclosed letter of resignation with my Office today and asked that I forward it to relevant authorities.

I have advised the Norfolk Island Government and sought its advice on the allegations made by Dr Walsh.

I have copied the enclosed letter to you for your information in view of your responsibilities under the Court of Petty Sessions Act 1960 (NI) for the appointment of Norfolk Island Magistrates.

Yours sincerely


Grant Tambling
ADMINISTRATOR

RECEIVED

- 7 JUN 2006

Dr John Walsh of Brannagh
Barrister-at-Law
Notary Public

Watermill Valley
Norfolk Island
South Pacific

[TLG 72 attachment]

256

25th May 2006

The Hon Grant Tambling
Administrator
Norfolk Island

Copies
96/39.
91/30
97/43.

Dear Grant

This letter, which is being hand delivered, is by way of formal notice to tender my resignation, effective this day (being twelve years to the day since Pauline and I settled on Norfolk Island), of the official Norfolk Island appointments I hold, being the positions of Senior Member of the Administrative Review Tribunal, Magistrate of the Court of Petty Sessions, and Deputy Presiding Member of the Norfolk Island Gaming Authority. f224

When I accepted these appointments eight years ago, it was on the basis of undertakings and commitments given by the Norfolk Island Government, and there was a legitimate expectation, certainly on my part, that such would be honoured in both the spirit and the letter of those undertakings. I took on all the positions seriously. In the Tribunal I proceeded to develop proper, fair and understandable procedures so the people of Norfolk Island could present their concerns in a forum where they would get a fair, unbiased and uninfluenced hearing. In the words of the oath I took, "I will do right to all manner of people, according to law, without fear or favour, affection or ill-will".

However, matters have changed considerably since 1998. Over the last two or more years some members of the Government and the Administration have pursued a private agenda, which has resulted in an attack on my professional integrity and reputation, and caused damage and harm to myself personally and to the offices I hold. There has been a calculated, deliberate and unwarranted interference in the justice system on Norfolk Island.

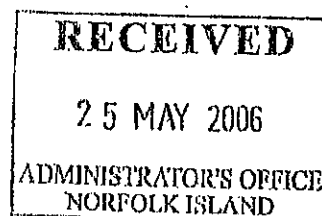
The Government has shown arrogance and contempt towards the people of Norfolk Island, and to the real and legitimate concerns of the legal profession, and has indicated an indifference towards the Rule of Law. They have burdened the entire community with unnecessary high legal costs in following their agenda. All this would have been unthinkable a decade ago. I have been subjected to threats and intimidation, which has had a deleterious effect on my health and on that of Pauline, particularly given the unfortunate events of the last twelve months.

The Government and Administration have boasted that there is no Separation of Powers on Norfolk Island, and have filed submissions confirming their view in the Supreme Court (Administration of Norfolk Island v Walsh of Brannagh, 2005 NFSC 6, which case is now being cited as a precedent). These actions have distanced Norfolk Island from proper principles of governance and the real independence of judicial officers. They have taken us away from accepted government and legal standards, caused embarrassment given our membership of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and have brought us to the unflattering attention of legal authorities in Australia and in other countries.

This corrupting of the justice system and the politicisation of the court process places judicial officers in a difficult position, where I have no choice but to resign. Perhaps the situation is beyond redress and a Royal Commission is warranted. As I remain a barrister-at-law I shall step back to private practice, and can devote myself to providing sound advice and effective representation to the people of Norfolk Island.

Yours sincerely





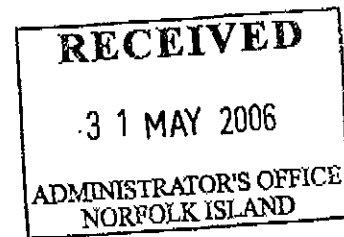


THE GOVERNMENT OF NORFOLK ISLAND

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OLD MILITARY BARRACKS
 KINGSTON NORFOLK ISLAND
 2899 SOUTH PACIFIC

29 May 2006



Hon Grant Tambling
 Administrator
 Office of the Administrator
 Kingston
 NORFOLK ISLAND

Your Honour,

I refer to your letter of 25 May 2006, in relation to John Walsh or Brannagh's resignation from a number of official positions. — 272

I am advised that Mr Walsh's appointment as a Magistrate under the Court of Petty Sessions Act 1960, had already expired in August of 2005. ✓

I acknowledge that his resignation as a Member of the Administrative Review Tribunal has taken effect, following your receipt of his written notice to your Office. As I am now in receipt of his letter of resignation as a Member of the Norfolk Island Gaming Authority, delivered via your office, his resignation from the Authority has also now taken effect. ✓

As to the serious allegations made by Mr Walsh in his letter of resignation, I can advise that I have had the opportunity to discuss these issues on a number of occasions with Mr Ron Cahill, Chief Magistrate, and do not believe that Mr Cahill shares Mr Walsh's views on such matters. I believe Mr Cahill may have discussed this matter with you in recent days.

Yours sincerely,

Geoff Gardner
 Chief Minister