



Objection 75

Professor Joan McMeeken AM

3 pages

From: Joan Mcmeeken
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Subject: Submission to Australian Electoral Commission Macnamara
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Attachments: [Submission to Australian Electoral Commission.doc](#)

Please find the attached submission.

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Australian Electoral Commission
Submission to Australian Electoral Commission
fedredistribution-vic@aec.gov.au

Dear Commissioners,

Re: Renaming of Melbourne Ports to Macnamara

I strongly support the renaming of Melbourne Ports to Macnamara.

'Macnamara' provides the opportunity to recognise one of Australia's greatest medical clinician scientists. Furthermore an outstanding woman will be recognised.

Dame Jean's clinical work with people who had paralytic poliomyelitis inspired them to achieve beyond the expectations of society and frequently their families. Working with her from the late 1920s were physiotherapists. My mother, a 1938 graduate in physiotherapy, immediately began work with the Itinerant Physiotherapy Service of the Children's Hospital. The service was auspiced by Jean Macnamara in 1931 and conducted by physiotherapists under the Children's Hospital and later through the Victorian Health Department. Her letters to my mother and my mother's recollections attest to the commitment Jean Macnamara made to her patients. Many recall her working long days to ensure all her patients received close personal attention.

Her polio research work, with that of her colleagues such as Sir Macfarlane Burnet, was crucial in the final elucidation of a polio vaccine such that the scourge of polio has almost been forgotten in Australia. But there are still hundreds of sufferers, now aging, who are battling with pain, a loss of previous capacity and function and chaotic, unintegrated services. Dame Jean would argue that we owe them more. Recognising her in this way may draw attention to their current plight.

yours sincerely

