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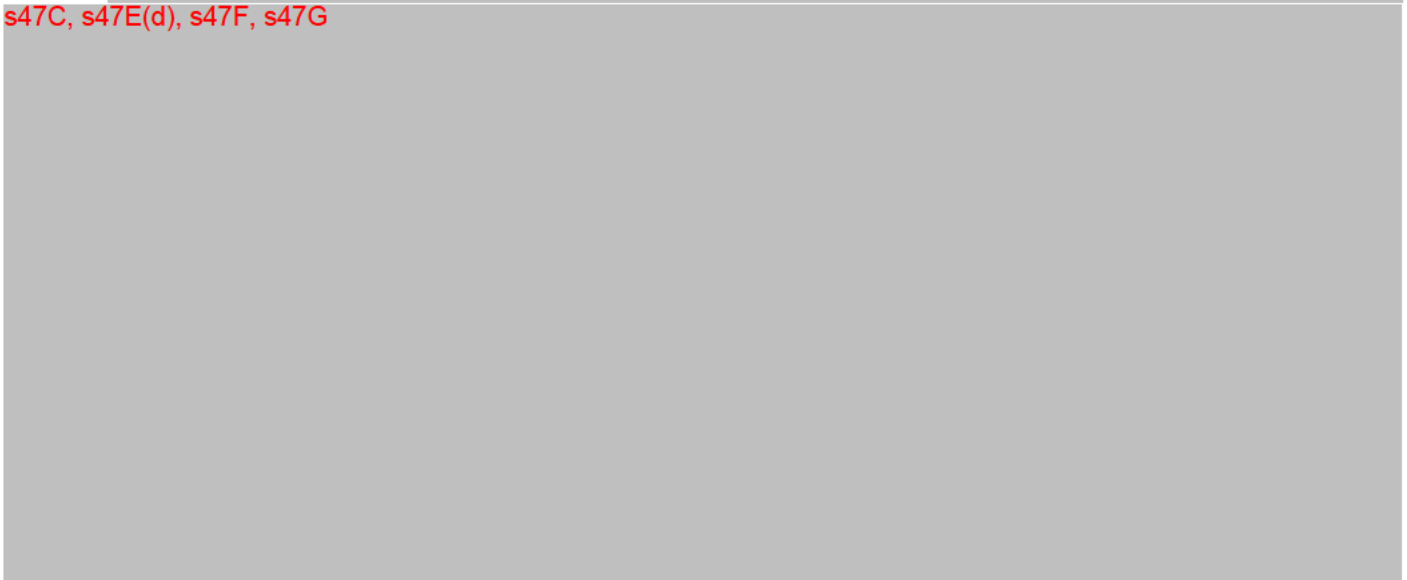
## Budget Estimates April 2019

### Key Dates

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***If asked***, where did the idea to fund a television program, *Mundine Mean's Business* originate?

- The Department received an email on 11 May 2017, from the Minister's office, requesting the Department to consider the television program proposal.

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**Background**

**Media Article "The Government Spent \$330,000 Funding a Sky News Program," Hannah Ryan, BuzzFeed Australia, 22 February 2019**

- On 22 February 2018, Buzz Feed reported that Mr Mundine's company Nyungga Black Group received in total \$330,000 towards his Sky News show "Mundine Means Business."
- The article also states:
  - During Senate estimates on 22 February 2018, the Senate heard there was no clear measure of the show's success when deciding to double the funding for a second season.

**Budget Estimates April 2019**

- The Department told the Senate Committee that Mundine approached Minister Scullion's office proposing the idea, at which point the Office put the proposal to the Department for consideration.
- The Department independently recommended the funding to support and highlight the growth of Indigenous businesses. Any suggestion the funding of the program was political was incorrect.
- Minister Scullion denied that the idea for the program originated in a conversation with Mundine or that his office came up with the idea. Mr Mundine states that the idea dates back to 2012.

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**Related Questions on Notice for the Department and Minister Scullion**

| QoN   | Subject  |
|-------|--|
| PM096 | When did Minister Scullion receive advice from the Department about the impact of Mr Mundine's preselection for the seat of Gilmore? |

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|       |   |
|-------|---|
| PM155 | Funds awarded to the TV show Mundine Means Business     |
| PM156 | Production costs for the TV show Mundine Means Business |

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## Budget Estimates April 2019

| Related Questions on Notice for the Department and Minister Scullion |   |
|--|---|
| QoN  | Subject   |
| PM168  | Origin of the idea to fund the TV show Mundine Means Business   |
| PM169  | Request to table documents and details of correspondence regarding the idea to fund a TV program Mundine Means Business.                                      |
| PM170  | Correspondence between the Minister and the department in relation to the \$200,000 grant to Nyungga Black Group for Mundine Means Business, awarded in 2018. |
| PM171  | Communication by Minister Scullion or his staff in relation to the \$200,000 grant to Nyungga Black Group for Mundine Means Business                          |
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|   |  |                     |                     |
|---|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Blair Exell<br>First Assistant<br>Secretary | Education, Community Safety<br>and Health Division   | Office Phone<br>s22 | Mobile Phone<br>s22 |
| Drafted by<br>s22                           | Education, Community Safety<br>and Health Division   | Office Phone<br>s22 | Mobile Phone<br>s22 |
| Consultation                                | IAG Executive Office<br>Programme Office<br>Community and Economic Development Division<br>Indigenous Advisory Council secretariat<br>Legal, Employment, Environment and Employment Division |                     |                     |
| Date  | 29 March 2019  |                     |                     |

## MUNDINE CHRONOLOGY - POST ANNOUNCEMENT

| Date             | Action  |
|------------------|---|
| 22 January 2019  | Mr Mundine's pre-selection for the seat of Gilmore is announced.  |
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| 28 February 2019 | The Department wrote to Mr Mundine seeking advice on his proposed approach to managing perceived conflicts of interest as a result of pre-selection for the seat of Gilmore (Attachment C). |

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**Australian Government**  
**Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING  
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT  
BARTON

Mr Nyunggai Warren Mundine AO  
PO Box R1715  
Royal Exchange  
NSW 1225 Australia

Dear Mr Mundine,

*Warren,*

I am writing to you seeking advice on your approach to managing perceived conflicts of interest arising from your relationships with organisations funded by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in light of your pre-selection as the Liberal candidate for the seat of Gilmore.

I am aware that you have publicly committed to divesting your interests in companies that provide services to, or on behalf of, the Commonwealth government. s22

s22 Can I thank you for your accessibility on 22 February during the Department's Senate estimates hearing, it was appreciated.

At the attachment is a list of companies that we believe you are involved with that have a direct relationship with the Department through either grants or procurements. We have included some data from Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) so that we understand the nature of your interest.

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I would appreciate if you could provide the following information by 8 March 2019:

- Identify any of the businesses listed where you believe no conflict exists and provide a reason for your advice;
- Provide an outline of your intended approach to resolving any perceived conflict of interest;
- Provide a timeframe for when this action will be taken.
- Advice of any company that has a dealing with PM&C that we have not included in the attachment.

I appreciate your attention to this matter. If you would like to discuss, please make contact with my assistant s22 on (s22)

Yours sincerely

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Ray Griggs, AO, CSC  
Associate Secretary, Indigenous Affairs

28 February 2019

Attachment:

A. List of Companies



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING  
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT  
BARTON

Attachment A

| ORGANISATION NAME            | RELATIONSHIP WITH PMIC | CURRENT SHARES         | DATE     |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| NYUNGGA BLACK GROUP PTY LTD* | Business               | 100 per cent ownership | Director |



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### ***Nyungga Black Group Pty Ltd***

- In recognition of his experience and public profile in Indigenous economic and business development, the Department engaged Mr Mundine, through his company Nyungga Black Group Pty Ltd (NBG), to support the development and implementation of the Indigenous Business Sector Strategy in 2017. Under this consultancy<sup>1</sup> contract, NBG was required to:
  - provide advice to the Department on remote economic and enterprise development;
  - represent Australia on Indigenous economic development matters internationally, and
  - support a television series celebrating Indigenous business success (*Mundine means Business*).
- The value of this contract was \$300,000 (GST exclusive), and it ceased on 1 January 2018.
- In 2018, Nyungga Black Group Pty Ltd received a grant of \$200,000 (GST exclusive) under the IAS to support a second series of *Mundine means Business*. The Commonwealth's contribution represented around 15% of the total production costs.

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<sup>1</sup> The \$330,000 contract was a direct source procurement, using exemption 17 of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules which allows an entity to engage directly with a Small to Medium Enterprise (SME) with at least 50 per cent Indigenous Ownership. Season two of *Mundine means Business* was funded through a grant process under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (rather than a procurement) because there was no consultancy aspect involved.



## Unclassified

Ref: MIA-IB19-000208

- This grant ceases on 1 August 2019, however the organisation has advised the Department that the activity has been completed and that it wishes to wrap up the funding agreement immediately.
- The Department is currently taking action to vary the agreement, however the organisation will be required to complete further milestones (final performance report and necessary acquittals) to finalise the agreement.

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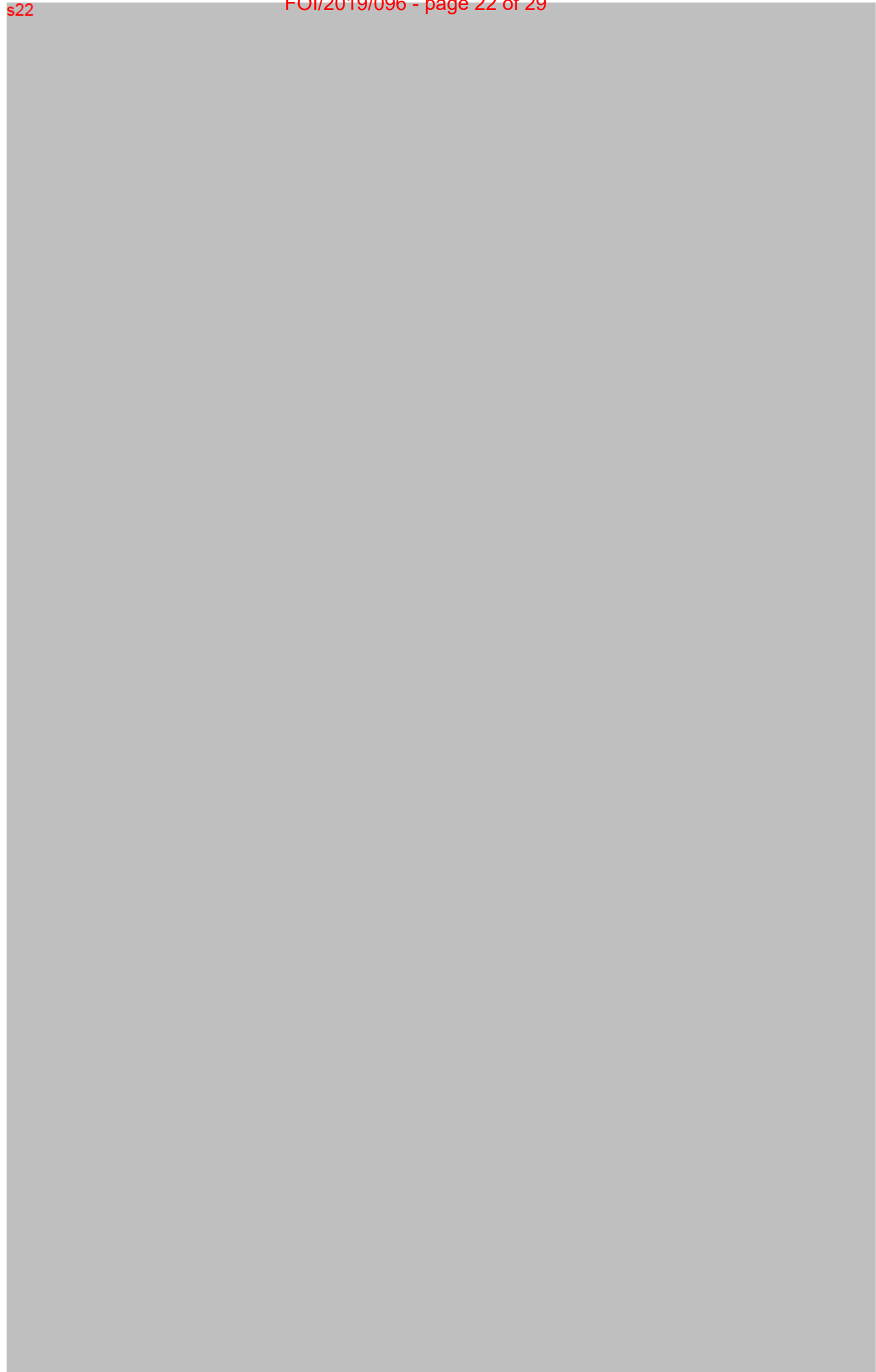


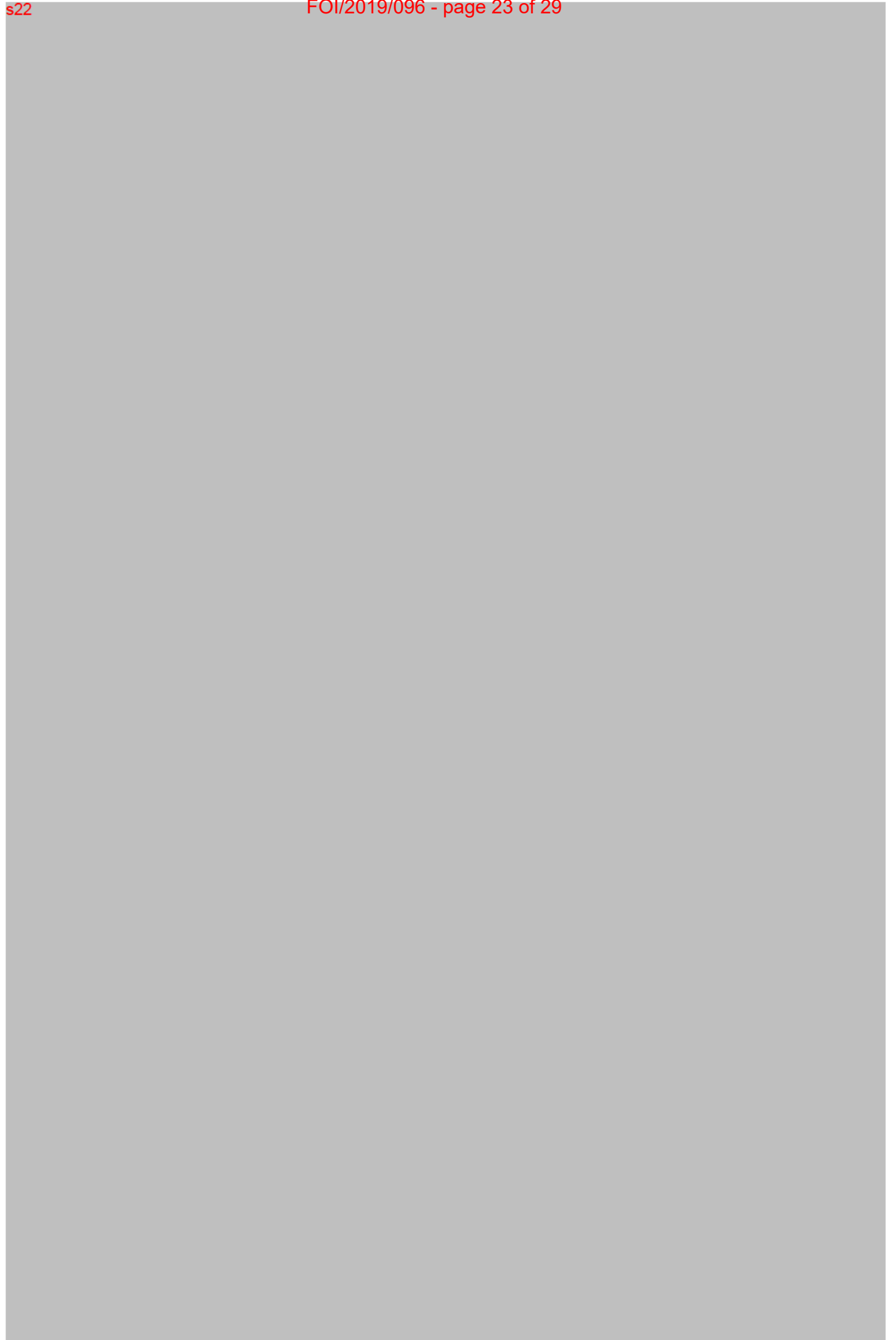












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**From:** Sharp, Clare  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 23 January 2019 6:24 PM  
**To:** Lewis, Deborah; Fox, Jamie  
**Cc:** O'Connor, Rachel  
**Subject:** FW: WARREN MUNDINE [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

### For Official Use Only

Hi Deb and Jamie

Below is some information on our contracts with Warren Mundine. The second one (second season of Mundine means business) is a current contract.

Clare

**From:** s22  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 23 January 2019 5:37 PM  
**To:** Sharp, Clare  
**Cc:** s22  
**Subject:** WARREN MUNDINE [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

### For Official Use Only

Hi Clare

As requested, below is some information collated by s22 on times when our Branch has provided funding to Mr Mundine.

#### Business and Economic Policy funding agreements

##### 1. Indigenous Business Spokesperson

PM&C engaged Mr Warren Mundine through his business, Nyungga Black Group Pty Ltd, to provide consultancy services as Indigenous Business Spokesperson (see link [MS17-002866 Approval of consultancy \(Warren Mundine\) signed brief.pdf](#)).

The total cost of the consultancy services was \$330,000 (GST inclusive), with the contract running from 4 July 2017 – 31 October 2017. The total contract value included \$110,000 (GST inclusive), contingent on Mr Mundine entering into a contract with Sky News to produce a television series *Mundine Means Business* (season 1).

##### 2. Season 2 Mundine Means Business

Nyungga Black Group Pty Ltd has a current grant agreement with the Department to produce a second season of the television series *Mundine Means Business* hosted by Mr Warren Mundine. The organisation received \$220,000 (GST inclusive) on execution of the contract on 18 June 2018 (the total value of the contract was paid on execution - no further payments to be made). The Commonwealth contributed approximately 20 per cent of the total required funding through a sponsorship arrangement, with the remaining costs met by private sector contributions. The project end date is 1 August 2019. The project costs have yet to be acquitted.

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s22 has also found some useful information on the AEC website about candidate nominations that may be of interest.

AEC

<https://www.aec.gov.au/elections/candidates/overview.htm>

- Candidates may not lodge nominations until after the writ for the election has been issued. The date fixed for the close of nominations must be at least 10 days, but not more than 27 days after the issue of the writ.
- Nominations must be made before 12 noon on the day nominations close. Nominations will be declared 24 hours after close of nominations.
- The nomination form includes an optional component – the qualification checklist. The checklist may be completed by nominating candidates to demonstrate their eligibility to be elected to Parliament under Section 44 of the Constitution.

- Sample qualification checklist

s47C, s47E(d), s47F, s47G

Kind regards,

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Business Policy Section | Business and Economic Policy Branch  
Indigenous Affairs Group | Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

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[www.dpmc.gov.au](http://www.dpmc.gov.au) | [www.indigenous.gov.au](http://www.indigenous.gov.au)

PO Box 6500 CANBERRA ACT 2606



The Department acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respect to their Cultures, Country and Elders both past and present.