



SENATOR THE HON MARK ARBIB

Minister for Indigenous Employment and Economic Development
Minister for Sport
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MEDIA RELEASE

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LAUNCH OF NSW INDIGENOUS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PROMOTING INDIGENOUS BUSINESS

The Minister for Indigenous Employment and Economic Development Mark Arbib today launched the New South Wales Indigenous Chamber of Commerce.

Speaking at the launch Senator Arbib said the best way to get Indigenous Australians into jobs is by building the Indigenous business sector.

“Not only do Indigenous businesses help Indigenous entrepreneurs build wealth, but they are great employers of Indigenous people,” Senator Arbib said.

“The New South Wales Indigenous Chamber of Commerce is a fantastic initiative which will boost the already successful Indigenous businesses across New South Wales.

“The Indigenous business sector is a growing part of the Australian economy. It is important that Indigenous businesses receive support from a dedicated Chamber of Commerce that caters to their specific needs.”

The Gillard Government’s goal is to halve Indigenous unemployment by 2018. The success of Indigenous businesses is key to achieving that.

The Government provides financial support to Indigenous Chambers of Commerce across the country and has provided \$3 million to establish the Australian Indigenous Minority Supplier Council (AIMSC) which links corporate and government purchasers of goods and services with certified Indigenous business suppliers.

“AIMSC has an excellent track record of facilitating opportunities for Indigenous business and the establishment of the NSW Indigenous Chamber of Commerce is proof that Indigenous businesses are beginning to take a foothold in our economy,” Senator Arbib said.

Senator Arbib said a strong Indigenous private sector will provide more job opportunities for Indigenous Australians and flow on benefits to Indigenous communities around Australia.

“The ability to provide for your own family and community holds a value which is not to be underestimated. The fantastic work this Chamber will do ensures that more Indigenous Australians are provided with the opportunity to find and create jobs,” Senator Arbib said.

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