

19 February 2016

The Hon Christian Porter MP
Minister for Social Services
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

via email: christian.porter.mp@aph.gov.au

Dear Minister

Thank you for attending and launching the AICD's NFP Chair's Forum in Sydney earlier this month. The Forum members appreciated the opportunity to hear your views on the not-for-profit sector and to learn about the work of your department in using big data to support lasting transition from welfare payments to stable employment.

Following on from discussions at the Forum, I wanted to record with you that the AICD supports the retention of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). This is a view shared by the majority of the AICD's membership and support for the regulator has been consistently high since its establishment.

The AICD's *2015 NFP Governance and Performance Study* found that creating stability in government policy was regarded as the number one priority amongst respondents and a decision on the future of the ACNC is central to this. As the ACNC Repeal Bill is nearing its second year in the parliament, I wanted to restate our position and to encourage you and the government to provide certainty to the NFP sector through withdrawing the Bill.

That said, we believe there is opportunity for improvement in the structure of the regulatory model, and as we approach the ACNC's five year statutory review, the AICD would welcome the opportunity to participate in this process. If the government does resolve to retain the ACNC, it would be worth considering whether governance improvements to the commission would be beneficial, and the AICD's expertise in this regard is available to you if required.

Thank you again for your support of the AICD and the NFP Chair's Forum and please be in contact if I can be of assistance.

Yours sincerely



JOHN BROGDEN
Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer