

Hon Jennifer Rankine MP



Government  
of South Australia

14MECD0676

Minister for Education  
and Child Development

Hon Kelly Vincent MLC  
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Dear Ms Vincent

Thank you for your letter regarding the closure of the Aboriginal, Multicultural, Languages and Learning Resource Centre (AML&LRC). I apologise for the delay in responding but a detailed investigation was required to discover precisely what occurred.

I can advise that the decision to close the AML&LRC was made by the Department of Education and Child Development (DECD) without my approval and contrary to a request from my office to undertake extensive consultation before a decision was made.

Please be assured that I have expressed my displeasure to DECD and I am sincerely sorry that Ms Alfonsi was affected by the AML&LRC closure.

DECD has been working to integrate the collections into South Australian public libraries and many of the language resources held in the AML&LRC will be incorporated into school-community libraries. For example, I understand that Karkultaby School Community Library will be housing many of the Spanish resources Ms Alfonsi borrowed since she became a member in 2012. The Farsi materials which I believe Ms Alfonsi also borrowed will be incorporated into the Charles Sturt Library collection.

The integration of the resources into public libraries means that all borrowers will continue to have access to them using the one-card library system and the Public Library Service's online catalogue. Once the resource integration process is complete stakeholders, government schools and past community borrowers will be notified on how and where the resources can be accessed.

I am grateful to you for bringing the closure of the AML&LRC to my attention. Without your letter it seems likely that DECD would not have advised me of the closure.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Rankine', written over a faint, illegible typed name.

Hon Jennifer Rankine MP

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

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