

Housing Assistance (Commonwealth/State Housing Agreement 2003-2008) (Bilateral Indigenous Housing Interim Agreement Extension) Notice 2006*

Notifiable instrument NI2006–9

made under the

Housing Assistance Act 1987, s 11A (Housing Agreement or Variation)

1 Name of instrument

This instrument is the *Housing Assistance (Commonwealth/State Housing Agreement 2003-2008) (Bilateral Indigenous Housing Interim Agreement Extension) Notice 2006*.

2 Commencement

This instrument commences on the day after notification.

3 Date of Extension

This instrument notifies the extension to the agreement from 1 July 2005 to 30 September 2005.

4 Notification

Copies of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement are available for inspection at the Housing ACT Shopfront, Ground Floor, Nature Conservation House, Corner Benjamin Way and Emu Bank, Belconnen. Copies are also available in PDF version on <http://www.dhcs.act.gov.au/dhcs/Publications>.

Sandra Lambert
Commissioner for Housing
21 December 2005

*Name amended under Legislation Act, s 60



SENATOR THE HON KAY PATTERSON

Minister for Family and Community Services

Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues



The Hon John Hargreaves MLA
Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

17 JUN 2005

Dear Minister

I am writing to you in relation to the Indigenous Housing Agreement (IHA) between the Australian Government and the Australian Capital Territory.

As you are aware, we had agreed to interim arrangements for the year 2004-05 for the funding, planning and delivery of Indigenous housing programmes. This was made necessary by the transfer of the Community Housing and Infrastructure Program (CHIP) to my portfolio and the introduction of new government arrangements for Indigenous affairs.

The interim arrangements also included a commitment to the development of a new IHA to be in place from 2005-06. I realise that there has been some delay in this process, due in part to the Australian Government's development of new directions for Indigenous affairs, however I am aware there have been informal discussions at officer level over recent months dealing with specific details of the agreement.

The new directions agreed by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), involving the development of an overarching agreement on Indigenous affairs with each state and territory government as a statement of commitment to improve outcomes for Indigenous people across all areas is progressing. However, it is expected that this process will take some time to implement across all jurisdictions.

To expedite the development of a new IHA, I propose that our departments commence formal negotiations to develop a new IHA by 30 September 2005.

4 Treasury Place
Melbourne Vic 3002
Tel: (03) 9657 9577
Fax: (03) 9650 8884
Website: www.facs.gov.au

Suite MG 60
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Tel: (02) 6277 7560
Fax: (02) 6273 4122

In order to allow time for formal negotiations to take place, I am prepared to agree to an extension of existing interim arrangements between the Australian and Australian Capital Territory Governments to 30 September 2005. I propose an extension to the existing arrangements be effected by an exchange of letters with any necessary amendments to the existing arrangements incorporated in the letter.

The Australian Government's policy priorities for the negotiation of the new IHA include:

- nationally aligning the duration of new agreements to enable their future renegotiation to occur simultaneously with the reconsideration of the Commonwealth State Housing Agreement (CSHA) in 2007-08
- continuing of Commonwealth, State and Territory government commitments under *Building a Better Future Indigenous Housing to 2010 (BBF)*
- strengthening reporting under the National Reporting Framework (NRF) and financial reporting and accountability
- incorporating COAG commitments on service delivery, shared responsibility and whole of government approaches to Indigenous affairs
- agreeing to new arrangements for governments to engage with the Indigenous community in policy and planning roles under the bilateral agreement, and
- committing to the progressive integration of policy, planning, funding and delivery of Indigenous housing and related services.

Key issues the Australian Government requires to be addressed as part of the negotiations with the Australian Capital Territory Government include:

- transparent financial reporting and achievement of planned expenditure targets
- strengthening reporting requirements against the NRF indicators
- development of strategies to cater for housing and infrastructure for ageing Indigenous people
- determining governance arrangements including the membership and role of a Territory level policy, planning and coordinating body, and
- determining the Australian Capital Territory Government's responsibility for the community of Wreck Bay (currently excluded from the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales IHA).

I look forward to working with you on the development of a new bilateral agreement to provide the basis for sustained improvements in housing and related infrastructure outcomes for Indigenous people of the Australian Capital Territory. I would appreciate your agreement to this approach and to the extension of interim arrangements between the Australian and Australian Capital Territory Governments to 30 September 2005.

Yours sincerely



Senator Kay Patterson



JOHN HARGREAVES MLA

MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

MINISTER FOR URBAN SERVICES

MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

COPY

MEMBER FOR BRINDABELLA

Senator The Honourable Kay Patterson
Minister for Family and Community Services
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Patterson

I am writing in response to your letter of 17 June 2005 regarding the development of a new Indigenous Housing Agreement between the Australian Government and the Australian Capital Territory Government.

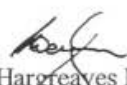
I note your proposal to extend the *Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Interim Agreement 2004-2005* [the Interim Bilateral Agreement] to 30 September 2005 and agree to the extension.

In terms of developing a new Indigenous Housing Agreement, I have authorised the appropriate officers in my Department to formally negotiate with officers in your Department, with the expectation that a new Agreement will commence on 1 October 2005.

Whilst the ACT Government acknowledges that the Australian Government has a range of matters that it wishes to address, I consider that to define the scope of the negotiations, including establishing key issues for discussion, ought properly be part of that negotiation process itself. In particular, the ACT is concerned that the fifth dot point in the second page of your letter under key issues for negotiation could be taken as suggesting that the Territory has responsibility for the community of Wreck Bay and that, as a consequence, one aspect of the impending negotiations will be to determine the scope of that responsibility. Responsibility for the community of Wreck Bay rests squarely with the Commonwealth.

I look forward to the development of a new Indigenous Housing Agreement, which I anticipate will deliver improved housing for the ACT's Indigenous community.

Yours sincerely


John Hargreaves MLA
Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services.

19/7/05

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601 GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT
2601

Phone (02) 6205 0020 Fax (02) 6205 0495

