

Northern Territory Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation

Providers of TOP END LINK UP SERVICE

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SUBMISSION TO THE TUNE REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Northern Territory Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation was incorporated in 1998 and provides a service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals, families and communities, which includes recognition of the impact of past trauma, dispossession, separation of families, social and cultural issues that impact on their social and emotional wellbeing.

The service assists in the process of healing for people affected by past removal policies, and provides an opportunity for members of Stolen Generations to find and re-establish family connections, particularly with immediate family members through family tracing, reunions and counselling.

We assist eligible clients by undertaking family tracing by advising on possible family connections and search strategies, and researching client files and other relevant information.

We liaise with all State, Territory and National record-holding bodies about access to the records of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and maintain sustainable linkages and strategic partnerships with relevant agencies, which include Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS), the Northern Territory Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, and the Northern Territory Library.

Our organisation has an MOU and a great relationship with the National Archives and rely on access to records about people who were affected by past removal policies. It is vital that this continues.

We also believe it is imperative that the National Archives continue to obtain funding to exist, to secure and preserve the collections of Australian history, and to efficiently and effectively fulfil its essential functions.

It is a democratic right as citizens of this country and as people who were affected by Government policies to be able to access archival records, case files and all other relevant records held by the National Archives of Australia to connect with their identity and family history. It is extremely important to ensure that those records will remain available to future generations.

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Mrs Maisie Austin OAM, ASM, CMC Chief Executive Officer

NTSGAC acknowledges all traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their rights to continuing connection to land, sea and community. We also pay our respects to them, and their cultures, and to our Elders past, present and future.



"Bringing families together"

