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17 October 2017

Mr. Michael Kirby
Senior Research Officer
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs

Dear Mr Kirby

I refer to your email dated 12 October 2017 at 6:02PM.

Your email contains a date reference which is clearly in error. I have assumed you wish the response by 20 October 2017 (not 20 September 2017). Please see the Committee Secretary's letter enclosing one question and the response date.

The question 20 is not identified but refers to transcript. The transcript refers to the Senators "understanding" of two meetings on 6 February 2015. The Senators understanding is erroneous and I was not informed of the basis of her understandings.

My diary reveals that the date of 6 February 2015 was the date of the Weary Dunlop lunch. This is a social occasion held at Crown Casino in Melbourne as a fund raising event. I had no formal meetings with any person. I would have spoken at the lunch as the President and met and spoke informally to hundreds of people.

I did not meet with any unidentified investment banker nor Mr Andrew Cox at a formal meeting. I am not sure whether such persons were in attendance at the Weary Dunlop lunch.

This "understanding" of the Senator seems to have been undermined by later evidence on the same day I gave evidence.

Unfortunately, the Senator asserted I was "a little hazy about it" to Mr Leahy (transcript page 43). The transcript then records Mr Wellborn (wrongly as it was Mr Leahy) and he states: ***"Mr North wasn't in those meetings"***.

If it was Mr Leahy who founded the basis of the Senator's understanding then it would seem that he clarified the position that I was not in attendance at "those meetings". Further, it is not clear the meetings were about having regarded to the later evidence on the same page.

I assume therefore that the question has been answered satisfactorily. I was not at any meetings of the type enquired of by the Senator of by the Senator.

Yours sincerely

Tim North

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From: Kirby, Michael (SEN) on behalf of Community Affairs,
Committee (SEN) <Community.Affairs.Sen@aph.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 12 October 2017 6:02 PM
To: Tim North
Cc: Community Affairs, Committee (SEN)
Subject: Community Affairs References Committee - Rugby union - QONs 11 October 2017
Attachments: QoNs - VRU.pdf

Good afternoon,

**Senate Community Affairs References Committee
Future of rugby union in Australia
Questions on Notice – 11 October 2017**

Thank you for your evidence at the committee's hearing in Perth yesterday for the second hearing of its *Future of rugby union in Australia* inquiry.

Please find attached a letter from the Committee Secretary, Ms Jeanette Radcliffe, enclosing a list of the questions taken on notice during the hearing. If responses could please be provided by **20 September 2017** it would be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Michael Kirby | Senior Research Officer

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
References Committee

12 October 2017

Mr Tim North QC
President
Victorian Rugby Union

Email: tnorth@vicbar.com.au

Dear Mr North

Inquiry into the future of rugby union in Australia

I am writing regarding the Senate Community Affairs References Committee's public hearing held in Perth on Wednesday 11 October 2017. The transcript of the hearing is available from the committee's website:

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Community_Affairs/Futureofrugbyunion/Public_Hearings

The committee Chair, Senator Rachel Siewert, advised that the secretariat would contact you to confirm any questions taken on notice during the hearing. A list of questions is attached for your information. It would assist the committee if you could provide your responses to these questions by **20 October 2017**.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions in relation to this letter.

Yours sincerely

Jeanette Radcliffe
Committee Secretary

Senate Community Affairs References Committee

Questions on notice
Public hearing, 11 October 2017
Four Points by Sheraton, Perth

Government of Western Australia

Question 20

Hansard page reference: pp. 20–21.

Senator REYNOLDS: Thank you. I understand there was a meeting in Melbourne on 6 February 2015 when Rob Clarke went down to Melbourne. He had two meetings, which I understand may have been with you and, first of all, an investment bank—I don't know who it was; the name escapes me—who apparently fell through. But there was a second meeting that day that involved yourself, Rob Clarke and also Andrew Cox.

Mr North: There may have been. I don't have a recollection of it, I'm afraid. I could check to see in my diary. What day did you say it was?

Senator REYNOLDS: It was around 6 February. Could you confirm whether the meeting ever took place?

Mr North: I have no recollection of it, I'm afraid.

Senator REYNOLDS: So you weren't aware of the meeting or if you were there.

Mr North: There may have been, but it would have been introductory. I would not have been negotiating the terms.

Senator REYNOLDS: But it is possible there was an introductory meeting, and you'll go back and check for us?

Mr North: If it was an introductory meeting, I could have been there. I just can't assist you, because I have no recollection.

CHAIR: Could you please take that on notice to check your diary?

Mr North: Sure.