

Tangentyere Council Inc.

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15 July 2015

To whom it may concern,

Re: Letter of Support for the CAAAPU Submission to the 'Ice' Select Committee

Please accept this letter of support for CAAAPU's Submission to the Legislative Assembly of the NT 'Ice' Select Committee.

Tangentyere Council has been delivering services to Central Australian Aboriginal people for over 35 years. It was established by the residents of the 18 Alice Springs Town Camps in order to gain legal tenure over the land that they were living on and in order to access services. During this time a diverse range of services has developed in response to the needs and aspirations of our members and clients. The diversity of programs demonstrates our experience with developing, delivering and monitoring activities that are relevant, effective and culturally appropriate.

Tangentyere Council's Executive has met with the Board of CAAAPU to discuss the emerging topic for Town Campers of Ice misuse and addiction.

Our Executive is very concerned about the damage that Ice misuse can cause to the Town Camp communities and Central Australian Aboriginal people generally. Of particular concern is the potential for Ice to affect the long-term health of people already struggling to cope with alcohol and other drugs and for Ice misuse to contribute to the unacceptably high levels of family violence in Central Australia.

As such, our Executive agrees with the recommendations of CAAAPU's Submission to the 'Ice' Select Committee and supports CAAAPU in their endeavors to:

- deliver methamphetamine dependence treatments that are suited to local community needs,
- establish a dedicated, culturally-safe outreach service to Aboriginal people with a focus on harm-reduction, and
- establish a half-way house with support programs for people who undertake methamphetamine treatment.

Tangentyere Council believes that CAAAPU is best placed to tackle these issues given their long history of providing culturally-competent alcohol counselling and residential treatment services.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Walter Shaw', is positioned below the 'Yours sincerely,' text.

Walter Shaw
Chief Executive Officer