

MERCY ADMINISTRATION CENTRE

**ROCKHAMPTON CONGREGATION
OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE
SISTERS OF MERCY OF AUSTRALIA**



THE RANGE,
263 AGNES STREET,
ROCKHAMPTON Q. 4700

P.O. BOX 1576,
ROCKHAMPTON Q. 4700

TEL: 079 - 27 1866
FAX: 079 - 22 3040

7 October 1997

Ms Mary Eather
Secretary
Neerkol Action Support Group
PO Box 350
Paradise Point
GOLD COAST Q 4216

Dear Mary,

Please find herewith a copy of a Media Statement issued by the Catholic Bishop of Rockhampton Brian Heenan supporting fully the Apology offered by the Rockhampton Sisters of Mercy to the former residents of St Joseph's Neerkol.

I thought the members of the Neerkol Action Support Group may like to know of Fr Brian's endorsement of the Apology.

As it mentions in the Media Statement, Fr Brian is away from the Diocese at the present time but before he left I was able to raise with him the possible involvement of the Diocese in future discussions.

I am pleased to say that Fr Brian is willing to be a part of our ongoing dialogue and he is also prepared to direct the legal representatives for the Diocese to become involved in discussions with Simon and Geoff.

I hope this Media Statement by Fr Brian supporting the Apology and his willingness to have the Diocese participate in future discussions will be well received by your Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Di-Anne".

Di-Anne Rowan
Congregational Leader