



# YMCA of Sydney

16<sup>th</sup> December 2011

YMCA Staff  
YMCA of Sydney  
Via email

**RE: Important information regarding court proceedings**

Dear YMCA Staff,

In light of some recent developments, we wish to provide you with an important update of the matter currently before court.

At 5pm today the Non-Publication order currently restricting media from publishing details of the allegations will be lifted, following the conclusion of police investigations. This follows the court's decision on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December to allow for both the accused and the YMCA to be named in media reports.

In line with the lifting of the Non-Publication order, we are anticipating some media interest from 5pm today onwards and it is possible journalists may contact your Centre asking for comment.

We would like to reassure you all that the YMCA of Sydney has a clear strategy in place to deal with media, should comment be required. We would also like to inform you of the procedure that needs to be followed should the media call your Centre.

Under no circumstance should staff respond to the media. Rather, all calls must be directed to the Support Services Communications Team - James Ellender, Marketing and Communications Manager or Celia Britton, Public Relations Officer.

Phil Hare, CEO, YMCA of Sydney, will be our only spokesperson for this matter.

Please be aware that savvy journalists are known to use a number of techniques, such as posing as a concerned parent or school principal, to get you to talk. Again, remember it is not your place to comment on Y policies or procedures or anything to do with the matter before court, and we ask you to direct all calls to the Communications Team.

Needless to say it is important that everyone remain on their A Game today and in the coming weeks, in light of heightened media interest in the Y. We thank you all for your support at this time and encourage you to speak to myself, Phil, James or Celia should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Liam Whitley  
General Manager  
Children's Services