



**The Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP**  
**Minister for Indigenous Australians**  
**Member for Hasluck**

Reference: MS21-000005

Mr Edward Fry  
Chairperson  
Indigenous Business Australia  
PO Box K363  
HAYMARKET NSW 1240

Dear Mr Fry

I am pleased to provide to you, as the Chairperson of Indigenous Business Australia (IBA), my letter of expectations. This letter is issued by me to communicate my expectations of IBA and takes into account the statutory independence and relevant legislative framework of IBA.

The Australian Government, including all of the Indigenous Portfolio Bodies (IPBs), are working hard to ensure the health, safety and well-being of our Indigenous communities and businesses by supporting Indigenous Australians manage the ongoing threat of COVID-19, and to support their recovery from the impact of last summer's bushfires.

I would like to congratulate all the IPBs for their roles in monitoring and managing the COVID-19 situation, and adapting their businesses to provide the best care we can for their staff and for Indigenous Australians. During this difficult time, including the 2020 'Black Summer' bushfires and the recovery program, I have been pleased to hear about the positive and collaborative interactions between the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) and the IPBs, including regular meetings with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the NIAA, Mr Ray Griggs AO, CSC and the IPBs CEOs.

One of the key functions specified by the Australian Government for the NIAA is to coordinate Indigenous portfolio agencies and advance a whole-of-government approach to improving the lives of Indigenous Australians. In progressing these functions I expect the NIAA and the IPBs to continue to build and maintain the genuinely collaborative 'one team' approach that has already been established.

I consider it critically important that we take a whole-of-government approach and we continue working together cooperatively and constructively to unlock opportunities to achieve our combined objective of improving the lives of Indigenous Australians.

I would also like to take this opportunity to raise the importance of your duty under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) to keep me and the Minister for Finance informed of significant issues and emerging risks. This obligation along with IBA's ongoing engagement with the NIAA ensures I have a full picture of IPBs operations and issues, and enables me as the responsible Minister to make informed decisions.

I do expect that all IPBs, regardless of their governing legislation, to be cognisant of the Cabinet Handbook and the need to follow well established Cabinet conventions. This is particularly germane in relation to significant appointments.

My expectations extend to collaboration with the NIAA to achieve ongoing improvements in outcome based reporting that describes how IPBs use Commonwealth resources to achieve their stated purposes.

This letter of expectations replaces the previous statement of expectations issued by my predecessor and I do not anticipate a statement of intent in response. Instead I expect all IPBs to keep me informed, and to fully engage with the corporate plan and annual report requirements of the PGPA Act to inform the Parliament, the public and Indigenous Australians about the contribution the organisation is making to improve outcomes for Indigenous Australians.

Yours sincerely



The Hon KEN WYATT AM MP  
Minister for Indigenous Australians

16 / 2 / 2021