



MINISTER FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION

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25 MAY 2000

Mr I McNeill
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Office of the Clerk
Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory
GPO Box 3721
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Mr McNeill

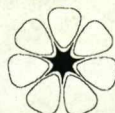
I refer to your letter of 10 May 2000

As required by Standing Order 100A, I respond to the petition (Petition No. 41) in which community elders and parents of children from Three Bore, Camel Camp and Homestead in the Utopia region are seeking the establishment of a school to reduce their children's daily travel time.

My response is attached.

Yours sincerely

CHRIS LUGG



"RESPONSE TO PETITION PRESENTED TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ON WEDNESDAY 10 MAY 2000 BY PETER TOYNE MLA, (PETITION No. 41), RELATING TO ESTABLISHMENT OF A SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN FROM THREE BORE, CAMEL CAMP AND HOMESTEAD IN THE UTOPIA REGION."

The Department of Education has promptly responded to the community elders and parents through the Group School Principal informing them that a direct follow up to their request will be for the Group School Principal to visit and explore appropriate options with the community elders and parents. The visit will be undertaken prior to the end of Semester 1 of this school year.

The Group School Principal wrote to the elders and parents on 16 May 2000 acknowledging their request and foreshadowing an early meeting. He also requested the elders and parents to gather some relevant data in preparation for the meeting.