

DRAFT LETTER

(TO BE SENT BY THE MODERATOR ON UCA LETTERHEAD)

23 August 2011

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Mr and Mrs R A Lamond

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Dear Mr and Mrs Lamond

I write on behalf of the General Secretary and the Synod Standing Committee of the Uniting Church in Australia (Synod of NSW and the ACT) (~~the Uniting Church~~) in relation to your letter dated August 2011 and your subsequent emails dated 17 and 22 August 2011.

I acknowledge that while your son, Guy, attended Knox Grammar School, he was subjected to abhorrent and repugnant behaviour from two former Knox teachers.

The Uniting Church encourages moral, social and ethical integrity. ~~and provides direction to the moral compass underpinning that duty.~~ The conduct to which Guy was subjected is abhorrent and runs contrary to the ethos of the Uniting Church and everything that we stand for.

I unreservedly apologise that Guy was subjected to such conduct. I offer my deepest regret and sorrow for the pain and suffering experienced by Guy, and the impact that this has had on him, you and your family. I acknowledge that such an ordeal can have an immeasurable impact.

I acknowledge that Guy has carried a heavy burden. It is a testament to Guy's character that some years later, he reported the incidents and assisted the Police in their investigations of these former teachers. Doing so clearly presented a number of challenges for Guy, and would undoubtedly have been very stressful for him and your family.

Knox is offering counselling to Old Boys and their families. Please do not hesitate to take us up this offer, especially if you feel that it would benefit you and your family.

Should you wish to meet with me at any time to discuss the ordeal, I will make myself available at your convenience. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you consider it might be of assistance in any way.

Yours sincerely

Rev Niall Reid
Moderator
Uniting Church in Australia (Synod of NSW & the ACT)