



**SENATOR THE HON NICK SHERRY**

**MINISTER FOR SMALL BUSINESS  
MINISTER ASSISTING ON DEREGULATION AND  
PUBLIC SECTOR SUPERANNUATION  
MINISTER ASSISTING ON TOURISM**

Mr Oliver Moon  
Chief Executive Officer  
Combined Small Business Alliance of  
Western Australia Inc.  
PO Box 253  
JOONDALUP WA 6919

Dear Mr Moon

Thank you for your letter of 11 April 2011 concerning Proposed National Business Names Registration System.

The national Business Names Registration (BNR) project is part of COAG's reform agenda, which aims to drive productivity growth. It forms part of the National Partnership Agreement among the Commonwealth, States and Territories to deliver a seamless national economy.

In July 2009 COAG signed an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) and a heads of agreement for the BNR project for the purpose of endorsing a national business names registration scheme, which will allow businesses to register once, regardless of how many State/Territory jurisdictions those businesses operate in.

The States and Territories currently undertake business names registration, and the Commonwealth presently has no constitutional power to register most business names. Therefore, a referral of powers from the States to the Commonwealth is required to allow the Commonwealth to establish a national register for business names.

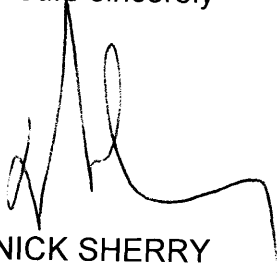
Legislation, including a text-based referral of powers from the States to the Commonwealth, will be enacted by all of the States, in order to create the national business names registration scheme. This text will set out the Commonwealth's powers in relation to the business names register.

The scope of the powers to be referred to the Commonwealth is being negotiated between States and Commonwealth, to ensure that the States only refer the powers necessary for the Commonwealth to register business names. Part 4.2 of the IGA of 2009, states that the purpose of referring powers is the registration/use of business names.

Ultimately the draft legislation will only be agreed by the States if the scope of the referral of powers is appropriate.

Thank you for taking the time to bring these matters to my attention. I trust that this information will allay your concerns.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Sherry', with a stylized, cursive script.

NICK SHERRY

16 MAY 2011



**Minister for Finance; Commerce; Small Business**  
**Hon Simon O'Brien MLC**

Our Ref: 29-18287

Mr Oliver Moon  
Chief Executive Officer  
Combined Small Business Alliance of WA Inc.  
PO Box 253  
JOONDALUP WA 6920

Dear Mr Moon 

**SMALL BUSINESS MINISTERIAL LINK FORUM**

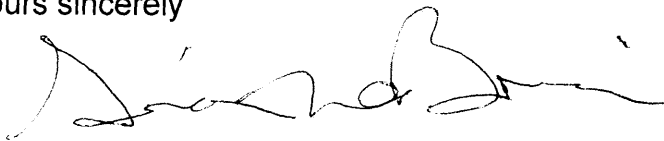
Thank you for participating in the *Small Business Ministerial Link Forum* on 20 April 2011. I valued the comments and feedback provided by the broad range of small business interests represented on the day.

This was an excellent opportunity for me to hear first hand about issues affecting small business across the State. There were a number of matters raised at the forum that are being examined further at this time and further feedback will be provided at a later date.

I would like to reiterate my commitment to you to act as a small business advocate within Cabinet. To support me in this effort, I encourage you to write to my office directly about specific small business issues or concerns as they arise. Alternatively, if there are issues being experienced by a particular small business in your sector, they can contact the Small Business Development Corporation's Advocacy Service by phoning 131 BIZ (131 249) or emailing [advocacy@smallbusiness.wa.gov.au](mailto:advocacy@smallbusiness.wa.gov.au). Where issues cannot be resolved at this level the Advocacy Service has the ability to escalate them for my attention.

I look forward to receiving your ongoing input on matters affecting the small business sector, and hosting further Link Forums in the future.

Yours sincerely



**SIMON O'BRIEN MLC**  
**MINISTER FOR SMALL BUSINESS**

17 MAY 2011



Combined Small Business Alliance (CoSBA)  
Mr Oliver Moon  
Chief Executive Officer  
PO Box 2237  
Midland  
WA 6936

Dear Mr Moon

**SBDC moves to new premises**

After more than 20 years at our Hay Street address, the SBDC has now relocated to 140 William Street, Perth - the newly completed building alongside the underground train station in the Murray Street Mall.

As the saying goes; *"There's nothing wrong with change, if it's in the right direction"* and now the boxes are unpacked and it's back to business, I can see this change has certainly been in the right direction.

Our new contact details are:

**Small Business Development Corporation**  
140 William Street (access via Murray Street)  
PERTH WA 6000  
Phone: 08 6552 3300  
**[www.smallbusiness.wa.gov.au](http://www.smallbusiness.wa.gov.au)**

Individual extension numbers have also changed, so if you are accustomed to contacting SBDC staff members on their direct numbers, please call our main office number (08) 6552 3300 for assistance.

We have recommenced all of our usual services, with the exception of workshops which are currently under review. We will advise you as soon as possible of any changes to the workshop program.

I would also like to take this opportunity to invite you to visit our new office, for a look around. Please contact Naomi Ferdinands on (08) 6552 3248 to make these arrangements.

Yours sincerely

Jacky Finlayson  
A/MANAGING DIRECTOR

9 May 2011