



The Federal Redistribution 2006  
QUEENSLAND

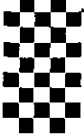


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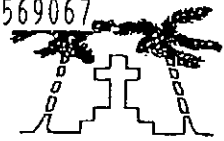
**Objection Number 89**

**Yarrabah Day Care Centre**

**2 pages**



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# YARRABAH ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

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YARRABAH DAYCARE CENTRE  
10 SAWMILL ROAD  
YARRABAH, QUEENSLAND 4871

17<sup>th</sup> JULY 2006

Mr IAN CAMPBELL  
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER  
GPO BOX 2590  
BRISBANE QUEENSLAND 4001

Dear Mr Campbell,

Yarrabah Day Centre has been told that the Electoral Commission is planning to move Yarrabah out of Leichhardt and into Kennedy for elections. This action would cause many problems in our community, including Yarrabah Day Care Centre, and the families who use it.

The main reason is that we do all of our business in Cairns, which includes discussing any problems we have with our Federal members Senator Jan McLucas and Warren Entsch. Day care is a federal issue and we need to be able to talk easily and quickly with our federal members in person.

They are both based in Cairns. We believe that if we were shifted to Kennedy our nearest centre would be Innisfail. If Yarrabah was moved into the electorate of Kennedy we would be forced to deal with two centres (Innisfail and Cairns) instead of one at present.

I would also like to say that almost every single service provider we use, or obtain information, resources and help from, is based in Cairns. This includes Federal service providers.

Our day care centre does not have the money or the time or the ability to be travelling backwards and forwards to Innisfail to see our Federal Member or to see our service providers.

Yarrabah is a very disadvantaged community, and we are having some success in improving conditions here, especially in terms of educating our children and preparing them for the future. Our involvement with Government agencies and our political representatives is very important to our efforts and for the Electoral Commission to reduce or limit direct and convenient access to them would be a big setback.

**OBJECTION**

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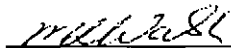
Federal politicians and agencies in Cairns have been very helpful to the Day Care Centre and the general community mainly because they understand our needs and our concerns because we know them and are used to dealing with them.

It is also important for Yarrabah families to stay connected to country to the north, because for many of us this is our traditional lands. Many Yarrabah families were taken away from areas around Lockhart River, Coen, Laura, Wujal Wujal and Hopeval and still have family in those places.

We object to anything that might threaten our traditional links to family and country. It is important for the children who attend Yarrabah Day Care Centre to know their culture and their country and their family.

It is not in their interest for there to be any increased emphasis on the country and the towns to the south of us. As they grow up all their focus will be on Cairns and the Cape, and the Yarrabah community wants that to continue.

Yours sincerely,



Melaine Walsh  
Child Care Director  
Yarrabah Day Care Centre

**OBJECTION**

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