



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

15 August 2008
Media Release

SUPPORT FOR INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES, ARTS & CULTURE IN NEWCASTLE

Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson today welcomed the Australian Government's announcement of almost \$400,000 in grants for local Indigenous language, arts and cultural programs.

Local grant recipients are:

- \$344,960 for the Arwarbukarl Cultural Resource Association for IT resources and language materials for language workers.
- \$32,394 for the Loft Youth Venue to support arts and cultural training programs for Indigenous youth.
- \$10,000 for the Muloobinba Aboriginal Corporation to deliver a cultural program for Indigenous men in the Port Stephens, Wollombi and Lake Macquarie areas.

"I'm pleased the Australian Government is supporting these organisations in the provision of Indigenous language, arts and cultural programs in Newcastle," Ms Grierson said.

"Indigenous culture is a vital part of our national identity, and local programs such as these are a vital part of our community's fabric."

"I'm particularly pleased to see opportunities being provided for local Indigenous youth, funding to revive and strengthen Indigenous languages, and programs specifically for Indigenous men."

"Congratulations to the three local groups that have been successful in obtaining this funding."

The funding for Newcastle groups is part of \$37.5 million in support announced across Australia under four programs: the *Indigenous Broadcasting Program*, *Indigenous Culture Support*, *Maintenance of Indigenous Records & Languages Program*, and *National Arts & Craft Industry Support*.

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