Communique #19

The Steering Committee for Our Booris, Our Way (the Review) met for the twentieth time on 14 October 2019. The meeting was held at ACT Council of Social Services in Weston. This month the Committee reviewed progress made by government against our 15 recommendations to date.

The current work of the Review is focused on formulation of the Final Report. We are also planning to put out a Final Report Snapshot, approximately 8 pages long, that will help the Community understand the key findings of the Review.

This month members of the Steering Committee presented to the ACT Government’s Inquiry into Child and Youth Protection Services. The Inquiry arose in part as a response to the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their birth parent. For more information, please see: https://www.parliament.act.gov.au/in-committees/standing-committees-current-assembly/standing-committee-on-health,-ageing-and-community-services/inquiry-into-child-and-youth-protection-services-new

Earlier this month members of the Steering Committee also attended the Policy Workshop on the non-adoption of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People. This was hosted by the Community Services Directorate and included many groups from across the Community. The main outcome from this was unanimous agreement there were no circumstances in which our children should be adopted in the ACT.

**Next Meeting:**
Later this month the Committee will hold an Extraordinary meeting to consider all the data collected by the Review Team.

**Contact Us:**
If you wish to reach out and speak with the Steering Committee, please leave a message via:

**Email:** ACTreview@act.gov.au
**Phone:** 0466 794 197

This email address and voicemail are monitored only by the Review Team to keep your information private and confidential. Please note the Steering Committee is part-time so it may take a few days to respond.