

CoSBA



Combined Small Business Alliance of WA (Inc)

12 October 2010



Hon Lijlana Ravlich MLA
Shadow Minister for Small Business
Parliament House
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Ms Ravlich,

Re: Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC)

Further to the accompanying attachment containing a letter from Mr Ray Mountney, Chairman SBDC and your email of 8 October 2010 with attachment Retail Trading Amendment Bill Second Reading (Hansard 16 September 2010), CoSBA wishes to express our appreciation for your strident advocacy in Parliament in support of the SBDC and the needs and aspirations of small business in general.

Mr Mountney states in his letter: *"We have now received recognition of the value of the SBDC and its ongoing future confirmed by both the Minister for Commerce and the Hon Norman Moore,"* whilst this news is most welcome, however it does not indicate what the ongoing role of the SBDC will have, and given that the forward estimates reveal a diminution in small business funding, we have our concerns that may well indicate a diminished role.

The Premier has scheduled a meeting with CoSBA on 2 November 2010, in which we will be seeking from him an explanation and confirmation of the ongoing role and function of the SBDC.

We also wish to express our appreciation for your willingness to canvass and meet with CoSBA on issues affecting small business, this we believe has been critical to having our voice recognised and represented in the debates that have been persuasive on Government policies that have a potential adverse impact on small business.

Thank you for your representation, it is greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully

**Combined Small Business Alliance
of Western Australia Inc. (CoSBA)**

OLIVER MOON
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Premier, Hon. Colin Barnett MLA.