



THE DEPARTMENT OF
THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

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CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600

Mr Ralph Moss 156
Tamar Street
BALLINA NSW 2478

Dear Mr Moss

Thank you for your correspondence of 7 March 2003 to the Prime Minister regarding the Constitution. I have been asked to reply on the Prime Minister's behalf. I apologise for the delay in responding.

The Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia came into operation on 1 January 1901. Since that time Australia has evolved into an independent, sovereign nation and the validity of the Constitution, and of the appointments made under it, are not in doubt. It might interest you to know that copies of many of the important documents relating to Australia's history and federation are available on the www.foundingdocs.gov.au website, where you can view them if you choose.

Thank you for writing to the Prime Minister

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Macgill', written in a cursive style.

David Macgill
Assistant Secretary
Legal and Culture Branch

30 April 2003