



Terry Williams Chair

MEDIA RELEASE

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ATSI ELECTED BODY MEETING REPORT

Chair of the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body Terry Williams said the group's monthly meeting on April 16 raised several important issues such as aged care and legal services being provided to members of the ACT ATSI community, in particular representation in the criminal and family courts and support for the Women's Legal Aid services.

"The Elected Body would like to hear from members of the ACT ATSI community of any issues regarding aged care and legal services."

"The Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment came along and talked about their role including the protection of cultural and medicinal trees across Canberra" Mr Williams said.

"The discussion was around tree management practices, the renewal of Canberra's urban forest and the investigation into the Canberra Nature Park, the Molonglo corridor and the Googong foreshores."

"The Elected Body encouraged the Commissioner to seek the views of the United Ngunnawal Elders Council."

"Additionally, a presentation was made by representatives from Mental Health Capital Assess Development Unit about the proposed development of ACT mental health facilities," Mr Williams said.

"The unit gave an overview of what designs they had in mind and wanted feedback to see if it was suitable for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients," he said.

"The Elected Body agreed in principle with their concept but wanted them to come back when plans had progressed in more detail."

Members of the local Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community are encouraged to raise issues for examination by the Elected Body via email electedback@act.gov.au or phone 6205 2551.

Statement Ends

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