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Press Release

Aboriginal Delegation Ready to Meet with the New Prime Minister to Restore ALS funding to Tasmania

“The Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre delegation will today contact the office of new Prime Minister Malcom Turnbull seeking a meeting to restore Aboriginal Legal Aid monies returned to local control”, said State Secretary Trudy Maluga.

“The decision to cut Aboriginal legal aid from the Tasmanian legal provider was rash and harmful all round. Clients are unrepresented, police are not getting legal officers to visit Aborigines in cells, and cases keep getting adjourned for lack of legal representation.

The new Prime Minister can establish himself as a leader of reason by restoring the funds to the TAC and putting common sense back into government policy.

We will telephone and email the Prime Minister this morning.

We will expect ongoing funding to be provided to ensure a proper legal service that will be managed by a local community controlled organisation. Self- determination is the key to administering Aboriginal Legal aid in Tasmania. To have Tasmanian services run from Victoria is absurd. This wrong decision was made under the Abbott Government was made and needs to be reversed”, said Miss Maluga

Trudy Maluga
State Secretary