

# **BACKING INDIGENOUS ABILITY**

## **DELIVERING A COMPREHENSIVE TELECOMMUNICATIONS PACKAGE IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES**

DISCUSSION PAPER

March 2006

Karen A Flick  
Manager  
Indigenous Telecommunications Section

Department of Communications  
Information Technology and the Arts

Dear Karen,

Whilst I am unable to comment on a number of questions with regards to the Backing Indigenous Ability Discussion Paper, I would take the opportunity from experience gained from being the Community Demand Aggregation Broker (CDAB) for the Yorke Peninsula of South Australia Community Demand Aggregation Project deed date 31/8/2004 to 31/5/2006.

During that time I have experienced activities and learned lessons that would be of value with regards to a number of questions asked in this discussions paper

If I may have your leave to express comment on those particular questions I would be appreciative.

The Indigenous Community at Point Pearce on Yorke Peninsula is within the area of the Yorke Peninsula of South Australia Community Demand Aggregation Project and thus within the area this project is endeavouring to cover with wireless broadband, VoIP and in the future compressed streaming video.

It is felt that this technology could be of great value to the Indigenous Community at Point Pearce, indeed CentreLink and the Department of Health - Division of General Practice are seeking broadband into the community for activities and programs they are endeavouring to instigate in the community

The CDAB as also received an Expression of Interest from the community school for access to broadband

With regards to the discussion paper questions:

Question 8:

The assistance of other agents to identify needs and methods of addressing these needs could be of value from the experience and knowledge they could bring.

Question 9;

Application processes such as expressions of interest are very useful to identify need, gather demand and provide evidence for possible sustainability.

Question 10;

Agreements, community ownership and responsibility are vital for sustainability and on going growth.

Question 11;

These can be learned from studying good current Indigenous models

Question 12;

As demonstrated by the numbers of "Chat rooms" currently operating with web cam this activity is an excellent model for Indigenous communication

Question 13;

Mainly bandwidth

Question 14;

“Outside assistance” with experience and knowledge can bring value to this situation

Question 15;

Encourage participation by youth

Question 16;

Yes – by discussion and advice from successful Indigenous programs

Question 17;

As in question 10 agreements, community ownership and responsibility are vital for sustainability and on going growth.

Question 23;

The Community Demand Aggregation Broker (CDAB) for the Yorke Peninsula of South Australia Community Demand Aggregation Project has identified that Community Champions are essential to make a project happen, be sustainable, grow and be useful.

Question 24;

Demand aggregation, instruction of usage, teaching of technology, explanation of cost and benefits, assistance in installation, interfacing with Suppliers, development and encouragement.

Question 25;

Someone with compency for the broadband solution, a passion for the community and its needs and a strong desire to see broadband available to everyone in the community

Question 26;

This would vary with whom the champion is

Question 31;

This would best be a co-operative venture with the community leaders and those endeavouring to bring broadband to the community

Question 34;

In the Yorke Peninsula of South Australia this has been identified as a wireless solution

Question 51;

Those already engaged in Community Broadband Demand Aggregation activities have considerable knowledge that could be of great value in this project

Thank you for allowing this response

Andrew Cheel

Yorke Peninsula of South Australia Community Broadband Demand Aggregation Broker

Phone: 0438 823 539