

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2013-14 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 7

**Question No:** 164

**Topic:** Arrulka Business Corporation

**Hansard Page:** 07/06/2013 - CA9-10

**Senator Scullion** asked:

The Arrulka Business Corporation was granted \$841,000 of the \$2.1 million they were seeking to organise the festival. Was the actual sum provided to Arrulka a function of a ministerial decision or a function of the ABA board's decision? Could you also provide any further details of the application and the reason for not providing the \$2.1 million?

**Answer:**

Arrulka Business Corporation submitted an application to the Aboriginals Benefit Account in October 2010. This application was considered by the Aboriginals Benefit Account in November 2010 and the Aboriginals Benefit Account Advisory Committee requested the application be resubmitted with a budget that was at a lower cost with duplicated items removed and with co-funding as detailed in the application demonstrated to be secured.

Arrulka Business Corporation resubmitted the application in April 2011 with a reduced total budget of \$2.175 million. In this application Arrulka Business Corporation confirmed other contributions of \$25,000 in addition to the request from the Aboriginals Benefit Account of \$2.15 million.

The application was reassessed by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and after comparison with other Aboriginals Benefit Account funded cultural events funding of \$841,000 was recommended by the Department.

In February 2012 the Minister approved funding of \$841,000 for the Mbantua Festival on the condition that Arrulka Business Corporation demonstrated support from Alice Springs native title holders, the Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation, which was subsequently provided.