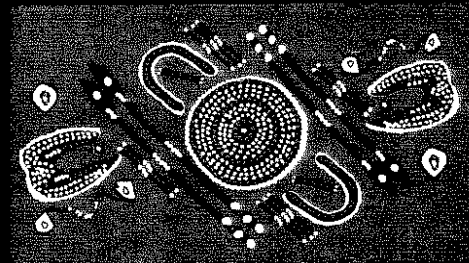


TANGENTYERE COUNCIL

PO Box 8070, Alice Springs NT 0871

Fax: (08) 8952 8521
4 Elder Street Alice Springs

Ph: (08) 8951 4222



10 February 2005

Senator Claire Moore
Chair
Senate Select Committee on the Administration of Indigenous Affairs
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Senator Moore,

Re: Support for the Central Land Council's regional governance model

Tangentyere Council is a large resource agency providing housing, social and municipal services to 18 separately incorporated Housing Associations, often referred to as Town Camps. The Council services approximately 1,800 clients. The Council also extends services to remote communities within the Central Australian region, providing social services, training and employment programs. In addition to the delivery of social service programs, the Council has an enterprise arm consisting of an architectural unit, constructions entity, job shop (job network provider) and landscaping entity. A Centrelink office and westpac Bank agency is also co-located on site at the Council.

I am writing as President of the Tangentyere Council to express my support for the Central Land Council's Submission to your Committee.

The submission put to the committee by the Central Land Council (CLC) recommends that an Aboriginal regional governance authority be established in Central Australia which would:

- be a Commonwealth Statutory Authority;
- receive direct Commonwealth funding;
- have the power to enter into agreements with Commonwealth and Northern Territory governments;
- work alongside the CLC but not interfere with Aboriginal Land Rights or the business of traditional owners and native title holders; and
- have the same boundary as the CLC and get representation from the 9 CLC internal regions.

Elsewhere the submission recommends that the Aboriginal regional governance authority perform the following functions:

- negotiate and allocate funding for services;
- coordinate and contract service delivery for remote communities and outstations; and,
- provide a strong advocacy voice on service delivery issues for all communities and outstations.

It is expected these functions will evolve over time.

The Tangentyere Executive Council unanimously supports these key recommendations, and all other recommendations made in the report. We strongly urge the committee to consider this model as the basis for a regional structure to replace the ATSIC regional councils in Central Australia.

Yours sincerely


Geoff Shaw OAM
PRESIDENT

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE
ADMINISTRATION OF INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

REC'D: 16/2/05
FROM: Tangentyere Council
RECOMMENDED FOR PUBLICATION:
SECRETARY: [Signature]

FAXED
14/2/05 [Signature]