

An office for advocacy and accountability in Aboriginal affairs in Western Australia

Response provide by **As One Nyitting Limited** – First Nation Company and Charity 7 September 2018

We want to hear from you

1. What do you think of the Government's proposal?

High Level, YES, this is the positive change we (First Nation People) need to support the State Government to understand the way forward with our people as a journey. Success of the New Office will all depend on the person/s involved.

Please see comments below as a response to the individual functions of the New Office, I left the Next Steps blank as a point of discussion if there is an opportunity to explore as there are many layers to each function. In addition, the past mistakes written within policies and processes were developed with the notion of How Aboriginal people should grow, engage, and contribute to society (through assimilation), and now, with the New Office we have a unique opportunity to write and speak for our people as we have been for many centuries connected to Country, People and Spirit to our Culture. Our way of life, our lore, our morals and values, our traditional customs and protocols and our Culture is still very strong and real and when we respect and recognise this simple fact we may have a chance to influence, wright policies and processes that empower our First Nation Community.

There is no room to expect change based on interpretation or assumptions, we have a voice and we have the solutions for our people, the New Office can bring our community together after many years of dispossession, assimilation and suppression.

We vote yes for the New Office and we would appreciate an opportunity to explore this new journey with the State Government as a First Nation Company and Charity. We also respect and appreciate this will be a very dynamic and challenging framework of accountability, however positive change can be created when you empower the people to understand how this new way forward is going to be achieved...through unawareness excuses can be made...through the knowledge of our Ancestors, Elders and Leaders outcomes can be achieved with each small step made.

2. What should the name of the organisation be?

First Nation Commission of Self-Determination in Western Australia

3. How should Aboriginal people be involved in choosing the right person?

I envision the New Office to hold a true representation of the WA communities, which is a challenge with so many communities however through a voting process by many channels, online, face to face, community information sessions each corner of the state could be included to make an informed decision about who should be our true leaders, of First Nation positive political change. If we could have a First Nation representation from each region of the state the voices could be heard and relevant to the local challenges.

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The Function of the New Office	Comments from As One Nyitting based on the function of the New Office	Next Steps
There are many ways the office may do this, including:		
monitoring the effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery	Each department is governed by separate legislation with a key focus to support Aboriginal People, creating a framework to monitoring the effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery, is to first create accountability across Government through a common measure of how effective and efficient each department is, based on the parameters provided by the New Office that then could be monitored and understood each year.	
identifying opportunities to improve services, with collaborative input from government agencies and Aboriginal organisations	Creating a fair collaboration across the state to support local services to improve the local challenges by region.	
assessing the consistency of policy and performance with human rights, legislative requirements and government commitments	Identifying outdated legislative requirements, policies and performances in line with international human rights and Government Commitments. This can be achieved by the New Office, identifying the gaps in each department at the different structural levels, assessing how systematic change can influence new policy to support First Nation Empowerment and Self-Determination.	
assessing the evidence base for government decisions and policies	Capturing the flow-on effect of government decisions and polices that directly impact the Aboriginal Community	
monitoring and reporting on government implementation of previous reviews and recommendations	Reviews and Recommendations made by local Aboriginal Communities and key Community Leaders compared to taking on the reviews and recommendations of others who benefit from First Nation disadvantage.	
helping government agencies engage better with Aboriginal	Developing of process of inclusion across every level from front line advisory roles to Managerial Roles, with the ultimate goal to achieve a First Nation	

people, and Aboriginal organisations engage better with government	Political party who can speak for the First Nation community alongside walking with the First Nation community to create policies based on Cultural Empowerment and Self-determination	
assessing government agencies' evaluation practices, and raising the public profile of evaluation results	Aboriginal Procurement Policy was a very successful approach to bring our community together.	
promoting relevant research and helping set the research agenda	Traditional Knowledge is so sacred to who we are as First Nation people and creating a framework to own this information should be managed by the New Office. Individual departments hold on to sacred information that is not shared in a common forum.	
Engaging with the public sector and general public to promote success stories, examples of good practice and positive partnerships.	Celebrating Culture with all	

We look forward to seeing the New Office being established and supported by all the communities across WA.

Kind regards,

Zoe Davis – Founder/CEO

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