



**Aboriginal and  
Torres Strait  
Islander Health  
Practice Council  
of NSW**

# **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council of NSW**

Annual Report 2017-18

# President's Message



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As the newly appointed President of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council of New South Wales (Council), I am pleased to present the 2017/18 annual report for the Council.

As a Yorta Yorta Aboriginal man from country Cummeroogunja I share my cultural heritage and right-of-passage. My totem is the Long-neck turtle of the Murray River waterways. I am a 'freshwater man' of country located across the New South Wales and Victoria regions. I am a direct descendant of Mr William Cooper (Father NAIDOC) a diligent innovator of his time, my third-great grandfather descending from the Cooper and Atkinson lineage. I am a father of four sons and a dedicated partner. I have many years of experience in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander holistic health in both non-government and government sectors. This is testament to my professional portfolio and extensive skills, knowledge and expertise. It is with great privilege I take the presidential appointment for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council of NSW to term with responsibilities as required to safeguard the community and practitioners in the best interest of the public.

Since its establishment in 2012, the Council has not received any complaints about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health practitioners. However this profession is one of the fastest growing registered health professions in Australia and the Council remains alert and ready to effectively manage any complaints if they arise.

We commend the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia on its efforts to promote and regulate the profession and we welcome opportunities to collaborate with the Board and other stakeholders regulating health practitioners.

Our gratitude and appreciation goes to Ms Lisa Penrith as she retires from the Council and as President. We also thank Ms Renee Owen as she retires from Council.

Ms Rosemary MacDougal and Mr Peter Pangquee remain on Council and their experience and ongoing commitment is invaluable. Ms Rae Reed is a welcome new member of Council.

The efforts of the HPCA staff supporting the Council are also greatly valued.

I am looking forward to the coming year and the role the Council plays.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris O'Brien', written in a cursive style.

**Mr Christopher O'Brien**

President

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council of New South Wales

## Regulation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioners in 2017/18

# SNAPSHOT



### Practitioner information

**129**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander health practitioners  
registered in NSW

7.5% more than last year

20.1% of registered Aboriginal  
and Torres Strait Islander health  
practitioners in Australia



### Complaints received

**0**

new complaints  
were received

- the same as last year



### Complaints managed

**0**

complaints were  
managed directly  
by the Council



### Practitioners monitored

**0**

cases were being actively  
monitored at year end

### **Council Members**

Four members sit on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council as prescribed by the National Law.

Registered Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner members:

- Ms Lisa Penrith Dip Prac Mgt, Cert IV PHC, Cert IV FLM, Cert IV WT&A Ad, Cert Nursing – President
- Ms Renee Owen Dip Prac Mgt, Cert IV ATSI Health Practice
- Mr Peter Pangquee BAppSc (Aboriginal Community Management and Development)

Legal member:

- Ms Rosemary MacDougal Dip Law (LPAB) – Deputy President

The NSW Governor, appointed Ms Lisa Penrith as the President and Ms Rosemary MacDougal as the Deputy President of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council.

Ms Lisa Penrith and Ms Renee Owen complete their terms of appointment on 30 June 2018.

Mr Christopher O'Brien commences as President on Ms Penrith's retirement.

### **Executive Officer**

Ms Farina Bains is the current Executive Officer for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council. Ms Rebecca Greenwood and Ms Sarah Carroll were previous Executive Officers during the year and their work is acknowledged with thanks and appreciation. The Executive Officer leads a team that works directly and indirectly with the Council as part of the HPCA Combined Councils Team.

All staff working both directly and indirectly with the Council are employed by the HPCA as an executive agency of the Ministry of Health. Councils cannot employ staff under the National Law.

### **Council Meeting Attendance**

There were no meetings of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council during the year as no complaints were received in 2017/18.

### **Regulatory Committees and Panels**

The National Law sets out the committees and panels that support the Council in undertaking its regulatory activities.

#### **Regulatory committees and panels include:**

- Assessment Committee
- Impaired Registrants Panels (IRP)
- Performance Review Panels (PRP)

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council did not appoint any regulatory committees during the year.

### **Council Committees**

Councils may establish committees to assist with Council functions. Committee members are not necessarily Council members.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council did not appoint any committees during the year.

### Meetings and Events

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council was not represented at any meetings and events during the year.

### Overseas Travel

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council did not incur any overseas travel costs during the year.

### Remuneration

Council members are entitled to the following remuneration.

President	\$720 per meeting more than 3 hours \$360 per meeting up to 3 hours
Deputy President	\$590 per meeting more than 3 hours \$295 per meeting up to 3 hours
Council Members	\$590 per meeting more than 3 hours \$295 per meeting up to 3 hours

Council members are reimbursed for expenses when travelling on official business at Council direction.

### Financial Management

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council's accounts performance was reported in the Financial Statement as follows.

<b>Accounts Performance 2017/18</b>	<b>\$</b>
Revenue	6,095
Operating expenditure	9,383
Gain / (loss) on disposal	-
Net result	(3,288)
Net cash reserves (cash and cash equivalents minus current liabilities)	28,865

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Health Practice Council's budget for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 is as follows.

<b>Budget 2018/19</b>	<b>\$</b>
Revenue	6,069
Operating expenditure	12,415
Net result	-6,346

Full financial statements are presented in Part 3 of this report 'Financial Statements for NSW Health Professional Councils'.