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*All correspondence to:*

The Chairman  
PO Box 38545  
Winnellie NT 0821  
Tel: (08) 8981 4898  
Fax: (08) 8981 4282

The Hon Shane Stone,  
Member for Port Darwin.

Dear Shane,

The enclosed from Marius does reflect a sincere appreciation of your work. There is a genuine understanding of your commitment to the economic development of the entire Territory that really did include our people;- that if we could perform, those opportunities and rewards would be ours. Your Government has facilitated the significant projects now underway on our land and we are hopeful various infrastructure support from Government will continue the legacy of your leadership.

My own personal regret is that your own work prevented more frequent visits and meetings between yourself and our leaders. I think there is a remarkable common approach between your own vision for the Territory and the Tiwi vision for their people. Certainly the various by-paths of the "Aboriginal industry" need massaging from time to time, but the Tiwi have always been confident of doing that to their best advantage.

Your own determination to lead us into Asia is fully supported. We have concluded agreements for sale of our own timber into Sumatra later this year. We hope there may be opportunities for Tiwi leaders to meet with Indonesian industrialists in the future.

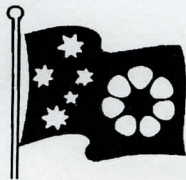
We all wish you and your family well and hope there will be a continuation of the vigour and direction of your policies under the new leadership. We also hope you will continue, in some way, to be a part of these developments.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John S. Hicks", enclosed within a blue oval.

John.S.Hicks  
15 February 1999.





**Josephine and Shane Stone**

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**Larrakeyah NT 0820**

**AUSTRALIA**

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7 April, 1999

Mr John Hicks  
Tiwi Land Council  
PO Box 38545  
WINNELLIE NT 0821

Dear John

Thank you for your letter of February 15 together with your commentary on the correspondence of Marius Puruntatameri, Chairman of the Tiwi Land Council.

I was overwhelmed to have received such an accolade.

I would have responded earlier but I have received an avalanche of mail from Territorians, all written in a very personal way and I feel that I must respond in an equally personal way.

As you would no doubt appreciate political life is very much a roller coaster ride, with many peaks and troughs. There are the rewards but also the disappointments. The outcome of the Statehood Referendum was one of the great disappointments but we must live by the decisions that we make within a democracy.

I will continue to represent the seat of Port Darwin in the foreseeable future, although I do look forward to my ultimate return to the private sector.

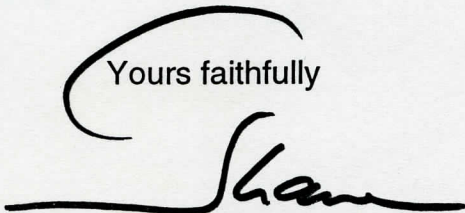
My new contact numbers are as follows:-

Business address  
GPO Box 559  
DARWIN NT 0801  
Telephone (08) 8981 4644  
Facsimile (08) 8981 1621  
Mobile (0419) 806 121

Home address  
8 Zealandia Crescent  
LARRAKEYAH NT 0820  
Telephone (08) 8981 4834  
Facsimile (08) 8981 9433

As I wrote to Marius Puruntatameri, in the event that I can ever be of any assistance the Tiwi people, should not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shane', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Shane L. Stone