



Senator for the Northern Territory
Senator Malarndirri McCarthy



Deputy Opposition Whip in the Senate
Chair of First Nations Caucus Committee

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To Senator Wendy Askew
Chair
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs
CC: Committee Secretary

Dear Senator Askew

In response to the letter from Kenja Communications of 12 November 2020 I take this opportunity to correct the facts regarding their involvement with the National Redress Scheme.

Below is the transcript from Hansard of the Prime Minister's speech to Parliament regarding this issue and made reference to in the question I asked in Estimates.

TRANSCRIPT

22 Oct 2020

Prime Minister

So I am reporting that on 1 July this year, 6 institutions were named as having failed to declare their intention to join the scheme.

Since then, 2 of these have joined.

We still have, reprehensibly, 4 institutions who have been named publicly and who have blatantly refused to join the Redress Scheme.

They are:

- *Jehovah's Witnesses*
- *Kenja Communication*
- *Lakes Entrance Pony Club Inc*
- *Fairbridge (Restored) Limited.*

It is not acceptable.

We are currently finalising the further sanctions, I know that are supported by the Opposition, the Commonwealth will place on institutions who continue to refuse to join the Scheme. Including withdrawal of their charitable status for these offending organisations.



I stand corrected that Kenja Communications was not named in the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Rather, according to the Prime Minister, they were named as having refused to join the Redress Scheme.

This error in no way alters the substance of the question that was asked in Estimates.

Regards



SENATOR MALARNDIRRI McCARTHY