House of Representatives Standing Committee On Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

11/02/09

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To Senate Inquiry,

DECEIVED 18 FEB 2009

Hello my name is Tanya Luckey and I am currently the Chairperson for the Imanpa Yaatitjiti Store Committee. Prior to this I was the Chairperson for the Imanpa Community Council before the New Shire took over the delivery of services in Imanpa. While being the Chairperson for Imanpa Community Council, we had a meeting about our store and how the store was going down hill. We spoke about different ways of helping our store get back on track and Central Land Council (CLC) spoke to the council about a new company that were willing to help our community store. After some discussion's CLC then asked the council if it would be a good idea to bring the manager from Outback Stores to talk to the council about their company and what the community would expect of them.

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After a few more meetings with CLC and Outback Stores the council agreed that we would get in Outback Stores to manage our store and help get the store back on track.

We have had Outback stores here managing our store from November 2006 and since then we have had many meetings to discuss agreements and signing off on documents for the building of the new store.

Since Outback Stores came into Imanpa to manage our store, we have had more fresh fruit and veggies, more variety of stock on shelves, a mixture of assorted drinks, assorted meats and frozen goods. There are also household goods that people buy here instead of traveling into Alice Springs and a variety of toys, clothes, shoes, DVD's and tapes. The children of Imanpa are healthy, no sores on their bodies and we haven't had any child go into the Alice Springs Hospital for a while now.

The Yaatitjiti Store Committee have also been talking to people in the community about spending more money in the store rather than spending it else where. This is so that the store can start to make profits which can then be put back into the community for special projects.

Overall we are happy that Outback Stores did come into our community to help manage our store and get it back on track. We would also like to see Outback Stores managing all community stores around our area so that we don't compare prices or products with each community stores also ideas and information can be pass onto each other about ways of doing good business in Aboriginal Communities.

Yours truly, Jan Luckey

Imanpa Yaatitjiti Store Committee Chairperson Imanpa Community