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# Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Community and Medical Services

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Wednesday 21 February 2009

s47F

OATSIH NSW

Department of Health and Ageing

GPO Box 9848

SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear s47F

Re: OATSIH Select Tender Healthy for Life Review

I refer to our teleconference this morning between myself, our CEO s47F, and s47F from OATSIH. s47F informed us that we are required now to put this in writing to you.

We were following up on the potential Conflict of Interest that our CEO raised with s47F last year upon receipt of the letter from OATSIH advising who the Consultants were. As also confirmed today, s47F was going to follow that up with s47F. That was back in November 2008.

However this morning I informed our CEO that s47F is also s47F and s47F. OATSIH was also aware that s47F was previously terminated from Katungul in 2007. s47F

We strongly believe that this now places not only a Conflict of Interest issue, but is also a Peculiarly Conflict of Interest issue as s47F are also engaged by OATSIH/Department of Health and Ageing regarding a number of other consultancies and or projects. How can this be independent. Can you inform us of the select tender process for this consultancy as advised by s47F

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We also request information regarding the Review and s47F confirmed that a draft report, note draft report goes to the Department and then a final decision is made by the Department and quote "that's it". Again why is this the case? Why do we not get the opportunity to at least respond.

A number of other issues were also raised via email to OATSIH dated 7 January 09 (copy attached) that the Katungul BOD approved the CEO to raise with OATSIH. In-particular statements provided by SGPN via the 1<sup>st</sup> Healthy for Life Community Newsletter in three (3) years (that came out after the Review was announced) quoting OATSIH *"the Healthy for Life program has been assessed by NSW OATSIH after it's first full year of operation. The results are in, as expected, it's good news. The Results, are in and, as expected it's good news"*. Again this clearly indicates OASTIH is not neutral and this does prejudice this Review. Why did OATSIH approve this to be used during this Review?

The facts are very clear that SGPN is not obtaining improved health outcomes and or improving access for Aboriginal people, families and communities. The current auspice is not meeting the aims and purpose for this funding. This is clear from the evidence we have previously provided to OATSIH and for the Review. We have received no referrals by SGPN Healthy for Life. SGPN Healthy for Life has been funded for the last three (3) years with over \$1.3 Million in OATSIH funding and only completed at Katungul 59 Adult Health Checks, 40 Child Health Checks, and of these 19 checks are Overdue. Further in the last three (3) years SGPN previously quoted (in Media Releases and via Newspapers) that over 500 child/adult health checks had been completed, when we queried this we were told over 500 had commenced, when we requested evidence of this we were then told 350 had been completed, we have asked for evidence of this and it has not been provided. Again for an Australian Government, OATSIH investment of over \$1.3 Million in three (3) years for 350 child/adult health checks. Further as per the Terms of Engagement (for the Review) they do not work in partnership at any of Katungul's Clinics except for recently when the Review was announced by OATSIH they contacted us to work a mere one (1) day a week in only one (1) Katungul Clinic out of three (3). The Monthly Diabetes Clinic is attended on average by a total of 35 Clients however of these 31 are Katungul Clients and we ensure transport etc is provided. However none of this is ever mentioned in any Reports and or Media Releases. The attending monthly Endocrinologist s47F is paid by the Department of Health and Ageing through MSOAP (not Healthy for Life as they publish in various Media Releases and Newspaper articles).

Further as also previously reported to OATSIH and SGPN, a number of Healthy for Life Clients have informed us that they never gave SGPN Healthy for Life permission to publish photos and quotes especially some that have quoted personal medical information and conditions. One client has informed us that he has made a complaint to SGPN and is seeking legal advice regarding him being quoted (without permission) and his medical conditions being published by SGPN Healthy for Life via the 1<sup>st</sup> Healthy for Life Newsletter.

Further SGPN has made some rather disturbing accusations to s47F dated 11 October 08 that SGPN also faxed to Katungul Bega. The letter contains statements about Katungul and our CEO which are false and defamatory and are likely to have damaged us and also this Review. This matter is now subject to legal proceedings.



We look forward to hearing from you regarding all the matters raised in this letter.

On behalf of the Board of Directors.

s47F

Chairperson

Katungul ACCOMS

s47F

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