



Martin Pakula MP

State Member for Lyndhurst

Suite 3, 387-389 Springvale Rd, Springvale 3171 Tel: 9547 6262
martin.pakula@parliament.vic.gov.au www.martinpakula.com.au

Fax: 9547 2416
@MartinPakulaMP

Mr Anthony Kelly
Executive Officer
Flemington & Kensington Community Legal Centre
PO Box 487
FLEMINGTON VIC 3031

11 SEP 2014

Dear Mr Kelly

United Nations Human Rights Committee Communication No 1885/2009

Thank you for your coalition's letter of 24 July 2014 regarding the case of Corinna Horvath and the findings of the United Nations Human Rights Committee (UNHRC).

Victorian Labor takes the protection of human rights seriously, and introduced the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities when we last held government. It is a government's responsibility to ensure its institutions are accountable to the people they exist to protect.

Unfortunately, the Abbott Federal Government has already disclaimed responsibility by stating that the UNHRC ruling is not legally binding. The Victorian Government is yet to announce its own response to the ruling. In Parliament on 19 August 2014, I put the following questions on notice to the Attorney General, the Hon Robert Clark MP:

- *What action does the Government propose to take regarding the findings of the United Nations Human Rights Committee in Communication No 1885/2009, the matter of Corinna Horvath?*
- *As specified in the United Nations Human Rights Committee's findings in Communication No 1885/2009, is it the Government's intention to pay Corinna Horvath compensation and legal costs awarded by the County Court and the Court of Appeal?*

I am currently awaiting a response from the Attorney General.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns with me. I commend your coalition for your ongoing pursuit of this important issue, and I encourage you to circulate this letter to other member organisations.

Yours sincerely

MARTIN PAKULA MP
Shadow Attorney General