



Media Release

Minister for Indigenous Affairs Senator the Hon. Nigel Scullion

Leader of the Nationals in the Senate
Country Liberals Senator for the Northern Territory

Friday 10 April 2015

Supporting Indigenous business and jobs

A new Chamber of Commerce set up to represent more than 2000 Indigenous businesses is another step towards developing a strong First Australians business sector.

Minister for Indigenous Affairs Nigel Scullion says the First Australians Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FACCI) launched in Sydney today will drive more opportunities for Indigenous business.

“Indigenous businesses are more likely to employ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and by supporting this sector we can increase Indigenous jobs—one of the Government’s key priorities,” he said.

“Earlier this year I announced new targets to significantly increase Indigenous employees in the public sector and leverage the Commonwealth’s \$39 billion annual procurement spend to build Indigenous businesses and boost job opportunities.

“In another initiative, the Government will partner with Australia’s largest employers to get an additional 20,000 Indigenous Australians into jobs in the private sector by 2020.”

Minister Scullion said the Government was actively engaging with corporate Australia to increase the creation of jobs and procurement for Indigenous Australians.

“Getting First Australians into work is a key to closing the gap in Indigenous disadvantage and the FACCI will add corporate impetus to this important Government priority,” he said.

“A national chamber, that brings together all of the regional chambers, will play a critical role in supporting the Government’s new policy direction.

“I urge the Australian corporate sector to get behind this new Indigenous Chamber which in the long term will also boost the number of First Australians into employment.”

FACCI was developed in partnership with Indigenous business leaders and Indigenous business chambers and associations throughout Australia.

Media Contact: Jan Le Maitre 0477721360