



Dear communities, colleagues and friends

It is that time of year when we have all earned a well-deserve break, prior to farewelling 2015 I take this opportunity to provide an update on some recent developments.

- **New ATSIEB member** – As a result of the recent resignation, ACT Elections have undertaken a countback of candidates, and resulted in a new member being elected, Ms Tjanara Goreng Goreng. We welcome Ms Goreng Goreng to the Elected Body and look forward to working with all members to progress ATSIEB business. With approximately 18 months in the remainder of this term, ATSIEB is keen to continue to progress priorities.
- **Older Persons' Housing Project** – ATSIEB was recently advised by Housing ACT that the development application for the 5 new units for the Older Persons' Housing project was approved, we are now working towards a smoking ceremony in the new year to acknowledge the commencement of the building. Watch this space as this exciting project comes to fruition as identified from ATSIEB Community Priorities which are informed by communities.
- **ATSIEB Hearings** – On 9-10 December 2015 the elected body held the 6th annual Hearings where Directors-General and representatives from ACT Government Directorates appeared as witnesses, responding to questions asked by the elected body on behalf of our communities and to progress outcomes, actions and commitments by the ACT Government. Overall the Hearings went very well, with many community members attending and taking advantage of not only providing questions to the elected body, but overseeing the process. Given that this Hearings process exists nowhere else in the country, ATSIEB are in a unique position.
- **Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm** – on 2nd December 2015 an information session was held at the Cultural Centre, which provided information to our communities on the progress of the Healing Farm. Some 20 people attended, including ATSIEB representation, we will endeavour to keep you informed as this important initiative continues to progress.

I would like to hear your feedback by forwarding an email to atsieb@act.gov.au or calling the Secretariat on 02 6205 2551.

Diane Collins

Chairperson

ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body



PROVIDING A **STRONG**
RESPECTED & **DEMOCRATICALLY**
ELECTED VOICE FOR
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PEOPLES