A Note from Our interim CEO

We welcome thee new board members, Susann Sewter representing Queensland, Tanyah Nasir representing Northern Territory and Bianca Templar representing Tasmania. Susan is from Mornington Island, Tanyah is from Darwin, with Bianca from Tasmania. All three are filling the casual vacancies.

NATSIWA have been supporting and advocated for the tampon tax, States and Territories have finally agreed to remove GST from the sanitary products. NATSIWA in partnership with Queensland University ran a workshop on hygiene products at the National NAIDOC Women’s Conference and we had also contacted Share the Dignity to distribute their hygiene bags to Aboriginal women in different communities. If you are interested in further information regarding the hygiene bags or Share the Dignity, contact analyst@natsiwa.org.au
A message from the Chair - Anna Strzelecki

It’s good to see our members participating in various events around the country – activities supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women. As part of this, I attended the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) National Summit on 2-3 October 2018, in Adelaide the Summit is the final session in the national consultation process for the Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022 (the National Plan).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander delegates met to discuss and present a Statement – extracts follows.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES-STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE STATEMENT
COAG NATIONAL SUMMIT TO REDUCE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN

- We the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander delegates of the COAG National Summit on Reducing Violence against Women and their children provide the following statement as a call to action to all of you, our fellow delegates at this important event and to our Ministers and government officials present today.
- From the beginning we as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the First peoples of this country have had separate but complimentary and collaborative roles in our communities. Today we stand together as a show of solidarity in working together on the solutions required.
- Colonisation disempowered and fractured these important roles in relationships and kinships systems, the stolen generation disrupted our culture and law – further marginalizing our men and women through imposed systemic racism through legislation and policies that took away our rights in our own country.
- All of these processes and acts represent violence and trauma for our people, violence and trauma that spans over many generations and remains the undercurrent of the interrelated experience of our nation’s history and will remain with us through its transmission to our future generations, if we fail to act with the urgency required.
- The 1967 Referendum gave us the right to vote in our country, but doesn’t allow us to self determine the legislation, policies, measurements and outcomes for our people to turn survival into thriving opportunities.
• For us to work together to decolonize this space you must allow us to work from our cultural basis and understandings – our ancient ways that can inform new ways of working.
• We represent out communities in acknowledging that there are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men that are good family men, working with other men and their communities to ensure the safety of our women and children.
• Therefore we must be able to sit at the table with Federal and State governments to co-design the place based solutions that position our communities as the critical player of the societal issue of violence that has a normalised place in our lives as the First Peoples of this country.
• For us life is not fragmented through funding streams and portfolios, we see the solutions that are possible through partnership and relationships that remove the barriers of your bureaucratic systems that have stifled our innovation and solution brokering as change agents in our communities.
• As stated in some many of the communiqué we have provided to this sector on issues such as the Warawarni-gu Guma Statement at the ANROWS Conference we asking that you mobilise these statements through your everyday resources.
• We ask you to challenge your thinking, your colleagues and governments to work with us to understand that the outcomes we want are the same – lives for our women and children free from the horrendous rates of violence experienced in our communities. By acknowledging our starting points, our resources, strategies and journeys will be different.
• Given the complex nature and various forms of violence in our communities, these do not directly translate into our languages, so we ask that the use of the way we describe violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities use positive framing that are outcome based such as safety and security rather than prescriptive language reinforce negative and deficit basis.
• We need you to walk alongside us to co-design collaborative and harmonious systemic responses that have shared Commonwealth and State based investment that target primary prevention, early intervention and healing strategies for community led initiatives on:
  - Family safety and community centred wellbeing;
  - Incarceration diversionary opportunities and access to criminal, restorative and community based justice responses;
  - Child safety and wellbeing in particular the over-representation of our children in out-of-home care; and
  - Access to disability services;
• Our key recommendation is a Family Safety and Community wellbeing target in the Closing the Gap agenda, this must ensure data sovereignty principles as best practice are embedded and monitored appropriately.
• In this that start of our two way learning journey to reduce violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, we call on you our fellow delegates and representatives of Governments to understand, respect and honour this statement from us the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander delegates at this summit, as the culturally based terms of reference for our new partnership moving forward.

Dorinda Cox, Corina Martin, Desmond Campbell, Shirleen Campbell, Craig Rigney, Edward Moseby, Paula McGrady, Anna Strzelecki, Darlene Thomas, Kimberley Wanganeen, Dianne Gipey, Alison Overeem

We hope that our input will have some impact on the final action plan.
STRONG WOMEN.
STRONG NETWORKS.

AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND LEADERSHIP FORUM (ANZLF)

INDIGENOUS WOMEN’S BUSINESS NETWORK

The Australia New Zealand Leadership Forum (ANZLF) brings together Australian and New Zealand leaders from government, business and the community, to discuss how the two countries can prosper together in the global economy.

At the March 2018 forum, the Indigenous Business Sector Group endorsed to establish a Trans-Tasman Indigenous Women’s Business Network with the assistance from a working group.

This is a unique opportunity to participate, develop and grow together, with Indigenous business women from Australia and New Zealand. We aim to achieve a cross-section of Indigenous women which will share, skills, knowledge and resources to support women, who are in business today and will lead tomorrow.

Express an interest if:

- you are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander women who has a business or are interested in economic development.

- can take time out of your business, family and community obligations to commit to the advancement of Indigenous businesswomen.

- willing to make the network a priority, commit to 4 meeting per year (with a possibility of face to face opportunities) and all associated roles and responsibilities.

The success of the network will be a sum of its parts and requires an initial commitment for 12 months. The Trans-Tasman Indigenous Women’s Business Network welcomes women from remote, regional and urban locations to apply.

Initial network inclusion is limited to 25 women from Australia, so please tell us as much as you can about you, your business and why you would like to work to support Indigenous businesswomen across the Tasman.

Trans-Tasman Indigenous Women’s Business Network will provide the opportunity for you to lead action for our two countries to prosper in the global economy. To be considered for this opportunity, please fill in the application form below.

Please note: completing this form does not guarantee inclusion in the network. You will be notified of the outcome of your application by no later than 19th October 2018.

WHATS ON AROUND AUSTRALIA

OCTOBER

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD NSW GOOD FOOD MONTH 1 to 31 Oct | goodfoodmonth.com/sydney
INVICTUS GAMES SYDNEY NSW 20 to 27 Oct | invictusgames2018.org
ORANGE WINE FESTIVAL NSW 12 to 21 Oct | orangewinefestival.com.au
SCULPTURE BY THE SEA, BONDI NSW 18 Oct to 4 Nov | sculpturebythesea.com
WWE GLOBAL WARNING II VIC 6 Oct | wwe.com
AUSTRALIAN MOTORCYCLE GRAND PRIX VIC motogp.com.au
MELBOURNE FESTIVAL VIC 3 to 21 Oct | melbournefestival.com.au
MELBOURNE MARATHON VIC 14 Oct | melbournemarathon.com.au
WORLD PARACHUTING CHAMPIONSHIPS QLD 7 to 13 Oct | apf.com.au
V8 SUPERCARS GOLD COAST 600 QLD 19 to 21 Oct | supercars.com/gold-coast
NOOSA TRIATHLON MULTI SPORT FESTIVAL QLD 31 Oct to 4 Nov | noosatri.com
ADELAIDE FASHION FESTIVAL SA adelaidefashionfestival.com.au
CAPE TO CAPE MTB WA 18 to 21 Oct | capetocapemtb.com
WILDFLOWERS SEASON STARTS IN SOUTHERN WESTERN AUSTRALIA WA Oct | westernaustralia.com/wildflowers

If you have an event you would like to put in our next newsletter email. Senior projects@natsiwa.org.au

NOVEMBER

MTV BEATS & EATS NSW mtvbeatsandeats.com.au
EMIRATES AUSTRALIAN OPEN NSW 15 to 18 Nov | golf.org.au/ausopen
SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL ART SERIES NSW artpass.com.au
AUSTRALIAN MASTERS GOLF VIC australianmasters.com.au
MELBOURNE CUP CARNIVAL VIC 3 to 10 Nov | melbournecup.com
QUEENSLIFF MUSIC FESTIVAL VIC 23 to 25 Nov | qmf.net.au
TASTE OF MELBOURNE VIC tasteofmelbourne.com.au
AUSTRALIAN PGA CHAMPIONSHIP GOLD COAST QLD 29 Nov to 2 Dec | championship.pga.org.au
WANDERLUST SUNSHINE COAST QLD wanderlust.com
OZASIA FESTIVAL SA 26 Oct to 11 Nov | ozasiafestival.com.au
CREDIT UNION CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SA 10 Nov | cupageant.com.au
HANDPICKED FESTIVAL SA 10 Nov | handpickedfestival.com
FEAST FESTIVAL SA 10 to 25 Nov | feast.org.au
MARGARET RIVER GOURMET ESCAPE WA 15 to 18 Nov | gourmetescape.com.au
Update from Christine Ross our WA Director

It has been a busy few months for our WA women, a huge contingent from across the state went to Sydney to attend the National NAIDOC Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women’s Conference 11-12 July at UNSW. The Conference was to celebrate the 2018 NAIDOC Theme ‘Because of Her, We Can’. Christine Ross WA Director NATSIWA and Project Manager of that Conference said approx. 700 women attended over the 2 days and it was the largest gathering of our women in 30 years. The feedback from those that attended said it was a brilliant success and so empowering for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women especially hearing the Speakers talk about their journey, challenges and successes.

A fabulous ‘Because of Her, We Can’ luncheon was then held at Crown Perth on 17 August 2018 with approx. 300 women attending. We heard inspiring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women speak about their journeys and role models. We then got to enjoy a fabulous fashion show organised by Kirrikin which featured Samantha Harris and local Aboriginal models. Entertainment was once more by the fantastic Merindas who performed both in Sydney at the Gala Dinner and in Perth with songs from the Sapphires era.

Christine then visited Broome and spent a few weeks at Fitzroy Crossing meeting with a number of Aboriginal women particularly at the Marninwarntikura Women’s Centre which was founded by June Oscar and Emily Carter. This Centres runs a number of very important programs for local Aboriginal women including a very successful art program.

The Garnduwa Festival was held 27 – 30 September 2018 in Fitzroy Crossing, we were welcomed to country by Aunty Mary Aiken and the Bunuba people. The Festival is a wonderful celebration of football and basketball for our young people. It also includes music workshops by Desert Feet and culminates in 2 big nights of Entertainment with local Bands performing on Friday and Saturday night. Christine Ross had the honour of Co-MC of the Big Bands night and reminded the young people to aspire to reach the highest level in sport as the West Coast Eagles Aboriginal players did on Saturday in the AFL Grand Final.

Christine Ross and Dorinda Cox from WA will represent Aboriginal Businesswoman at the upcoming World Indigenous Business Conference 8 – 12 October 2018 in Rotorua in NZ.
NATSIWA WORKSHOPS UPDATES

Natsiwa has facilitated 3 e-leadership workshop in Alice Springs partnering with National Rural Women’s Alliance. We are please that three of the women that participated in the workshop where winners and finalist in the Alice Springs Customer Service Award 2018 under the section of Best Aboriginal Business. Raylene Brown’s business – Kunkas Can Cook was the winner of best Aboriginal small business award and Deanella Mack from Cultural Connects and Kathy Buzzacott from Kathleen Buzzacott Art Studion were finalists. Well done to these ladies.

Below – Deanna Mack (left) Raylene Brown (right) Kathy Buzzacott (far right)
Thursday Islander Domestic Violence Framework

Sandra Creamer on Thursday Island with staff from Mura Kosker Sorority, finalising the draft for the Domestic Violence Framework.

Partnership projects with University of Queensland

Dignity Everyday: Girls’ and women’s hygiene pilot project in Western Cape York

- **Aim:** To understand and develop options to menstrual hygiene management for Indigenous girls in Weipa and Napranum, Western Cape York
- **Status:** Fieldwork completed (September 2018)
- **Partners:** Women on Country (Western Cape York); National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women’s Alliance; University of Queensland; Central Queensland University

Housing maintenance and infectious diseases: Improving wellbeing in the Barkly Region, NT

- **Aim:** To better understand how poor housing maintenance and insufficient housing contributes to infectious disease transmission
- **Partners:** National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women’s Alliance; University of Queensland; Anyinginyi Aboriginal Health Corporation; UTS Institute for Sustainable Futures; University of Melbourne

Inidgenous Eye Health Unit;
National Rural Women’s Alliance Homeless Round Table in Tasmania. August 2018.

Wendy our Project Officer attended the roundtable.

Homlessness is often a hidden issue where true data is not always available, this became very evident at the roundtable.

It also highlighted the need for services to work together as being homeless is not just having a roof over one’s head it covers a range of other issues, financial, health, safety but a few.

Those of us who attended the Roundtable in Hobart were certainly dealing with reality as we amassed a mountain of information.

And it’s critical that we now inform that our government representatives to ensure the message is heard.

Wendy and the NRWC President Alwyn Friedersdorff