A CHANGE IN DIRECTION

24th September, 2012

The Minister for Indigenous Advancement and Regional Development, Alison Anderson, has criticised the Federal Government and former Northern Territory Labor Government over their inaction to provide on the ground changes for remote indigenous communities.

This comes in the wake of the Northern Territory’s Coordinator-General’s Report on Remote Services.

“What this report tells us is nothing new; we have known for a long time that our remote communities are disempowered and disadvantaged,” Ms. Anderson said.

“Too much money is spent paying for bureaucracy when it should be spent on the ground in the communities.

“Our people need services and housing not bureaucrats.

“Jenny Macklin talks as though she’s closing the gap between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians but she’s in ‘La La Land’ if she thinks that’s the case.

“When I meet with the relevant Federal Government Ministers I will demand more funding and power for the Northern Territory Government to fix this problem. The Federal Government is ill-informed. We are on the ground. We talk to the communities.

“When Chief Minister Terry Mills gave his election night speech people from remote communities knew they had a leader who was prepared to do the hard work.”

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