

Cape York Institute for Policy and Leadership
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11 March 2005

The Honourable John Howard MP
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR INDIGENOUS CAPITAL LIMITED (ICL)

I am writing to you to express my support for the Indigenous Capital Limited initiative which I am aware has been brought to your attention by Danny Gilbert.

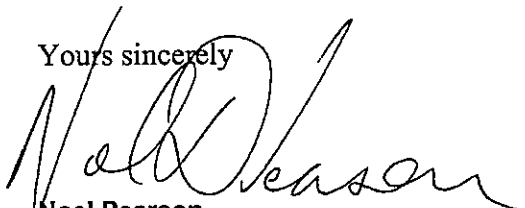
There is an urgent need for corporate Australia to become actively involved in assessing, negotiating, structuring and mentoring indigenous businesses. The expertise of developing and growing small to medium sized enterprises is not present within our communities and needs to be to assist our people to enter and maintain a successful position in the wider economy.

Attracting the best people to advise on our commercial opportunities will reduce indigenous dependency on welfare and bring a greater entrepreneurial culture to this generation and for generations to come.

Getting true participation from professional investors will require attracting them on their own terms. I believe a fund such as this would go a long way to attracting equity investment, specialist expertise, attention and buy-in to Indigenous investment.

Any support which you and your Government can give will be important and valuable.

Yours sincerely



Noel Pearson