

Dear Resident,

### **Eora Sports, Arts and Recreation Centre**

The YMCA of Sydney are planning to lodge an application with the Department of Planning to change the closing hours of the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence, Eora Sports, Arts and Recreation Centre from 10:00 pm to 12:00 am for sixteen Friday evenings each year to allow the Midnight Basketball™ Program to be delivered at the centre.

Friday evenings is the high risk period for young people in the Redfern/Waterloo area and a time when most other services and activities are not available. The Midnight Basketball Program targets youth through a program that combines sport and education to fill this gap.

This would mean that young people from the local area would have the opportunity to participate in safe, healthy and positive activities and are less likely to be on the street and at risk of participating in anti-social behaviour and/or criminal activity.

In management of the premises, the YMCA of Sydney will ensure that there is a minimal impact of noise and disturbance through a proactive site management plan. This will involve having a community committee who will work with the YMCA and NCIE to deliver the program and practical management practices including shutting down all other operations except Building F's indoor court and meeting rooms. No activities will be operated outdoors and all participants will be bused in and out of the centre by supervisors.

The Department will make the decision whether or not to approve the application, and will be putting this Section 75W application on public notification, and seeking submissions from residents and others before making the decision.

We want to ensure that the residents more broadly have an opportunity to understand the proposal to change closing times, and its rationale. We would be very pleased to answer any questions that you may have about the proposed changes and meet with you to discuss if you desire. At this meeting we would be pleased to introduce Mr Jason Glanville, CEO of NCIE, and Mr James Ellender, YMCA Manager for NCIE.

Please find attached a letter to the Department of Planning which will accompany the application. It sets out some of the rationale and benefits for the community from NCIE's perspective.

If you have any further questions or wish to organise a briefing, please call James Ellender on 0413 888491.

Yours faithfully,

James Ellender  
Facilities Manager  
YMCA of Sydney  
National Centre of Indigenous Excellence