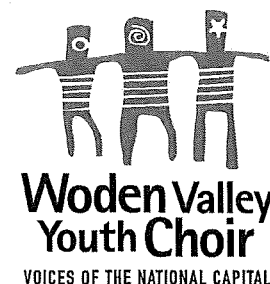


A.C.T. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OFFICE	
SUBMISSION NUMBER	12
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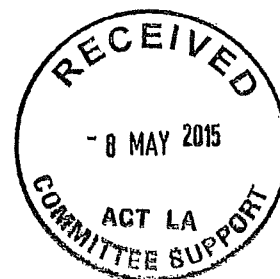


6 May 2015

The Secretary
Standing Committee on Public Accounts
Legislative Assembly for the ACT
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Smyth

RE: Inquiry into the future of the ACT Clubs Sector



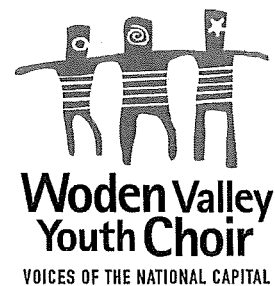
I am writing on behalf of the Woden Valley Youth Choir to comment on the tremendous support we have had over the years from the Canberra Southern Cross Club. The purpose of my letter is to ensure that the relationship which we have had and still retain to this day is considered by your committee in its enquiry.

The Canberra Southern Cross Club has been a great supporter of WVYC for over 30 years. It has provided us with venues and helped to circulate information about WVYC events. Most significant, however, has been its support for the annual Carols by Candlelight held in Commonwealth Park. As I am sure you know, this is the second oldest community carols event in Australia and it has become a significant part of the Canberra community's celebrations in the lead-up to Christmas.

The Canberra Southern Cross Club has been the major supporter and sponsor of Carols by Candlelight since 2002. We simply could not maintain this important civic event without that support and the support of other entities such as The Canberra Times, St John's Ambulance, the city's bands and Elite Lighting and Sound.

At Carols By Candlelight, carol sheets and candles are available to the public for a donation and the money collected is given to a nominated local charity. Since 2002, in conjunction with the Canberra Southern Cross Club and other sponsors, we have facilitated the collection and distribution of over \$71,000 which has gone straight back to the community.

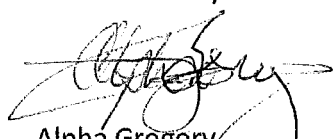
In addition, the Canberra Southern Cross Club provided Woden Valley Youth Choir with a grant of \$5000 for many years. This enabled us to commission a piece of music from an Australian composer which was premiered here in Canberra and then made available to the choral world at large. As a choral group in Australia, I believe that it is one of our absolute 'MUST -DO' tasks to support contemporary Australian choral composers and to share our Australian compositions with choirs world-wide. This would not have been possible without the help of the Canberra Southern Cross Club. It is very exciting to know that music commissioned by us with the financial support of the Canberra Southern Cross Club is now being performed in countries like Canada, South Korea, China, the USA and various places in Europe!



The Canberra Southern Cross Club is a great example of the beneficial relationship that can be sustained between an entity of its type and the local community. Canberra would be much poorer without the services and support of such clubs and other entities.

If I can provide any further information on this matter, please do not hesitate to ask.

Yours sincerely



Alpha Gregory
Music Director, WVYC