



NATSIWA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES - DRAFT

No: 2014/#2
Date: Saturday 22nd November 2014
Time: 9:20am to 12pm
Venue: DoubleTree Hilton, Cairns Queensland

Present:

Vicky Welgraven (SA)	Pat Waria-Read (SA)	Lee-Anne Daley (ACT)
Megan Daley (ACT)	Maxine Goldie (NT)	Alison Anderson (NT)
Valerie Tambling (NT)	Marilyn Davis (NT)	Ann Elison (NT)
Sarina Jan (NT)	Denise Burdett (NSW)	Dea Thiele (NSW)
Elaine Lomas (NSW)	Deanna Thiele (NSW)	Joanne Delaney (NSW)
Jodea Delaney (NSW)	Dulcie Flower (NSW)	Natalie Andrews (NSW)
Sandra Creamer (QLD)	Carcia Nallajar (QLD)	Debra Saunders (QLD)
Desley AhWing (QLD)	Ivy Trevallion (TSI)	Marianne Babin (TSI)
Becky Hollis (TAS)	Jacinta Vanderfeen (TAS)	Jaime Cave (TAS)
Mikayla Schleich (TAS)	Mariette Cowley (WA)	Josie Isaacs (WA)
Sandra Ryder (WA)	Narelle Simpson (WA)	Karin Williams (VIC)
Lyn Briggs (VIC)	Daria Atkinson (VIC)	Lyn Briggs (VIC)
Christine Ingram (VIC)	Tracey Williams (VIC)	Antoinette Braybrook (VIC)

Apologies:

Dot Henry (WA)	Sandra Miller (SA)	Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue (SA)
Jo Leonello (SA)	Kaylene Kerdell (SA)	Marcia Humble (TAS)

Secretariat Staff Present:

Dea Delaney-Thiele - Chief Executive Officer
Jodea Delaney - Executive Administration Officer

Minute Taker:

Jodea Delaney

Resolutions:

1 -

Actions:

Signed: _____

Maxine Goldie
Chairperson

Date: _____

Item 1 Welcome & Apologies

Welcome: Chairperson Maxine Goldie welcomed everyone to the meeting and highlighted the housekeeping issues.

Apologies: Maxine called for apologies, which are noted above.

Item 2 Confirmation of the minutes of the previous general meeting held in Adelaide SA, 24th November 2013

Amendments: There were no amendments to the previous minutes of 24th November 2013.

Endorsement: The NATSIWA Members endorsed the previous minutes of 24th November 2013.

Business Arising: The following were raised from the previous Minutes of 24th November 2013:

R1-AGM2014:

That the previous minutes held on the 24th November 2013 in Adelaide SA, be accepted as a true and accurate reflection of that meeting.

Endorsed by Vicky Welgraven (VIC) 2nd Joanne Delaney (NSW)

Item 3 Directors' Report

Documentation was provided to all members for viewing.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am honoured to present to the Members of the National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Women's Alliance this Annual Report for the period 1st July 2013 to 30th June 2014.

This report highlights broad activities conducted by NATSIWA, and is provided to Members and our major funder, the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet's (PM&C) *Office for Women*, for the first round of grant funding received by NATSIWA in December 2013.

This report is consistent with the jointly agreed deliverables with PM&C as highlighted in our Annual Work Plan, which are as follows:

- Further Strengthen NATSIWA's Governance and Organisational Development
- Seek opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Public and Political Participation
- Continue to advocate in national and international fora in respect to improving the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women, with a particular focus on Violence Against Women and Child Protection
- Explore collaborative approaches with National Women's Alliances and other significant stakeholders to progress NATSIWA's strategic directions
- Continue to build a sustainable Membership base for NATSIWA that will bring the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women to assist government in making informed decisions regarding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women.

The outcomes against these deliverables are provided below from page 2 to 6.

The Board also endorsed a new Strategic Plan, and other key documents as mentioned below in this report, which will provide NATSIWA with clear direction from 2013-14 and onward.

I would like to pay my sincere respects and acknowledge the tireless work of our Board of Directors

and Chief Executive Officer, Associate Professor Dea Delaney-Thiele, who have shown great devotion and dedication and have all worked tirelessly to establish the foundations for NATSIWA.

It is because of their motivation and determination that we now have a strong and viable NATSIWA to move ahead with in the future.

I am extremely thankful for the work performed by Dea and her small team and value their dedication to delivering on our first Annual Work Plan, as well as assisting us to complete three reviews conducted by the PM&C and Matrix on Board Consulting. I can only express my gratitude for their hard work and support they have shown and provided to NATSIWA throughout this first year as a stand-alone entity.

I wish you all well in the future, and I look forward to seeing NATSIWA move from strength to strength for our Women, their children and their families.

THANKYOU

SANDRA MILLER
Chairperson

October 2014

1. Further Strengthen NATSIWA's Governance and Organisational Development

NATSIWA have endeavoured to strengthen our governance and organisational development through the following:

ORIC/RULE BOOK

NATSIWA's Rule Book was endorsed by the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) on International Women's Day the 8th March 2013.

NATSIWA's Annual General Meeting in November 2013, saw our Rule Book go through changes to reflect our Vision, Guiding Principles and also had clauses inserted to strengthen our Wind Up clauses to enable us to seek Charitable status. At 30th June 2014 the current version of the Rule Book was altered in April 2014 by ORIC. All Members are provided a copy of the Rule Book, either in person or via email.

To ensure that NATSIWA is viable in the future and able to seek funding from philanthropists as well as government and business, the Board and Members attending the Annual General Meeting in November 2013 considered a special resolution to alter our Rule Book's Wind Up Clause so we could be considered as a Charitable Public Benevolent Institution with Deductible Gift Recipient status. At 30th June 2014 we were still awaiting the final endorsement from the Australian Tax Office and the Australian Charities and not-for-profits Commission.

As part of NATSIWA's governance and legislative requirements NATSIWA forwarded the following documents to ORIC:

- AGM Minutes 2013;
- AGM Agenda & Special Resolutions with rationale for alterations;
- Rule Book - Draft for consideration;
- Old Rule Book as at 8th March 2013; &
- ORIC's Request to Change Corporation Rule Book form;
- The following documents have were updated on ORIC's secure portal:
 - a. Notification of a change to a corporation officer's details (Form 6963) - new directors; &
 - b. List of names and addresses of members (Form 6711).

A governance training session was formally attended by Board Members at the February 2014 Board meeting; Apart from completing the governance training session for our Board, ORIC informed us that we met all our legislative requirements for the period ending 2012-2013.

Due to the nature, aims and objectives of our organisation, ORIC considered our request to suppress the addresses of our Members. Which they approved.

ORIC, PRIME MINISTER & CABINETS COMPLIANCE TEAM AND OFFICE FOR WOMEN

Due to complaints received by ORIC, PM&C and the OfW, NATSIWA underwent 3 reviews.

1. ORIC - conducted a desktop review and completed their investigation in June 2014. One of the issues raised with ORIC was on the matter of *'how to fill directors' vacancies'*. ORIC's view was:

- The rule for filling casual vacancies is different to the rule for filling positions at the AGM. The relevant rule is 8.9: The directors can fill directors vacancies subject to the requirements of rules 8.2 and 8.4.
- The directors can appoint some one as a director to make up a quorum when the number of appointed members directors is less than three. The appointment of any director under this rule must be confirmed by resolution at the next general meeting or they stop being a director.

ORICs interpretation of the corporation's rules was that NATSIWA were not required to convene a meeting of members to fill a casual vacancy, or to seek formal nominations for that position. ORICs also stated that NATSIWA followed our Rule Book to fill a vacancy on the board. ORIC accepted NATSIWA's NT Board representative as our Director.

2. PM&C - Ann-Maree Stokes, Senior Adviser in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet conducted a compliance review of NATSIWA.

The review consisted of a desktop audit and a site visit where all financial records and governance records were viewed and analysed. The review has been completed and NATSIWA are awaiting the formal outcomes of the review.

3. OfW - OfW engaged Matrix on Board, an independent consultancy firm who conducted a desktop audit, including interviews with all Board members, a site visit and a number of phone link ups with management. Whilst the main part of the review has been completed, MoB will be assisting NATSIWA in the near future with issues such as performance and risk management.

New Corporate Image

New branding and corporate image of NATSIWA was developed during this period. We now have a newly enhanced website and a number of professional publications such as a strategic framework, brochures, letterheads, envelopes and with compliment slips, an e-letterhead, e-powerpoint, business shirts and corporate t-shirts, business cards, lanyards, member cards and banners. NATSIWA now have an electronic Newsletter, which we will be sending on a quarterly basis. The first one was developed and distributed in June 2014.

KEY GOVERNANCE DOCUMENTS

NATSIWA saw the need to develop organisation policies and procedures and developed the following documents:

- Assets Register/Compliance Register
- Delegations Manual
- Governance Charter for Board
- Conflict of Interest
- Code of Ethics and Conduct
- Risk Management Strategy
- Policies and Procedures

These documents were provided to the Office for Women.

STAFF

NATSIWA realise their staff are key to progressing our organisational development and working with the Board to ensure sound governance structures are in place.

CEO: The current Chief Executive Officer was recruited in May 2014.

Executive Administration Officer: This position was recruited on April 7th. The successful applicant was Jodea Delaney.

Website & Media Officer: This position was recruited on April 7th. The successful applicant was Sheilah Hure.

2. Seek opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Public and Political Participation

NATSIWA'S INAUGURAL INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

NATSIWA held its inaugural International Women's Day event on the 3rd March 2014 at Parliament House in Canberra. Senator Michaelia Cash hosted and opened our inaugural event on behalf of Prime Minister Tony Abbott. Board Members and others who attended the event reflected its success and said it was a great day, fantastic, positive, and an eye opener. Old freedom fighters, such as Dulcie Flower and Kathy Malera Bandjolan were truly inspirational, and Antoinette Braybrook's stole the event with her moving speech, which highlighted the real impact of funding cuts to grass roots organisations such as the Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention & Legal Service Victoria. The lives and experiences of Aboriginal Women who attended our inaugural IWD event, was absolutely amazing.

Ministers and Senators that met with us during the day were very supportive of our issues, and a number invited us to their electorates. Senator Cathy McGowan placed a request with NATSIWA to visit her electorate of 'Indie' to meet with some Aboriginal Women in her electorate sometime in 2014. Senator Nova Peris invited NATSIWA to her chamber at 7:00pm for a chat and a cuppa, which was very welcomed. Media journalist Karla Grant provided her expertise and MC'd the awesome event.

SECOND ACTION PLAN

NATSIWA Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer attended the roundtable discussions about the Second Action Plan under the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022, in Canberra on the 6th February 2014. Input was provided to the discussions from both delegates.

NATSIWA attended the launch of the 2nd Action Plan *Moving Ahead*, of the National Plan to reduce Violence Against Women and their Children 2010 – 2022. The plan was launched by Prime Minister Tony Abbott in Manly NSW on 27 June 2014.

3. Continue to advocate in national and international fora in respect to improving the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women, with a particular focus on Violence Against Women and Child Protection

The fifty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from the 10th to 21st March 2014. Thirty Indigenous Women from across the globe attended the session, including NATSIWA's delegates, Dot Henry (WA) and Ivy Trevallion (TSI). Women in attendance raised their perspectives, needs and aspirations in respect to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the Post 2015 Development Agenda.

Subsequently, the Commission on the Status of Women adopted agreed conclusions on 'Challenges and Achievements in the Implementation of the Millennium Developments Goals for women and girls'. NATSIWA will place this important outcome documents on our website in the near future for those who are interested.

Whilst in New York attending the CSW58, both Dot and Ivy attended a special landmark event '*Grassroots Women & the Gaps in the Global Framework on Violence Against Women*'. The event was held at the former home of Eleanor Roosevelt. Ivy and Dot heard moving testimonies of grassroots women from across the globe that illustrated the gaps in the global VAW framework. See also the International Collaborative project led by ERA for the Alliances below.

4. Explore collaborative approaches with National Women's Alliances and other significant stakeholders to progress NATSIWA's strategic directions

NATSIWA's Third Strategic Priority is to develop strong and effective coalitions with all major stakeholders and thus, we are pleased to report the following:

NATIONAL WOMENS ALLIANCES (NWA)

NATSIWA networked with Alliances Members on a number of matters including:

- NWA's 2013 pledge on cultural safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People;
 - NATSIWA presented the 2014 cultural safety pledge, but revised the document to include safety security theme and the signing of an MoU between each Alliance and NATSIWA in respect to Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Women. To this date not alliance has come forward to sign

an

- NWA Women Use your Vote campaign;
- NATSIWA contributed \$2,000 for the International collaborative and domestic advocacy project led by ERA, such as the 58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, CEDAW, Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Post 2015 Development Agenda:
 - Providing opportunities for women's organisations to share skills and their experiences of engagement in the international human rights system;
 - Strengthening the understanding of women's organisations in Australia about the international human rights system;
 - Equipping women's organisations in Australia to engage with and participate in the international human rights system; and
 - Equipping women's organisations in Australia to use the outcomes of international human rights processes in their domestic advocacy work.

ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR WOMEN (ES4W)

Sally Jope and Sharen Page from eS4W have been very helpful. Sally Jope from eS4W attended the meeting and provided/discussed the following matters that NATSIWA might consider joining them in:

- National Centre for Social & Economic Modelling;
- Equal pay day campaign of A Fair Deal for Women in Decent Work;
- Economic security for women in later life;
- Change of legislation to allow Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and their early access to superannuation; and
- Cultural Safety Issues.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF AUSTRALIA (NCWA)

NATSIWA attended the National Council of Women of Australia 's (NCWA) National Conference in Alice Springs in late May 2014. The NCWA have been operating for 115 years. They are a national non-government umbrella organisation with broadly humanitarian and educational objectives. They seek to raise awareness of women and girls to their rights and responsibilities as citizens and to encourage the participation of women in all aspects of community life. NATSIWA signed its first Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the national organisation to explore shared issues and to work collaboratively in the near future. Highlights of the Conference were:

- Dr Pat Miller AO graciously 'Welcomed All To Country' with a moving overview of her journey through life in Alice Springs and beyond.
- NT Minister the Honourable Bess Nungarrayi Price (MLA) believed the theme of the NCWA Conference, 'Caring for Women is Caring for the World' was a very important message for us all. Her inspiring words moved everyone, especially when she shared an Ann Frank quote which guides her in her day-to-day life:
'How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world'... then Bess quietly said.... So.. Why wait!
- The Honourable Senator Michaelia Cash's passion and commitment for Violence Against Women and Leadership was well received. Senator Cash responded very well to questions from the floor, including issues around the current budget, which was circulating in the media, amongst businesses, NGOs and the wider general public.
- Our CEO, Dea Delaney-Thiele delivered a keynote address to the Members of the NCWA on a number of issues, which included violence against women, gender equity, economic participation, human rights and the political empowerment of our Women.
- Pat Turner presented a workshop on the  Campaign and invited NCWA Members to get on board with the campaign to RECOGNISE Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in Australia's Constitution.

UN WOMEN AUSTRALIA (UNWA)

Ms Julie McKay, the Executive Director of UNWA (previously known as UNIFEM) had a dialogue with the NATSIWA Board in our March 2014 Board meeting. UNWA's patron is Quentin Bryce. Members of the NATSIWA Board were duly impressed with Julie's welcome, professionalism, knowledge on the UN system, Violence Against Women matters and noted her in kind support to NATSIWA whenever we are in Canberra. Matters discussed

were:

- An overview of UNWA and their operations, CSW58, CEDAW, their corporate partners and the desire to explore potential opportunities that our two organisations might work collaboratively on in the future.
- Julie also invited the NATSIWA Board to use their premises for future Board meetings, which we might hold in Canberra.
- Julie will be attending the CSW58 as one of 2 who will be part of the Government delegation so she offered to connect with our NATSIWA representative at CSW58, Dot Henry and Ivy Trevallion;
- UNWA's Website has information regarding; UN Instruments; Women's Voices; Information to women, e.g. Legal matters. So NATSIWA will work with UNWA on cultural safety matters and explore other ways we might collaborate;
- Julie is happy to assist NATSIWA with the following:
 - Using UNWA's office space in Civic, Canberra;
 - Use of their small Board Room for NATSIWA Board meetings when in Canberra;
 - Contact details for Human rights based Pro Bono law firms;
 - NATSIWA can connect with Jackie Sutton at UNWA who manages their website - Jackie could assist NATSIWA as she is very experienced;
 - Have informal partnerships with Big Corporate companies and can let NATSIWA know when major events are coming up so UNWA can include NATSIWA;
 - UNWA have very good relationships with Liz Broderick (Sex Discrimination Commissioner) who knows Alan Joyce the CEO of QANTAS; UN Women Department and Geraldine Chin Moody the Group Executive at Virgin Australia;
- Both NATSIWA and UNWA need to look for opportunities where we can work together and requested that our 2 organisations should explore any opportunities and possibly host a joint event in the future.

NATSIWA Board thanked Julie for her visit and welcomed the opportunity to explore collaborative efforts with UNWA in the future.

5. Continue to build a sustainable Membership base for NATSIWA that will bring the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women to assist government in making informed decisions regarding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women.

NATSIWA became incorporated in March 2013. At this time the YWCA would not hand over the NATSIWA Membership Database, as they stated, due to privacy issues they could not transfer it. NATSIWA were puzzled with decision, as any new membership application was tabled for consideration by the Board, during their meetings. So they would see the completed demographic information in the forms.

The Database, which consisted of approximately 200 members was finally obtained by NATSIWA in late May 2013.

At the 30th June 2014, NATSIWA now has over 310 members with a further 30 pending memberships for the next meeting. The membership database also consists of approximately 12 Aboriginal organisations.

NATSIWA are also looking at strategies to build our Membership list. We are also looking at using our website which will include a *Clearing House* function that will have the capacity to provide information that is pertinent to our Women, such as violence against Women, human rights and economic development issues, political participation in enquiries that are conducted by the Senate, House of Representatives and/or departments.

NATSIWA have implemented Send Blast which will allow us to send emails to 1,000 NATSIWA friends, partners etc at the touch of a button.

NATSIWA also intend to use other opportunities to visit communities across Australia to speak directly to our Women, to hear their voices, and to endeavour to act on their behalf to improve their situation.

Patron of NATSIWA: Dr Naomi Mayers

Through the Chair, Sandra Creamer acknowledge the dedication and support from both Sandy Miller and Dot Henry in the development and establishment of NATSIWA as a stand alone entity. Dulcie Flower (NSW) suggested that both Sandy and Dot be recognised as founders for NATSIWA. All members agreed??

Members were advised that MATRIX on Board will be holding a training workshop with New Board of Directors in February 2015 in assisting NATSIWA in the future. NATSIWA Member Pat Waria-Read questioned if Matrix will be responsible for the cost calling the Board together to provide Training for the New Board. If not Dea Thiele CEO was asked to bring this OFW & MATRIX on board attention

R2-AGM2014:

That the Directors Report for 2014 be accepted by NATSIWA member; And Sandy Miller and Dot Henry be recognised as founders for NATSIWA. Dr Naomi Mayers acknowledge as Patron of NATSIWA to be viewable on website.

Endorsed by Dulcie Flower (NSW) 2nd Pat Waria-Read

Item 4: Financial Report

NATSIWA Members viewed the Financial Report for the 2013-2014 financial year, audited by Ross Fowler & Co

Res:

That the NATSIWA Members endorsed the Financial Report for the 2013-2014 financial year audited by Ross Fowler & CO highlighted at this AGM, 22nd November 2014 Cairns.

Endorsed by Dulcie Flower (NSW) 2nd Joanne Delaney (NSW)

Item 5 Checking the register of members and register of former members

NATSIWA Members viewed copy of the register of members list as provided.

Res:

That the NATSIWA Members endorsed the new membership list highlighted at this AGM, 22nd November 2014.

Endorsed by Pat Waria-Read (SA) 2nd Lee-ann Daley (ACT)

Item 6 To receive notice of the Election/Appointment of Directors

All Previous Board of Directors stood down so that the new Election would proceed.

R??-AGM2014: NATSIWA Members **resolved to accept** the newly appointed Directors of NATSIWA for 2014-2015, who are as follows:

Tasmania	Jaime Cave;
Victoria	Karin Williams;
Australian Capital Territory	Lee-ann Daley;
New South Wales	Dulcie Flower;
Queensland	May Mooka;
Northern Territory	Maxine Goldie;
Torres Strait Islands	Ivy Trevallion;
Western Australia	Mariette Cowley; and
South Australia	Vicky Welgraven.

Res:

That the NATSIWA Members endorsed the following new Directors for 2014-2015.

Item 7 Election of NATSIWA Board

R??-AGM2014: NATSIWA Members **resolved to accept** the new Board Members elected as the new office Bearers:

Chairperson	Maxine Goldie (NT);
Deputy Chairperson	Mariette Cowley (WA);
Secretary	Jaime Cave (TAS); &
Treasurer	Vicky Welgraven (SA).

Res:

That the NATSIWA Members endorsed the new membership list highlighted at this AGM, 22nd November 2014.

Item 8 Close of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairperson Maxine Goldie closed the AGM @ 12:15pm