



Public hearings commence for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education inquiry

What works? What's important? What can we do better? These are some of the questions being asked by the House Indigenous Affairs Committee in its inquiry into educational opportunities and outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

The inquiry's first public hearing will include staff and students from the Canberra Institute of Technology's Yurauna Centre, which provides support, advice and advocacy services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

The hearing will be held tomorrow, **Thursday 12 November 2015** in **Committee Room 1R4** at **Parliament House, Canberra** from approximately **11.45am to 12.30pm**.

Committee Chair Dr Sharman Stone MP said: "Education can play a critical role in providing opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We want to hear from students, staff and families about what works in the education system and what doesn't."

Further information on the inquiry, including a link to an online questionnaire for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, their families and educators, can be found on the inquiry website at www.aph.gov.au/educationalopportunities. The questionnaire will be online from now until March 2016.

The Committee will also accept submissions to the inquiry until February 2016.

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 indigenousaffairs.reps@aph.gov.au