

KIMBERLEY ABORIGINAL LAW AND CULTURE CENTRE

Aboriginal Corporation

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Senate Inquiry in to Remote Indigenous Communities, Fitzroy Crossing 20 August 2008

Themes to Consider

- *The Failed State of Central Australia;*
- *Government Keeping a Lid on Social Dysfunction*
- *Kimberley Aboriginal People Want Self Determination and Empowerment so That They Can Address Their Problems Themselves.*

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Invitation to Senators to Introduce and Explain The Senate Inquiry
3. History and Background of KALACC
4. Culture and Governance
 - Law Time;
 - Proactive approaches to Social Issues at the local and regional level;
 - Repatriation of Human Remains and Secret/ Sacred Objects.

5. Youth Issues

- Feb 08 Coroner's Report in to 22 Deaths; July 08 Coroner's Report in to 5 Deaths and departmental advice to KALACC that 15 deaths have not yet been Inquested;
- Nov 07 Evidence to the Coroner by the Director of Education: 80% of 15 year olds in the Fitzroy Valley, following 10 years of education, are functionally illiterate and innumerate;
- Queensland \$36 million Indigenous Alcohol Diversion Scheme; Far North Queensland \$5.0 million Youth Justice Diversion Scheme; Northern Territory \$9.5 million Integrated Youth Alcohol and Drug Diversion Program;
- Kimberley – KALACC receives circa \$500, 000 through five different single year funding agreements;
- Commonwealth refuses to invest in the proposed Fitzroy Crossing Youth Centre despite providing the \$30, 000 for the Training Plan and Youth Leadership Plan for the Centre.

6. West Australian Parliament Standing Committee on Health and Education

- Report in to Regional Representative Structures;
- Report in to successful initiatives in remote WA Indigenous Communities.

Model One – Discrete Communities eg Jarlmadangah

Model Two – Hub and Spoke Approach eg Ngumpan proposal

7. Government Does Not Listen and Does Not Engage

- 20 November 2007 Wayne Gibbons
- 09 April 2008 Jenny Macklin and Michelle Roberts
- In two and a half years about the only people we have not been visited by are John Howard and Kevin Rudd;
- We have two and a half years of letters of rejection from the Commonwealth.

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