

**Submission  
No 34**

## **INQUIRY INTO CROWN LAND IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Ms Halina MacQueen

**Date received:** 14 July 2016

---

The Director, General Purpose Standing Committee No. 6,  
Legislative Council, Parliament House,  
Macquarie Street,  
SYDNEY NSW 2000  
Email: [gpsc6@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:gpsc6@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

**Halina MacQueen**

11 July 2016

Dear Sir

As a concerned citizen of Sydney and a resident of the Parramatta area, I welcome the inquiry into the mismanagement of Crown Lands.

Given that on the whole, Australians are usually pretty apathetic to the workings of politics until it personally affects them, one must ask what has recently happened in NSW that has resulted in the increasing numbers of resident action groups springing up in all areas of Sydney? One of the major reasons is the mismanagement and privatisation of Crown Land without sufficient and relevant community consultation.

Here in Parramatta, the Parramatta Park Trust land is being threatened by the State Government's proposal to take the land currently leased by Parramatta City Council for the Parramatta Memorial Swimming Pool (CROWN LAND: lot 2 DP 862127) to build a new Stadium with slightly larger spectator capacity and adding a new commercial zone which will all be either privately owned and/or much more expensive for the general public to use and access. This is being done without proper community consultation. Consultation with a large Commercial football club cannot be equated to community consultation! The residents of the City of Parramatta and not the Parramatta Leagues Club are the ones that need to be consulted. The Community of Parramatta own that parcel of land as it was gifted to us by our forefathers in the 1960s when a need for a public pool and public amenities was identified. With the population of Parramatta almost doubling in the next few years there will be an increased need for more public amenities within the Parramatta area and so the Crown Land that exists in the heart of Parramatta should be preserved and solely left for future generations to enjoy. The selling off of Crown Land is not in keeping with the spirit of the law which considers Crown Land needs to be preserved and enhanced for future generations. Enhancement does not mean short term commercial profit by selling it off.

The Director, General Purpose Standing Committee No. 6

Halina MacQueen

11 July 2016

Also currently under threat of being mismanaged and used for private use is the Parramatta Girls Home known as Kambala (CROWN LAND: KAMBALA RESERVE TRUST – RESEVE NO. 1002899) on the Crown Land Register. This is part of the Female Factory Precinct on Fleet Street. It is also under threat (from UrbanGrowth NSW) of being leased for private business use and with limited public access. The residents of the City of Parramatta (ie. the ratepayers) should be the first to be consulted and once given an opportunity to offer several suggestions, other interested parties can then be asked to offer suggestions. The residents of Parramatta have not been consulted and the little information offered by UrbanGrowth has been vague, less than transparent and on occasions inaccurate. For this reason, there is a growing distrust of UrbanGrowth and I am sure it is not restricted to the residents of Parramatta.

I look forward to a positive result.

Yours Sincerely

Halina MacQueen