

# NIDAC Strategic Plan 2012 – 2014

## VISION

An improved quality of life for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, families and communities that is consistent with that enjoyed by the majority of the Australian population, by reducing alcohol, tobacco and other drug related harms

## PRINCIPLES

The Strategic Plan is compatible with NIDAC's principles. These are:

1. Commitment to and consistency with the three pillar harm minimisation approach of the National Drug Strategy (2010-2015).
2. Commitment to and consistency with the principles of all of the National Drug Strategy specific drug strategies, in particular the National Drug Strategy Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Complementary Action Plan (CAP).
3. Recognition of the critical importance of self-determination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities.
4. Commitment to equal access to services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities acknowledging that self-determination of health requires access to a range of services to enable informed choice and diverse responses to diverse needs.
5. Commitment to the development and maintenance of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island community controlled sector and other relevant organisations that provide services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
6. The need to develop and support cultural security.
7. Recognition of the need for social justice.
8. Consistency with the ANCD's Strategic Plan and Terms of Reference.

## PRIORITY AREAS OF FOCUS

Fetal and infant health ▪ Young people ▪ People in the justice system ▪ Adequate and secure funding to build the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health organisations and other culturally secure services to respond to alcohol, tobacco and other drug use ▪ Workforce and organisational development

## PRIMARY FUNCTIONS

### Advice

NIDAC's primary function is to provide policy advice to the ANCD and government on a range of issues that impact on Indigenous communities and ways of addressing quality of life and alcohol, tobacco and other drug use for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people .

### Consultation

NIDAC recognizes that it has an important role as the leading voice in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander alcohol, tobacco and other drugs use policy advice and it is committed to keep informed of current and emerging issues and to engage in ongoing consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

### Advocacy

NIDAC recognises it has a critical responsibility to ensure that, in relation to tobacco, alcohol and other drug use, the needs, views and aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities, are heard by governments, service organisations and the broader Australian community.

## NIDAC Strategic Plan 2012 – 2014

PRIMARY FUNCTIONS: Advice ▪ Advocacy ▪ Consultation	
Broad Objective	Activity
<p><b>Undertake ongoing consultation with individuals and organisations working to address the harmful effects of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conduct community forums</li> <li>▪ Conduct on-line surveys/ consultations with relevant stakeholders</li> <li>▪ Regularly inform stakeholders via               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ NIDAC Weekly News</li> <li>➤ Communiqués</li> <li>➤ Website updates</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p><b>Provide a national forum to contribute to effective consultation, build expertise, innovation, and capacity, and to celebrate achievement</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Organise and deliver a biennial conference</li> <li>▪ Support and celebrate achievements via the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Awards</li> <li>▪ Develop an Honour Roll Hall of Fame in recognition of significant contributions to addressing the reduction of alcohol, tobacco and other drug issues on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Identify opportunities to influence decisions to reduce the harms and impacts of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander alcohol, tobacco and other drug issues</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify and embrace opportunities to provide strategic input into peak organisation and government activities</li> <li>▪ Contribute to government Inquiries into preventing and reducing alcohol, tobacco and other drugs use related harm in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities</li> <li>▪ Develop a position paper on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s tobacco use</li> </ul>
<p><b>Support the delivery of culturally secure alcohol, tobacco and other drug services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Advocate for adequate and ongoing resourcing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled services</li> <li>▪ Support evidence-informed workforce and organisational development of community controlled services</li> <li>▪ Maintain NACCHO representation on NIDAC</li> <li>▪ Promote ‘best practice’ Aboriginal alcohol, tobacco and other drug issues service models and service delivery</li> <li>▪ Advocate for sustainable reporting requirements with funding bodies</li> <li>▪ Advocate for culturally secure research into prevention and treatment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities</li> <li>▪ Support the translation of existing evidence into culturally secure practice</li> </ul>
<p><b>Support the building of a strong, stable and skilled workforce with a priority for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people working in the</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Contribute to evidence dissemination where appropriate (e.g. publications; conferences; workshops)</li> </ul>

<p><b>alcohol, tobacco and other drugs sector and other relevant services (e.g. health; housing; child and family services) that can support Indigenous communities to respond to alcohol, tobacco and other drug issues</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Advocate for workforce and organisational development strategies relevant to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</li> <li>▪ Advocate for secure and sustained funding and work conditions that attract and retain a skilled workforce</li> <li>▪ Develop a position paper on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s workforce</li> <li>▪ Hold a workshop at the NIDAC 2012 Conference to ascertain the level of support for the establishment of a national Indigenous Drug and Alcohol workers peak body</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ensure adequate funding for culturally secure prevention and treatment services</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide advice to government based on the findings of the NIDAC report , <i>Indigenous specific alcohol and other drug interventions</i></li> <li>▪ Consult with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities about service and organisation challenges and need</li> <li>▪ Advocate for adequate and sustainable resourcing and support from government systems</li> <li>▪ <i>Develop a position statement or paper on the provision of funding</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Lobby the government for more funding for the sector</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Address Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) in Australia</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop and promote a position paper on FASD</li> <li>▪ Advocate for evidence-informed strategies to reduce alcohol consumption during pregnancy, to reduce FASD and to respond to people and families affected by FASD</li> </ul>
<p><b>Promote the resilience of young people to enable them to have health futures</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Advocate for investment in early years interventions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people and families</li> <li>▪ Identify the prevention and treatment needs of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</li> <li>▪ Advocate for evidence-informed and culturally secure prevention and treatment responses for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Advocate for an increase in evidence-informed and culturally secure diversion programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people and families who would otherwise be placed in juvenile detention centres or prisons</li> <li>▪ Advocate for an increase in evidence-informed and culturally secure incarceration diversion programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people and families</li> <li>▪ Advocate for flexible eligibility criteria into programs and services for the treatment of young Aboriginal people under the age of 18</li> </ul>
<p><b>Address the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Justice system</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commission a research project on economic modelling on the costs and benefits of addressing problematic Indigenous alcohol, tobacco and other drug use with treatment compared to prison</li> <li>▪ Update and relaunch NIDAC’s position paper on Indigenous Incarceration</li> <li>▪ Advocate for justice reinvestment</li> <li>▪ Advocate for strategies to reduce incarceration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, especially in relation to , alcohol, tobacco and other drug use</li> <li>▪ Advocate for effective alcohol, tobacco and other drug interventions for incarcerated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</li> <li>▪ Promote culturally secure alternatives to incarceration for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people such as the youth justice reinvestment campaign</li> <li>▪ Advocate for effective , alcohol, tobacco and other drug interventions for incarcerated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people pre-release and within communities</li> <li>▪ Advocate for stronger post-release pathways and pathways programs</li> <li>▪ Advocate for more flexible eligibility criteria for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people at risk of incarceration</li> </ul>

