

Tuesday 8th April 2008

Re: Submission into the Senate Committee Inquiry into the Stolen Generations Compensation Bill 2008

Dear Secretary

Central Australian Stolen Generations and Families Aboriginal Corporation (CASGFAC) support the Stolen Generations Compensation Bill and would like further input into discussions that may take place in the near future.

CASGFAC has been part of the Stolen Generations movement in the Northern Territory which was formally established in 1994 during "The Long Road Home" conference. During this conference recommendations were made supporting compensation, education and litigation. These recommendations then led into National consultations and discussion by people telling their stories in the "Bringing Them Home" Report (BTH).

Since then, as you will well know, the Stolen Generations have had a Senate Enquiry, Ministerial reports, reviews and many other non government agencies analysing the above documents. CASGFAC has contributed by analysing the federal funding allocation for BTH Programs 1997-2001 and launched a document called "Where is the \$63million"" which was launched at Parliament House, Canberra in 2002. This document can be found on our website www.centralstolengens.org.au

Board, members and staff alike have formulated projects to aid healing and move forward in projects for example, development of a Memorial Garden at the Desert Knowledge Precinct, Alice Springs, formulated a MOU between CASGFAC, Kimberley Stolen Generations, Katherine Stolen Generations and the Northern Territory Stolen Generations, consulted in the National Memorial, Reconciliation Place, Canberra, current elected members of the Stolen Generations Alliance, and host a Link Up Program.

CASGFAC also supports the Western Australian Governments response to their compensation package the "Redress Scheme" and the Tasmanian Compensation package. Both of these are an important step in the healing of Stolen Generations and their families. In saying this it is also important to recognise that some State Governments have taken responsibility others need to start acknowledging past practices and laws in accordance with them having apologised to their constituents. Taking this in mind the Northern Territory has a unique position in this as they have always had direct linkages and come under Federal policies.

The Federal Government should acknowledge and negotiate with the Stolen Generations from the whole of the Northern Territory for clear and concise direction and consultation.

CASGFAC would also like to see all of the 54 Recommendations of the BTH Report acted upon and programs to come under the Stolen Generations Corporations.

If you need any further information please contact the Zita Wallace, Chairperson on 08 89 533899.

Yours sincerely

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