



Indigenous entrepreneurs: *successful and invisible*

An expert in successful Indigenous entrepreneurship, Dr Dennis Foley, will attend today's public hearing for a new inquiry into Indigenous employment by federal parliament's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Committee.

Dr Foley has extensively researched Indigenous Australian entrepreneurs. Dr Foley is Gai-mariagal (Matrilineal) and his father is a descendant of Capertree/Turon River people, Wiradjuri.

Dr Foley will meet with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Committee in the federal parliament in Canberra. The public hearing is today at **3.40 pm** (23 May) in Committee Room 1R2, Parliament House, Canberra.

Committee Chairman Mr Barry Wakelin (Member for Grey, SA) says "Dr Foley's research provides a valuable insight into current successful Indigenous endeavours".

Dr Foley is a visiting fellow at the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research at the Australian National University. His research interests include Indigenous small business, Indigenous entrepreneurship, Indigenous micro-economic reform and Indigenous self-determination that is connected to financial independence.

The Committee is looking at the positive Indigenous employment outcomes in both regional and urban areas with a view to informing future policy development. We look forward to hearing more about the important factors that have contributed to these successes and what contribution practical reconciliation has made.

The Committee encourages interested persons and organisations to contact the secretariat if they wish to participate in the inquiry.

Further details on the inquiry, including the complete terms of reference, background documents, and advice on making submissions can be obtained on the Committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/atsia or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4484 or emailing atsia.reps@aph.gov.au.

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chairman Barry Wakelin on Mobile 0429 900 910 or telephone (02) 6277 4943

For background information, contact the Inquiry Secretary, Cheryl Scarlett, on (02) 6277 4484