



the
Lowitja
INSTITUTE

Australia's National Institute
for Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Health Research

*Incorporating the Cooperative Research Centre
for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health*

MEDIA RELEASE

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Lowitja Institute selects new governing body

The Lowitja Institute, Australia's National Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research, is pleased to announce the appointment of a permanent Board of Directors to oversee the implementation of national research programs focused on improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

The Lowitja Institute is the host organisation for the Commonwealth-funded Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (CRCATSIH), which continues the proud tradition of quality health research established by its predecessors the CRC for Aboriginal and Tropical Health and the CRC for Aboriginal Health over the past 14 years.

The new permanent Board has a majority Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander membership and comprises the highly skilled and experienced health sector professionals Ms Pat Anderson (Chair), Ms Stephanie Bell, Professor Peter Buckskin, Professor Lisa Jackson Pulver, Mr Robin Lonergan and Dr Louise Morauta. A select tender process is currently under way to select a Torres Strait Islander representative to the Board.

The Lowitja Institute is unique in Australia because it is the only Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led, controlled and managed organisation devoted purely to funding health research. Currently, the Lowitja Institute has over 200 supporting partners across the nation.

Along with overseeing the ongoing rollout of the CRCATSIH's three research program areas, the new Board will also manage the development and implementation of the strategic direction of the Lowitja Institute after the CRCATSIH completes its funding cycle in June 2014.

Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue, after whom the Institute is named, said there was a great weight of expectation on Directors' shoulders.

"We have a heavy workload ahead of us but on the ground there is a great deal of goodwill toward the Lowitja Institute," Dr O'Donoghue said. "We will continue to form partnerships with governments, research agencies, the community and private sector as we build towards a healthier future."

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For more information about the Board members and the Lowitja Institute, please go to www.lowitja.org.au.

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