



Message from the Chairperson



Dear community, colleagues and friends

The Elected Body met on the 7th August and welcomed Richie Allan and Tony McCulloch to their first meeting & amongst many things progressed the following.

- **ACT Treasury** – further to an undertaking from our last Hearings to build relationships, we had a good discussion to improve our understanding of the budget processes. A commitment to an ongoing conversation will support quality advice and guidance to enable resources to be allocated to priority areas within the Agreement, the Justice Partnership and other strategic directions to effect positive change.
- **ATSIEB Review** – A welcomed discussion with Ms Terri Janki who has been engaged to lead the review of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body Act 2008* and our capacity to effectively carry out our functions. Opportunities will be made available for community, individuals and organisations to share views and suggestions with Ms Janki on how we can make lasting improvements.
- **Community organisations** – Members reaffirmed our role and commitment and reiterated the importance of the work and collaboration with service organisations. We will be inviting organisations to an event shortly with a view to strengthen relationships and services for the benefit of all.

Also

Justice Partnership – Another significant arrangement has been signed between the Elected Body and the ACT Government. The members and I look forward to much more collaboration and achievement of better outcomes for families and individuals in contact with the Justice System as victims or offenders.

Constitution Recognition – I am pleased to see in the Winnunga newsletter the call for more conversation on this and we will be working towards having another community forum in the coming weeks.

Commonwealth Ombudsman Complaints Handling Forum - I attended this encouraging forum and discussed Complaints and Processes which are available to our peoples where decisions of government have impacted negatively on community. We are expecting more opportunities in the near future to improve understanding of these processes. Start by visiting <http://www.ombudsman.gov.au/>

On behalf of the members, I would like to hearing your feedback either by email to atsieb@act.gov.au or calling the Secretariat on 02 6205 2551.

Rod Little

Chairperson

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body



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