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This is Exhibit " I " to the Statement of
AW

oB

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 27 October 2011 11:16 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: 'info@olfcaringbah.catholic.edu.au'
Subject: request for forming a YMCA parent support group

Melody Formica
 Kindy Blue
 Parent Representative
 Our Lady of Fatima Caringbah
 Cc Mr Tony Davidson

27 October 2011

Dear Mel,

The Commission for Young People and Children have today urged me to voice my concerns about the safety of our children in YMCA before and after school care via our school parent body and directly to the director of the YMCA.

I am therefore asking for your assistance to advertise to YMCA and other concerned parents in our school that I would like them to contact me via email: [REDACTED] if they would like to join the YMCA parent group. The purpose of this group is to share our concerns and suggest ways in which the YMCA can improve its practices by making them more accountable in following the child protection guidelines which they claim to follow. At this point in time there is no external accreditation body that holds them accountable for their practices unlike child care centres which are heavily regulated and policed. In other words, the responsibility lies with us parents to deliver any concerns and observations about child protection issues. The safety of our children is paramount. Accordingly, it is up to us parents to also lobby for change to the way all before and after school care is delivered, that is by pushing for immediate regulation and accountability in the same way as pre-school childcare centres are.

I would like to make it clear that the detail of who, where etc of the recent alleged aggravated indecent assault incidents will not be discussed in order to allow the police investigation to proceed without prejudice etc. However, it is unreasonable to expect parents to be silent and delay taking action to improve the system. Silence breeds opportunity for incidents to occur again. This issue has greatly affected the wellbeing of many parents and children and it is our right to be able to support each other, share our concerns and petition the YMCA and other relevant organisations to address our concerns.

I am asking you as a school parent representative to distribute a memo that I will provide you to all years at Our Lady Of Fatima through your school distribution network. I do not expect that this note will be endorsed by Our Lady Of Fatima Primary School in any way. Although it would be appreciated if the school hall was available for concerned parents to meet during one evening next week.

Yesterday I asked the Principal Mr. Tony Davidson in writing to call a meeting for our YMCA BASC parents. He explained that the Catholic Education Office has advised all principals against conducting any meetings regarding the YMCA. I would however stress that this meeting is for parents only and is not to discuss the YMCA incidents but rather to look at improving procedures of our YMCA before and after school centres and the regulation of the industry. Obviously it would be convenient to use the ready established communication network of OLF to communicate with fellow parents and I would be looking for the school to provide their support in facilitating the ability for the school community to get together to discuss these issues.

However, if you are not permitted to communicate using the school network or we are not able to use the school hall I propose to conduct communication between parents which is independent of Our Lady Of Fatima and to look for alternate venues for any meetings. My intention is to distribute this information on Monday 31st October either

through a memo distributed through the school or other means. I would greatly appreciate your assistance as it is the simplest and quickest method of achieving the above objectives i.e. ensuring the safety of our children who are still in the care of the YMCA.

I look forward to hearing from you . I will be at the school both tomorrow morning and tomorrow afternoon.
Or I can be contacted on [REDACTED] AW

You will note that I have copied Mr Davidson in on this email to keep him informed and so that he will be expecting your inquiry. Thanking you in advance for your assistance.

Yours Faithfully,

AW and [REDACTED]