



# City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

10 September 2013

Ms Lauren Mesiti  
Committee Clerk  
Standing Committee on Public Administration  
GPO Box A11  
PERTH WA 6837



Dear Ms Mesiti,

## **Inquiry into Pastoral Leases in Western Australia**

Thank you for the opportunity to present a submission into the 'Inquiry into Pastoral Leases in Western Australia' on behalf of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

The municipality of Kalgoorlie-Boulder covers 95,228.5 km<sup>2</sup> square kilometres of which a large proportion of land is made up of pastoral leases. In commenting on the terms of reference the City is concerned with the longevity and financial security for existing pastoralists and the difficulties for people wanting to enter the industry.

- a) The management of the increase in the number of stock and environmental damage on pastoral land

There is a concern that Pastoralists will be held responsible for damage caused by the influx of feral animals from vacant land. As the City has been advised there is a correlation between the increases of feral animals in particular wild dogs from vacant pastoral land to the decrease in numbers of live stock and subsequent lessening of environmental damage by live stock.

- b) The adequacy of security of land tenure

The Pastoral industry is mostly generational, keeping the land and the business within the family teaching and passing the land to their children and so on. Five year leases do not provide the security to pastoralists to ensure a future for their children.

The opportunity for people to commence and start working their own pastoral leases is also at jeopardy as the financial institutions rely on certainty and reputation within the pastoral industry before providing funding. A 5 year lease would not provide the bank the surety it requires to provide funding.

- c) Procedures for granting or renewing pastoral leases



There is further concern relating to the strict regulations and prosecution laws in place. Pastoralists at present are affected by the negligent actions of outside people who use the vast areas of land in our municipality to dump waste such as oil drums onto a pastoral holders land. At present the pastoral holder reports the dumping and removes the waste, with stricter legislation the pastoralist can be prosecuted and the renewal of their lease jeopardised because of another person's actions.

The City requests the Standing Committee review the 5 year lease term to provide the pastoralists certainty for their financial future and allow them the time required to tend to the ongoing development of their business that in any other industry 5 years is considered too short.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'R S Yuryevich', written in a cursive style.

**R S YURYEVICH, AM RFD**  
Mayor