



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

Media Release

NATIONAL APOLOGY TO THE STOLEN GENERATIONS

**13 February 2008
Parliament House
Canberra**

A message from Sharon Grierson MP, delivered on her behalf in Newcastle on the occasion of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations:

"I'm sorry I can't be with you today - but I am proud to sit as your representative in the national parliament on this historic day.

For those of you who have waited so long for this day, and who have worked so hard to see it come to pass, it is a tribute to your determination and dedication.

To the traditional owners of Newcastle - the Awabakal - and to all indigenous Australians who call our region home - I hope that when you hear the Prime Minister's words you can accept this Apology in the spirit in which it is offered - as part of the healing of this nation.

This is the first step of a longer journey, and we look forward to walking it together."

Canberra
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
Ph: 02 6277 4221
Fax: 02 6277 8461



Newcastle
427 Hunter Street
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300
Ph: 02 4926 1555
Fax: 02 4926 1895
www.sharongrierson.com