



DR PETER TOYNE
ATTORNEY-GENERAL
MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

4 March 2005

ONE MORE WEEK FOR COMMENT

Territorians have just one more week to lodge their comments on a proposed national strategy to deal with Indigenous consumer issues.

Northern Territory Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Dr Peter Toyne launched the *Taking Action, Gaining Trust* document late last year.

It is a consultation document which sets out a framework for a National Indigenous Consumer Strategy including objectives and priorities for the five year strategy. It also outlines issues and proposed action.

“There has been much interest expressed in the document and I’m hoping there will be more to come in the next week,” Dr Toyne said. “Feedback doesn’t have to be a formal submission, you can simply phone coordinator Christine Ross on 0401116727 with your comments.

“This is a significant national document which may end up driving a uniform approach to issues of rip-offs and unfair trading with Indigenous people.

“And it’s not just about the victims. These issues also concern the honest traders and industries who work fairly with Indigenous consumers.”

The strategy identifies actions to address the disadvantage experienced by Indigenous consumers under eight key priority areas:

- Financial Management and Banking
- Sale of Motor Vehicles
- Trading Practices in remote communities
- Housing
- Arts/Industry
- Corporate Governance
- Employment of Indigenous Staff in Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Offices
- Advocacy of Indigenous Consumers’ Interests.

The aim is to identify known consumer or competition related problems in the marketplace and propose a range of actions which might solve the problems. Copies of the strategy can be obtained from consumer affairs agencies across the nation or through the website www.nt.gov.au/justice. The closing date for comments is Friday 11 March.

Contact: For Minister Toyne - Richard O’Leary, 0401119586. Or Christine Ross, Coordinator, National Indigenous Consumer Strategy, 0401116727, cross@docep.wa.gov.au

