



**KEVIN M RUDD MP**  
**FEDERAL LABOR LEADER**  
**FEDERAL MEMBER FOR GRIFFITH**

**Council on the Ageing Over 50s**

I wish to congratulate COTA Over 50s for the important advocacy they provide on behalf of their members and all other older people in Australia, especially those most disadvantaged.

I am concerned that older Australians, who have given a lifetime of service to our nation, are treated with respect and dignity.

Like COTA, I am aware that many senior Australians are trying to survive on modest incomes and it is for this reason Federal Labor initiated a Senate Inquiry into the cost of living pressures facing older Australians. Over 200 submissions have been received and the committee is due to report early in 2008.

In view of the importance of ensuring the rights and interests of older Australian are maintained Labor has also decided to establish an Ambassador for Ageing to promote respect for older Australians.

We also need peak bodies such as COTA to advance the case of older Australians and in particular, to develop policy proposals which older Australians see as priorities to maintain active and independent lives.

A Federal Labor Government would work cooperatively with COTA Over 50s to advance the interests and welfare of older Australians

Kind Regards

**Kevin Rudd**  
**Federal Labor Leader**  
**Member for Griffith**  
**[www.kevin07.com.au](http://www.kevin07.com.au)**