

No 5

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30 APR 2007
LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW
COMMITTEE



**Queensland
Government**

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Our File Ref DG07/00382

Department of
**Tourism, Fair Trading and
Wine Industry Development**

Mrs Dianne Reilly MP
Chair
Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE Qld 4000

Dear Mrs Reilly

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Interim evaluation of the *Hands on Parliament* recommendations.

Clearly, these are important issues, for all Queenslanders. Participation in the formal and informal democratic processes including membership of political parties, and representation at all levels of government is critical to addressing Indigenous disadvantage across the nation.

It is in the interest of all Australians that we have full participation in our Parliamentary democracy and that proactive strategies are supported which will lead to greater participation by Indigenous peoples in both formal and informal political and decision-making bodies.

The most useful action I can take for the moment is to ensure that all departmental staff, including Indigenous staff, are advised that the Hands on Parliament Workshops will occur across Queensland from 23 April 2007 to 21 May 2007 and that there is an opportunity to make private submissions responding to the Committee's Consultation Paper.

I wish the Committee great success in its research into and consideration of these important issues.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George O'Farrell".

George O'Farrell
Director-General

26/4/07