Appendix 1.1

Biographies of Board of Inquiry co-chairs

Professor Muriel Bamblett AM

Professor Muriel Bamblett is a Yorta Yorta woman who has been Chief Executive Officer of the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency since 1999. From 1998-2008 Muriel was the Chairperson of the Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care, the peak agency representing Indigenous Child and Family Services nationally. Muriel is active on many boards concerning children, families and the Indigenous community, including the Victorian Children’s Council, the Australian Families and Children Council, the Victorian Youth Parole Board and the Aboriginal Community Elders Service.

Muriel has been the recipient of a number of awards, including the 2003 Robin Clark Memorial Award for Inspirational Leadership in the Field of Child and Family Welfare; and was awarded an AM (Membership in the General Division) in 2004 for her services to the community. In 2008 Muriel was a participant at the Prime Minister’s 2020 Summit and in 2009 LaTrobe University appointed Muriel as an Adjunct Professor in the School of Social Work and Social Policy within the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Dr Howard Bath

Dr Howard Bath took up his appointment as Northern Territory Children’s Commissioner in June 2008. Trained as a Clinical Psychologist, Dr Bath has worked as a youth worker, Agency Director and clinician and was the inaugural Chair of the Child and Family Welfare Association of Australia. He has presented widely at conferences and has authored articles on topics including family preservation services, out of home care, developmental trauma and child protection.

From 1999 to 2008 he was Director of the Thomas Wright Institute in Canberra which provides a range of consultancy, training and clinical services for organisations working with young clients who have complex needs and challenging behaviours. He has had a long-standing interest in and involvement with services for children in the care and protection system. For the duration of the Inquiry, Dr Bath took a leave of absence from his position as Children’s Commissioner.

Dr Rob Roseby

Dr Rob Roseby is a respiratory and general paediatrician who is currently the Deputy Director of Adolescent Medicine at the Royal Children’s Hospital in Melbourne. In the six years to mid-2009 he was at Alice Springs Hospital where he was head of paediatrics and a senior lecturer for Flinders University NT Clinical School. He was also a member of the Northern Territory Child Deaths Review and Prevention Committee.

Dr Roseby was Chair of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) Northern Territory Committee from 2006 to 2008, and has been a member of committees overseeing education of paediatricians and policy development. He is also a member of the RACP paediatric division education committee and chairs a committee assessing overseas trained specialists. Dr Roseby has numerous peer review publications including
two systematic reviews of scientific literature, has contributed to several reports and has given around 50 conference presentations. He has served on advisory committees and working groups at a state and national level. Dr Roseby is a passionate advocate for Aboriginal health and wellbeing, particularly for children and adolescents. For this Inquiry he is taking leave from his position at the Royal Children’s Hospital in Melbourne.