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The Newsletter of the

Central Australian Stolen Generations & Families Aboriginal Corporation

Issue: September 2005

Special General Meeting & Annual General Meeting Friday 28 October 2005

A Special General Meeting and ,then The Annual General Meeting (AGM) for CASG&FAC, will be held on Friday 28 October 2005 from 10am, at our office at 86 Hartley Street, Alice Springs.

The Special General Meeting is called for members to consider important changes to the CASG&FAC Constitution. An updated Constitution has been drafted, with the assistance of Lawyers from Gilbert & Tobin, to allow CASG&FAC to continue to grow as an organisation. Copies of the updated

Constitution are available from the CASG&FAC Office.

Following the Special General Meeting, the AGM will then commence to hear reports on the operation of CASG&FAC for 2004/2005. The Management Committee for 2005/2006 will be elected at the AGM.

Nominations for positions on the Management Committee can be made before the meeting at the Office or during the AGM.

Following the AGM, a BBQ Lunch will be provided for members.

In This Issue:	Page
AGM	1
Herbie gets Indigenous Music Award	2
National Sorry Day Committee	3
Strategic Plan Updated	3
Harold Furber Speaking in Canada	4
Good Report from OATSIH Review	5
National Link-Up MOU	5
Computers For Sale	6

Herbie Laughton Wins 2005 NT Indigenous Music Award & Welcomed into the Hall of Fame

Founding CASG&FAC Member, Herbie Laughton, recently performed at 2nd NT INDIGENOUS MUSIC AWARDS. The awards were held on Saturday, 27 August 2005, at the Marrara Stadium, Darwin.

Herbie traveled to Darwin with Gus Williams and Auriel Andrews who were also invited to attend the event.



Hall of Fame winners NT Music Awards seen here with Chief Minister Claire Martin and Guest speaker Peter Garrett

They each received awards and were also inducted into the Hall of Fame.

During the event Herbie, Gus and Auriel performed some of their own songs to the appreciative audience.



Auriel Andrews, Herbie Laughton and Gus Williams at the 2005 NT Indigenous Music Awards in Darwin.

National Sorry Day Committee AGM

Oopy Campbell recently represented CASG&FAC at the National Sorry Day Committee Annual General Meeting in Canberra. During the meeting there was a lot of discussion about the names 'Sorry Day' and 'National Day of Healing'.

The AGM confirmed that 26 May each year should continue to be known as 'Sorry Day'.

At the AGM, Brian Butler was elected to the position of Co-Chair. Gillian Brannigan was re-elected as the other Co-Chair.

CASG&FAC will continue its active involvement with the National Sorry Day Committee through participation in the regular teleconferences.

Following the AGM, Oopy and some of the other representatives visited Parliament House in Canberra to meet with politicians to discuss Stolen Generations issues.

Strategic Plan Updated

In June and July 2005 the Management Committee, with the assistance of an external consultation, reviewed and updated the CASG&FAC Strategic Plan. The Updated Strategic Plan is intended to serve CASG&FAC for the next 5 years.

The Management Committee found the Strategic Planning exercise very useful. It helped to clarify the key objectives for the Corporation.

The 4 key objectives reported in the Strategic Plan are:

- *To ensure the viability of CASG&FAC in order to continue to represent the interests of the Stolen Generations in Central Australia.*
- *To work towards bringing Link-Up and Counselling Services under one body*
- *To work towards creating a peak body of all Stolen Generations organisations in the NT.*
- *To have CASG&FAC funded on a triennial basis*

Copies of the Strategic Plan are available from the CASG&FAC Office.

Harold Furber Speaks at Canadian Conference

Harold Furber, founding member and former Chairperson, was invited to speak at the International Lessons in Truth, Reparation and Reconciliation Conference in Toronto, Canada in September 2005.

The conference covered the truth telling processes, reparation programs, and reconciliation. It was part of the consultation process in response to Canada's legacy of Indian Residential Schools. This was a similar policy in Canada to the removal of indigenous children in Australia.

Harold's presentation covered Aboriginal policy in Australia over the last 10-15 years, particularly

in relation to the formal Reconciliation period (1990-2000), the history and development of the Stolen Generations movement and its rise onto the public agenda, development of support groups such as ANTar and the National Sorry Day Committee and the continuation of the Reconciliation movement after 2000.

Harold was also invited by Canadian Government Officials and representatives from the Assembly of First Nations to give the presentation again in Ottawa following the conference.

While in Canada Harold also visited two First Nations reservations, Kahnawake in the Mohawk Nation Territory and Cape Croker.

Harold sharing a joke with Chief Dr Bobby Joseph at the Conference

(Photo Courtesy InCite Youth Art Inc)



CASG&FAC Gets Good Report following OATSIH Review

Towards the end of June 2005 CASG&FAC was reviewed by a consultant engaged by the OATSIH NT Office. The review looked at the Link-Up Service.

The review has been completed and OASTSIH has told CASG&FAC that 'The review outlines that your organisation is committed to the Link Up program and appears to be a successful provider of services to clients'.

The review report did not highlight any major problems with the way CASG&FAC operates. It did make a few minor recommendations on how CASG&FAC could improve its work practices. The recommendations are currently being considered by the Management Committee.

A National Link-Up MOU

Over the previous couple of months the managers and coordinators from all the Link-Up Services around Australia have met to draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to improve the way the Link-Up Services work together. Once it is cleared by lawyers working at OATSIH, all the Link-Up Services are expected to sign the MOU.

The CASG&FAC Management Committee has been a strong supporter of an MOU between all the Link-Up Services. It expects that the MOU will improve the way Link-Up Services arrange Reunions when more than one Link-Up Service is involved.

CASG&FAC hopes to sign the MOU before the end of 2005.



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Reminder

Don't forget the
AGM is on Friday
28th October at
the CASG&FAC
Office from
9:30am.

FOR SALE

CASG&FAC has up to three IBM Pentium III computers for sale. The computers were purchased by CASG&FAC in early 2000, so they are around 6 years old. They each work and include Windows 98 and Office 2000. They will be sold for \$150 each and, as they are limited, conditions are as follows:

- The Sale Begins at 9am on 28 October 2005
- Money must be paid at the time of sale, there won't be any credit. (there will be no holding them for anyone either),
- There will be no delivery. (If you have purchased a computer, you need to find a

way for it to be taken home.)

- The computers do not come with a warranty. (if it breaks down you will have to get it fixed)

And finally,

- There will be no refund on any of the computers. (We will not be held responsible if, at any time, the computer stops working and we will not be able to give cash back.)
- CASG&FAC will issue receipts for each sale