



TASMANIAN ABORIGINAL CENTRE INC.

ABN 48 212 321 102

HEAD OFFICE 
198 ELIZABETH STREET,
G.P.O. BOX 569,
HOBART, TAS. 7001
Phone: (03) 6234 0700
Fax: (03) 6234 0799
Email: hobart@tacinc.com.au

182 CHARLES STREET,
P.O. BOX 531,
LAUNCESTON TAS. 7250
Phone: (03) 6332 3800
Fax: (03) 6332 3899
Email: launceston@tacinc.com.au

53 ALEXANDER STREET,
P.O. BOX 536,
BURNIE TAS. 7320
Phone: (03) 6431 3289
Fax: (03) 6431 3372
Email: burnie@tacinc.com.au

PRESS STATEMENT

ABORIGINAL OUTRAGE AT BRADDON ALP CANDIDATE JUSTINE KEAY CALL FOR 4 WHEEL DRIVE ACCESS TO WEST COAST ABORIGINAL LANDSCAPE

Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre, Chief Executive Officer, Heather Sculthorpe is demanding Braddon ALP candidate, Justine Keay be 'firmly sat down by the Federal Labour leadership and told a few home truths.'

Ms Sculthorpe was responding to Justine Keay's comments in yesterday's Advocate that she was focused on reopening the tracks for four wheel drive access.

Ms Sculthorpe said 'The Aboriginal community is disgusted with the lengths to which poor quality ALP candidates will go to gain votes. In 2013, Federal Minister for the Environment, Tony Burke, declared the west coast area a protected area for its valuable Aboriginal heritage. It was on the basis of Minister Burke's declaration that the Federal Court twice blocked the State Government's attempt to open the area up to four wheel vehicles.

Now one of Mr Burke's own party members, Justine Keay, is virtually opposing his declaration. Without even a phone call from her to our office (we took the action to uphold Mr Burke's declaration) Justine Keay announces support for Brett Whiteley's position of open access to the areas.

Ms Keay is desperately after votes. But as she has adopted exactly the same position as her opponent in the race for Braddon, people may as well stick with Mr Whiteley.

The Federal office of the ALP need to sort this out. We cannot have the Labour Party one year protect Aboriginal heritage only to see its local candidate 3 years later effectively overturn the previous position, without any consultation, without any consideration of the effect her position would have on the broad Aboriginal community. It is absolutely outrageous.'

Heather Sculthorpe
Chief Executive Officer
Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre Inc

29 June 2016