# Open Letter to the Woolworths Chairman

# An Open Letter to the

# CHAIR OF WOOLWORTHS

Dear Gordon Cairns, We write as community members and leaders to call on you to stop Woolworths from building one of the biggest bottle shops in the country in Darwin. This is our home. The people whose lives your bottle shop threatens are our loved ones — our families, friends and neighbours. We have been working together to create a stronger, healthier and more resilient community. Would you really undermine all that for the sake of extra profit? We are sure you know the impact that alcohol products are having in communities across Australia — the violence, disease and misery that spreads like a cancer. We ask that you spare our community that fate. We ask that you put people above profits. We ask that you take the time to actually listen to what we’re telling you. At no point has Woolworths engaged meaningfully with our community about building this Dan Murphy’s store. If you had, you would know the depth of our concern and opposition. You claim to have responded to public concern by moving the store. In reality, you’ve bumped it a kilometre down the road. This is pure public relations spin designed to protect your public image, not our community. Australians were outraged by the willful and deliberate destruction of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural sites elsewhere in the country by big corporations. Your pursuit of this store equates to the same willful and deliberate destruction of the health of our community and it will be judged accordingly. You are the only person left with the power to stop this store from going ahead. This decision and the impact it will have now rests on your shoulders. Please listen to your heart and protect our families, friends and neighbours from this destructive store. Abandon your plans to build a Dan Murphy’s in Darwin. Yours, **LOCAL ORGS:** **Barbara Shaw** Chairperson, Aboriginal Medical Service Alliance Northern Territory & General Manager, Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation **John Paterson** CEO, Aboriginal Medical Service Alliance Northern Territory **Gibson Farmer** Charperson, Tiwi Land Council **Marion Scrymgour** CEO, Northern Land Council **Joe Martin-Jard** CEO, Central Land Council **Carol Stanislaus** Chairperson, Danila Dilba Health Service **Olga Havnen** CEO, Danila Dilba Health Service **Leeanne Caton** CEO, Yilli Rreung Housing Corporation **Colleen Rosas** Chairperson, Northern Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency **Priscilla Atkins** CEO, Northern Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency **Kim Hill** Chairperson, Yilli Rreung Trust **Theresa Roe** Chairperson, Yilli Rreung Aboriginal Corporation **Regina Bennett** CEO, Darwin Aboriginal & Islander Women’s Shelter **Jill Smith** CEO, Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Programs Aboriginal Corporation **Don Baylis** General Manager, Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association **Phynea Clarke** CEO, Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit **Graham Dowling** Chairperson, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress **Donna Ah Chee** CEO, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress **Thomas Mayor** National Indigenous Officer & NT Deputy Branch Secretary, Maritime Union of Australia **Maria Harvey** CEO, Tiwi Island Training Education Board **John Wilson** Chairperson, Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association **Robyn Ragattieri** Business Manager, Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association **Shaun Tatipata** Director, Deadly Enterprises **Cassandra Carolin** A/CEO, North Australia Aboriginal Family Legal Service **Helen Fejo-Frith** President, Bagot Community Advisory Group **Deborah Di Natale** CEO, Northern Territory Council of Social Services **Noelene Swanson** Northern Territory Director, Save the Children **Jayne Lloyd** Director, CatholicCare NT **David Pugh** CEO, Anglicare NT **Ben Abbatangelo** Writer **Dr Robert Parker** President, AMA NT **John Boffa** Spokesperson, People’s Alcohol Action Coalition **ALLIES:** **Donna Murray** CEO, Indigenous Allied Health Australia **Karl Briscoe** CEO, National Association of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners **Cindy Berwick** President, NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group **Catherine Liddle** CEO, First Nations Media **Katrina Fanning** Chairperson, ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body **Roianne West** CEO, Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives **Donnella Mills** Chair, National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation **Jill Gallagher** CEO, Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation **Fiona Petersen** CEO, Healing Foundation **Vicki O’Donnell** Chair, Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia **Priscilla Atkins** Co-chair, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services **Pat Anderson** Chairperson, Lowitja Institute **Caterina Giorgi** CEO, Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education

## LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

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