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BY: ATIA

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To whom it may concern.

As former Community Advisor for Canteen Creek Owairtilla Association I would like to offer my support to Outback Stores.

Outback Stores was invited to Canteen Creek to take over the management of the community store just prior to the reality of the intervention

Our store had suffered hard times and mismanagement for several years and the Community needed some structure to supply healthy and affordable goods as going the 300 klm to Tennant Creek was never an option. From the day Outback Stores took over there was vast improvement and we felt secure in the fact store managers had to answer to someone. For too long stores in communities relied on the honesty of people who came into communities for one reason only and that was to make money. Just like stations where business no longer relies solely on cattle etc now they rely on the stations store. We all know Aboriginal income and welfare have been taken advantage of for too long.

It seems to me the people who knock this company are the ones who have been put in there place and feel they are now suffering as they lose there ability to rip off Aboriginal people who choice is limited enough. Stations who for some reason can give personal loans without written contracts and book up at stores for people over their heads in debt and find it impossible to recover and never get ahead..... just live one day at a time with the hope someone will help them....

The policies and procedures that come with Outback Stores all work well and are for the benefit of community people.

Let's have the stations do what they are good at and run cattle and station businessnot aboriginal people!

Kathy Gers