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BISHOP OF THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF GRAFTON

21 July 2008

Mr Richard Campion

REDACTED

Dear Mr Campion

The Bishop is currently in the United Kingdom attending the Anglican Church's Lambeth Conference. I am acting in his place for the duration of the Conference and the leave which he will take afterwards, in that capacity I am responding to your letter.

My understanding of the Bishop's hope is that some form of mutual common ground might be reached in respect to the views of each of you. As an outsider to this discussion, I am perfectly able to see how you are confident in your views concerning control of the North Coast Children's Home by the Anglican Church, but equally, I am aware of the strong legal advice which has been provided to Bishop Keith and which he is required to largely follow.

As with most questions like this, strong views can legitimately and honestly be held on both sides. That is why we have courts - inadequate as they often are - right or wrong they give a final outcome.

I understand that the Bishop believes that both you and he genuinely and honestly hold your respective beliefs. Even after all the correspondence that the file reveals and the concessions made by both of you there is still a gap between your positions. I believe it remains the Bishop's hope and prayer that there might be a realistic opportunity to acknowledge the differences but find a solution between the two positions.

In the event that there is no ability to find a mutual solution, (not with a belief that one is right and one is wrong, but in a position where the church will provide a care and support package and the Bishop will apologise for your hurt) I understand that the Bishop is considering referring all future correspondence to the Professional Standards Committee.

I shall not forward your letter to the Professional Standards Committee, but instead will leave it for the Bishop to consider.

My prayer is that you and the Bishop may see each other as individuals each with great compassion and integrity but holding different views of this complex matter because of your honestly developed interpretations of the events and the law. If you could both see each other in this light, a mutually acceptable outcome might still be achieved.

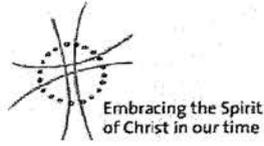
With every blessing

The Venerable Greg Ezzy
Bishop's Commissary

The Right Reverend Keith Slater
Bishopsholme
35 Victoria Street
PO Box 4 (50 Victoria Street)
GRAFTON NSW 2460

Telephone:(Office) (02)66424122
(Home) (02)66422070
Facsimile: (02)66431814
Email:bishopgraffton@nor.com.au

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