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MEDIA RELEASE

LEASE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE

The Tangentyere Executive Council met over the weekend with their legal representative Danny Gilbert of Gilbert + Tobin to discuss the ongoing lease negotiations of the Alice Springs Town Camp Communities, following a meeting last week in Alice Springs with Minister Jenny Macklin.

The Council confirmed their commitment to grant 40 year leases to the Australian Government, in accordance with the agreement signed with the Australian Government and the Northern Territory Government on the 10th July this year.

Executive Director of Tangentyere Council, William Tilmouth, said “the key concerns of the executive remain as they have always been, that any lease agreement ensures that Town Camp residents continue to have agency in their own lives and that they are listened to, not just for the next few years but for the life of the lease.”

“These negotiations call for a high level of trust between Town Camp residents and the government, which is difficult given our history. However, we will go forward very positively with our negotiations with the Australian Government understanding that we will have ongoing and meaningful involvement in what happens on the ground and for the future.”

“We are confident that our concerns can be reflected in the final lease agreement and we call on both governments to honour the spirit of our discussions with the Minister and ensure that negotiations result in continued, if not greater empowerment for Town Campers.”

Further enquiries contact: Mr William Tilmouth, (08) 8951 4214

More press releases can be found at www.tangentyere.org.au/publications