

**Submission
No 173**

**INQUIRY INTO SOCIAL, PUBLIC AND AFFORDABLE
HOUSING**

Name: Mr Dominic Wy Kanak

Date received: 6/03/2014

NSW Legislative Council

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL, PUBLIC AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

ATTENTION : Jan Barham NSW Greens MLC and Select Committee Members ,

Thank You for the Extension to send submissions to this Select Committee.

This Submission is broadly applicable to the Parliamentary Resolution of NSW Legislative Council, Minutes 178, Wed13Nov2013 'Terms of Reference' establishing the Committee.

Paragraph 1 : 'Demand':

Paragraph 1 of the Parliamentary Notice refers to the "demand for social, public and affordable housing". This Submission refers to the past Dispossession of Aboriginal People in NSW and especially as that process progressed initially from a point in Australia within a few thousand metres of the NSW Houses of Parliament, and it is irony in the extreme that the very 'House' that now inquires into Social, Affordable Public Housing ['SAPH'] needs is built upon ground where Aboriginal People were first physically colonially dispossessed of Their Country.

As First Peoples, Aboriginal People whose Country is built upon where NSW Parliament now stands would have been the first affected by invasion creep and therefore in the imposed colonial sense the first People requiring 'Social Affordable Public Shelter'. Post 1788 colonial depictions and historical records show how quickly some Proud, presumably Nomadic, First Peoples became disengaged from a complex reciprocal accommodation with The Land, turning into begging fringe dwellers amongst a culture-shock of new forms of Environmentally gouged Housing wherein even convicts had a House, albeit a jail. A further irony is that the first mining activity by the first economic slaves of Australia, the convicts, was to quarry the ochre coloured Hawkesbury SandStone and Aboriginal middens to fire shell deposits into the very mortar which held and still holds that colonial heritage together.

The process of want for Affordable Shelter that was begun in 1788 for Australia's First Peoples continues, and NSW Government as the first Social Affordable Public Housing provider to Aboriginal Peoples has a special Social and Economic Justice duty to provide for the Aboriginal Community's ongoing accumulated need of SAPH Shelter.

A simple contemporary reversal of the Dispossession process would be to affordably rehouse Aboriginal Descendants of Sydney area First Peoples in need of SAPH as a matter of priority, and then follow with rehousing those Aboriginal Peoples who now live in the Sydney area. As with all Aboriginal Community programs this 'rehousing' process should occur with utmost Cultural Sensitivity and according to Protocols of Aboriginal Community Engagement. Established key Aboriginal Stakeholder Agencies such as the NSW Aboriginal Land Council network and a spectrum of appropriate support organizations should be pivot designers and implementers of this Dispossession reversal.

Paragraph 1 (a): "projections of future social, public and affordable housing supply and demand to 2020":

Projections of SAPH needs for the Aboriginal Community should be calculated using a formula which takes into relevant account 'Closing The Gap' research and policy that discusses the difference in Aboriginal Life Expectancy. Ageing Aboriginal population in need should be Socially Affordably

Publicly Housed earlier than current mainstream entry ages for SAPH Shelter. If Aboriginal Elders are predicted to die statistically earlier than Their mainstream contemporaries then those Aboriginal Elders should have access and be prioritised into the SAPH supply and demand projections towards 2020.

Sovereignty : Aboriginal Sovereignty and proper recognition for past Dispossession should drive the Social Economic Justice motivation for canvassing new initiatives in solving the Aboriginal Community's housing crisis.

THAN..X.,

Yours In Community ,

Indigenous Greens Councillor , dominicWYkanak, boondiboondi Bondi Ward , Waverley Council ,
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