



Indigenous Affairs Committee to travel to Cairns, Cape York and the Torres Strait Islands

The Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs is inquiring into what educational options have met with the most success for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. We need to know what works best, what has failed and what we can do with communities to improve Indigenous education.

On **Monday 7 March 2016**, the Committee will hold hearings in Cairns, hearing from Noel Pearson, Founder of the Cape York Partnership on what seems to be working, and what has not been successful, in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education.

On **Tuesday 8 March 2016**, the Committee will travel to Coen and Aurukun, to meet with staff, students and community leaders in these communities. On **Wednesday 9 March 2016**, the Committee will hold a public hearing on Thursday Island to hear what educational models are meeting with the most success in the Torres Strait.

Full programs for all hearings and further information on the inquiry, including a link to the Committee's e-newsletter, containing updates about the Inquiry and its future work programme, can be found on the inquiry website at www.aph.gov.au/educationalopportunities.

Students, parents and teachers may be interested in participating in the Committee's questionnaire which is also available from the above website.

The public hearings will be webcast live at [http://www.aph.gov.au/News and Events/Watch Parliament](http://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament).

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair the Hon Dr Sharman Stone MP on (03) 5821 5371 (Electorate Office) or (02) 6277 4477 (Parliament House).

For background information, and advice on making submissions, please contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4559 or indigenouaffairs.reps@aph.gov.au