



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

Petition

Registration No.	24
Title	National Indigenous Art Gallery site, Alice Springs
Presented on	2 May 2018
Presented by	Mrs Robyn Lambley MLA (Member for Araluen)
Referred to	Minister for Tourism and Culture (Minister Moss)
Date referred	4 May 2018
Response due	25 October 2018
Response received	13 June 2018
Response to be presented	21 June 2018

Petition

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY:

WE THE UNDERSIGNED RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH

That the NT Government is considering utilising the current site of Anzac Oval in Alice Springs for the site of a National Indigenous Art Galley development, causing the removal of the oval and its associated infrastructure to an alternate unspecified site away from Anzac Hill.

YOUR PETITIONERS THEREFORE HUMBLY PRAY THAT

The NT Government reconsider the use of ANZAC Oval in Alice Springs as the future site of National Indigenous Art Gallery development, leaving the current ANZAC Oval and associated infrastructure in situ.

AND YOUR PETITIONERS, As IN DUTY BOUND, WILL EVER PRAY.

Response

The National Aboriginal Art Gallery is an important major project for both Alice Springs, as Australia's Inland Capital, and Australia. The National Aboriginal Art Gallery will be a globally significant, national cultural institution that will attract thousands of visitors, create hundreds of construction jobs, and create and support ongoing local jobs, particularly for Aboriginal Territorians. It will be the centrepiece of the Northern Territory's Aboriginal Arts Trail and will display a globally significant Australia-wide art collection from the world's oldest continuous culture brought together under one roof.

In March 2018, we announced the Anzac Hill Precinct as the preferred site for the National Aboriginal Art Gallery based on factors including size, sense of place and arrival, connection to the landscape and accessibility, and taking into account heritage and cultural considerations.

The minimum requirements for an institution of this type requires 40 000 square metres to accommodate the building, parking and landscaping. Creating a cultural precinct in the Central Business District, which adds to the vibrancy and attractiveness of Alice Springs for locals and visitors alike is integral to the project's success.

The Northern Territory Government has identified the site that best meets all aspirations is the Anzac Hill Precinct, incorporating the old school site and Anzac Oval.

The Northern Territory Government is committed to developing Alice Springs as the Inland Capital of Australia and continuing to build on its existing attractions, and to this end has made a range of commitments to the Alice Springs community, amongst these including building a new and better home for Rugby League and Rugby Union, providing job and business opportunities for locals and partnering with the Alice Springs Town Council to develop a masterplan for the future of Australia's Inland Capital incorporating all the iconic projects that Government has committed to progressing.

The Northern Territory Government has made a commitment to protecting public green space at the Anzac Hill Precinct that is accessible and inviting to everyone in the community, as part of the overall design. This will allow traditional Alice Springs events to still take place on this site, while providing a space for new, unique cultural events. In fact, we will be enhancing the green space, making it more available to the community and envisage it as a shared space for maximum community use.

The Northern Territory Government's vision for this new national institution is that it is instrumental in changing the temper of the national debate around Aboriginal disadvantage, that it showcases a genuinely transformational model of intercultural engagement, that it shows a way forward with majority Aboriginal governance and employment, and that it becomes an emblem of a shared future for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and the wider Australian community.

The National Aboriginal Art Gallery is a priority project for this Government with incredible benefits to the community and nation.