



the
Lowitja
Institute
Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Health CRC

The Lowitja Institute
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health CRC

ANNUAL REPORT 2016–17



Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Innovation and Science

Business
Cooperative Research
Centres Programme

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1. CEO's Certification

I hereby certify that the information provided to the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science by the Lowitja Institute Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health CRC in:

- The written annual report for the 2016–17 financial year;
- The CRC's Online milestone tables for the 2016–17 financial year;
- The CRC's Online financial tables for the 2016–17 financial year; and
- The CRC's Online MDQ for the 2016–17 financial year.

is accurate and provides a true and fair view of the matters reported on therein.

I certify that the Commonwealth Funding and Participant Contributions were applied for the Activities of the CRC as specified in the Funding Agreement and that Commonwealth Funding has been expended only for the Activities and otherwise in accordance with this Agreement.

I certify that the CRC has met its obligations in relation to the treatment of intellectual property.

I certify that the chair of the board meets the requirements of independence set out in the Funding Agreement and that the majority of board members are independent of the CRC's research providers.

I certify that the CRC has adhered to the requirements for proper use of the CRC Programme Branding, publicity and support as specified in the Funding Agreement.

I am aware that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence and could lead to prosecution under the Criminal Code 1995.

SIGNATURE:

NAME: Romlie Mokak

POSITION: CEO, The Lowitja Institute Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health CRC

DATE: 31 October 2017

2. Executive Summary

2.1 Achievements

Highlights during 2016–17 included:

2.1.1 Research and collaboration

- A workshop held on 30 March 2017, bringing together key stakeholders together to work towards research questions related to Young Men’s Health, as well as to form an advisory group to support this critically important work.
- Preparatory work was done towards a national roundtable on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Disability scheduled for 4 October 2017.
- The establishment of four new research activities investigating research training towards an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research workforce, and career pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health professionals.
- The opening of a new research funding round focused on five themes:
 - Theme 1: Strong Workforce
 - Theme 2: Strong Families
 - Theme 3: Strong Elders
 - Theme 4: Strong Science
 - Theme 5: Strong Health Care

Funding applications closed on 30 June 2017.

- In November 2016, the Lowitja Institute conducted its first International conference, in Melbourne: The Lowitja Institute International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference. The aim of the conference was to celebrate, share and strengthen Indigenous knowledges and bring together Indigenous people from around Australia and the world. More than 700 people registered for a range of Conference events. These delegates came from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, India, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Nepal, Norway, the Phillipines and the United States of America. The conference offered a comprehensive concurrent workshop program across the three days and a rich Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural program. Of a total of 143 presenters, 72 per cent were Indigenous. The conference also released a Conference Statement, disseminated widely nationally and internationally.
- **The Canada – Australia Indigenous Health and Wellness Working Group** was established to progress initiatives from the Canada-Australia Roundtable on Indigenous Health and Wellness held in Canberra 11–13 December 2016, hosted by the High Commissioner of Canada and the Lowitja Institute CEO.
- A number of speeches and seminars were delivered by Lowitja Institute leadership.

2.1.3 Education and training

- Four Lowitja Institute CRC Awards were announced during the November 2016:
- **The Lowitja Institute Outstanding Achievement in Indigenous Health and Wellbeing** awarded posthumously to Mr Tiga Bayles.
- **The Lowitja Institute Emerging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researcher Award** awarded to Associate Professor Roxanne Bainbridge from James Cook University.

- **The Lowitja Institute Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Award** awarded to Dr Lisa Whop from the Menzies School of Health Research.
- **The Lowitja Institute Research Leadership Award**, a partnership between the Cranlana Programme and the Lowitja Institute, was awarded to Professor Gail Garvey, Deputy Division Leader, Wellbeing and Preventable Chronic Diseases division, Menzies School of Health Research.

2.1.2 Commercialisation and utilisation

- Lit.search is an online search tool that facilitates searches in PubMed for literature on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health. Usage of this popular resource quadrupled to some 10,400 largely facilitated by GoogleAds, a grant awarded the Lowitja Institute CRC in 2016 which represents a value of US\$10,000 per month in advertising. PubMed is a global database that with more than 24 million citations for biomedical literature from MEDLINE, life science journals, and online books.
- Lowitja Institute CRC website content is a popular resource for numerous audiences with some 22,400 downloads of research and other material, an increase of 26 per cent.

2.2 Risks and impediments

The Lowitja Institute CRC has signed the Commonwealth Agreement to take on the legal obligation and role of running the Lowitja Institute CRC until June 2019. The Institute is undergoing a transformational process from sole reliance on government funding (CRC Program, Department of Industry, Innovation and Science) to a bold program of business development that will ensure its sustainability into the future. The delivery of the CRC projects will continue until the Lowitja CRC funding ceases in June 2019. Alongside the CRC, the Institute has already started to convert its extensive research base into valuable insights and product offerings. The Institute will continue to remain a 'public good' research institute delivering on national health and wellbeing priorities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

However, the Institute faces a number of risks. The major ones being:

- That there is a risk that there is no sustainable revenue model for the future. This is being mitigated by the development of business partnerships and seeking further funding from government.
- There is a risk that key human resources may leave the organisation. This risk can be managed in the short term but recruitment would have to be completed quickly.
- There is a risk that a partner organisation may not deliver against agreed expectations and this may cause reputational damage. This is being mitigated by ensuring all contractual arrangements are being met, setting clear timelines and expectation and implementing strong monitoring and performance measures.
- There is a risk that Lowitja Institute still struggles to demonstrate real health benefits. This is being mitigated by effective knowledge translation, business tools, training and consultation.
- There is a risk that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership is not facilitated in our day to day operations and displayed in our conduct with funded research and partnerships. This is being mitigated by implementation of a strong cultural training framework and a growth in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment.

2.3 Impacts

The Lowitja Institute CRC's work represents an integrated set of activity promoting research and implementation across policy, service delivery and community contexts. This incorporates research training and capacity development as well as developing knowledge exchange pathways with the education and workforce training sectors, and building on work of the previous CRCs.

The Lowitja Institute CRC Impact Tool

The Lowitja Institute CRC commissioned the development of an impact tool for application to research projects to measure the benefit of the research to contributing towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing. The Lowitja Institute CRC has been working with James Cook University of this project. The tool will be trialled with certain Lowitja Institute CRC-funded projects to test its validity with a view to incorporating its use in future Lowitja Institute CRC projects.

3. Research

Overview

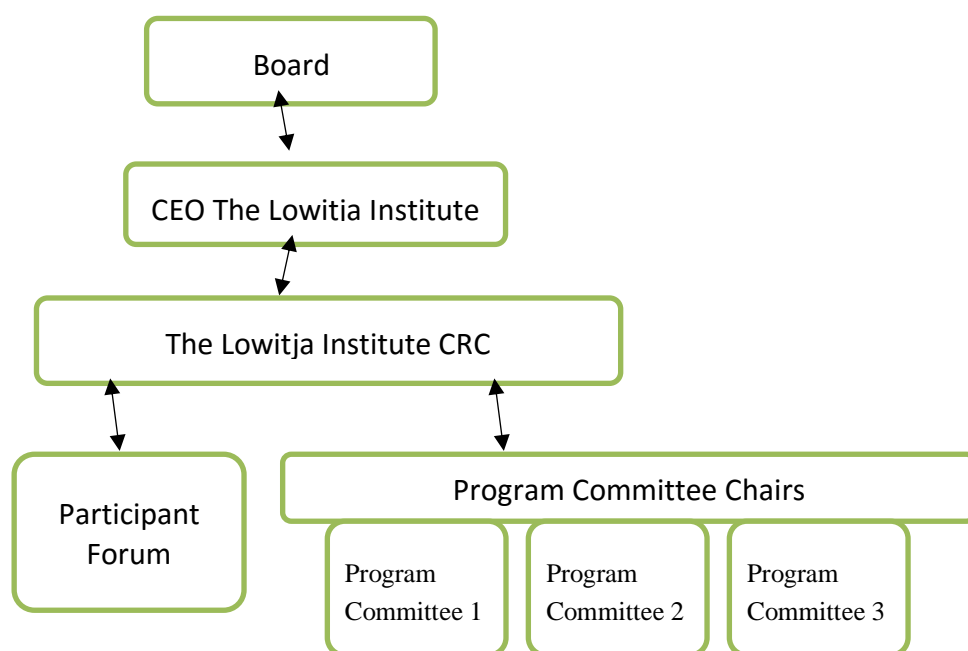
The Lowitja Institute CRC strives to achieve the best outcomes for Australia’s First Peoples. Ensuring that our activities effectively address inequities in health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is central to this effort. To this end, and building on the successes of previous CRCs, the Institute is identifying priorities, and developing research and knowledge exchange processes, to ensure that maximum value is created through its collaborative partnerships. These collaborations include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and communities, Participant organisations, and other research and policy partners.

To guide this effort, the Lowitja Institute CRC identified five key principles that underpin our approach to research:

1. Beneficence — to act for the benefit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the conduct of our research
2. Leadership — by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
3. Engagement — of research end users (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and communities, policymakers, other potential research users)
4. Development — of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research workforce, and
5. Measurement — of impact in improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ health.

Research governance

The Lowitja Institute CRC’s research governance structure has been developed to support the strategic development of, and priority setting for, a body of research most likely to contribute to positive impacts for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ health and wellbeing. The governance structure is consistent with the Institute’s research principles of ensuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including those with expertise as potential research end users, participate in setting research priorities and guiding the direction of the work of the Institute.



Program Committees

Three Lowitja Institute CRC research programs committees, each headed by an Indigenous Chair, guided the research agenda:

Program 1 – Community capability and the social determinants of health was guided by Professor Kerry Arabena. Work through this program deepens our understanding of how individuals, children, families and communities can mitigate the negative impacts of the social determinants of health, and maximise the effectiveness of positive cultural, social, economic and environmental influences.

Program 2 – Needs and opportunities for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workforce was guided by Professor Cindy Shannon. Work through this program is driven by the need to know how to better grow and sustain a health workforce to address Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health needs in all health services and systems.

Program 3 – Health policy and systems was guided by Dr Mark Wenitong. Work through this program will provide evidence on the broader health policy and system settings that are most effective in supporting improvements in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

See also page 21, Table 7 – Research Program Committees.

Role of Program Committees

The role of each Program Committee is to provide the Institute with strategic advice on:

1. Development of each research program within the broad parameters described
2. Identification of research priorities within each research program, including
 - a. scoping specific topics and requesting that work, such as evidence reviews, be commissioned to assist with this
 - b. obtaining input from others should additional advice be required for priority setting or refinement of priorities
 - c. Identifying potential research projects and research questions
3. Quality assurance processes for program activities, including peer review of research activities
4. Building Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researcher capacity into the activities of the program.

3.1 Performance against activities

3.3.1 Program activities

Program 1 – Community capability and the social determinants of health

Work continues on current projects (see www.lowitja.org.au/active-lowitja-institute-projects) and no new projects commenced under this program during the reporting period. Knowledge Translation plans of projects commenced in the previous period progressed as the work has evolved.

During the reporting period, the Social Determinants Committee Program Committees identified the need to conduct research in relation to:

Young Men's Health: A workshop was held on 30 March 2017. The purpose of the workshop was to bring key stakeholders together to work towards research questions in relation to Young Men's Health. An Advisory Group was formed and met on several occasions.

Questions had not been formulated by the end of the reporting period and were shaping up for a Call for Applications early in the next reporting period.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Disability: While some preparatory work was done during the reporting period, most of the work on this topic will be done and reported in the 2017–18 period, including a national roundtable scheduled for 4 October 2017.

Program 2 – Needs and opportunities for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workforce

Work continues on current projects (see www.lowitja.org.au/active-lowitja-institute-projects).

During this reporting period, we continued progressing the development of Knowledge Translation plans of projects commenced in the previous period.

Four new research activities were established:

Ref. nbr	Research activity	
16-HWF-07	<p>Research training towards an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research workforce: Review and analysis</p> <p>The project aims to review and analyse changes in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research workforce since 2000. Investigations will show what has changed, will identify current models and initiatives, outline what works and identify new ways to increase numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health researchers into the future.</p>	
16-HWF-09	<p>Health system competence for culturally safe care: Building a collaboration to develop a national intervention study.</p>	
16-HWF-10-AMSANT / 16-HWF-10-NSW	<p>16-HWF-10-AMSANT</p> <p>Career pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health professionals</p> <p>This project is based in the Northern Territory and aims to identify evidence-based supply and demand interventions to enhance the capacity of the health system to support the professional careers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the health workforce.</p>	<p>These two projects were in development during the reporting period, although contracts were not finalised until July 2017. These two projects are closely related. Two applications had been received in a call for applications in 2016. It had been recommended by the assessment panel at that time that these two applicants could collaborate in order to achieve a wider focus on workforce issues, i.e. a more diverse regional aspect (urban, regional and rural NSW and the Northern Territory). Bringing the two applicants together to discuss the potential collaboration took some time and arrangements were finalised towards the end of the reporting period.</p>
	<p>16-HWF-10-NSW</p> <p>Career pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health professionals</p> <p>This project is based in New South Wales, and aims to identify evidence-based supply and demand interventions to enhance the capacity of the health system to support the professional careers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the health workforce.</p>	

Program 3 – Health policy and systems

Work continues on current projects (see www.lowitja.org.au/active-lowitja-institute-projects). No new work was commenced in this program under this reporting period.

During this reporting period, we continued progressing the development of Knowledge Translation plans of projects commenced in the previous period.

Preparation for final round of research funding

In early 2017, a workshop was held to discuss themes and priorities for expenditure for the final round of research funding. That workshop identified the need to conduct research under the following themes, each of which relate

- Theme 1: Strong Workforce
- Theme 2: Strong Families
- Theme 3: Strong Elders
- Theme 4: Strong Science
- Theme 5: Strong Health Care.

Applications for these applications closed on 30 June and the assessment process following immediately after that date.

3.3.2 Residual activities

The Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (CRCATSIH, 2010–2014) had a large and complex research agenda. The majority of these research activities were completed by 30 June 2014. However, due to operational issues beyond the control of the Lowitja Institute CRC, three CRCATSIH research activities were not completed and their management was transferred to the Lowitja Institute CRC.

Management of each of the following outstanding residual activities is ongoing:

- RM 1.9 Building Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research leadership capacity
- RM 1.10 Documentation and evaluation of the evolution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research to inform future development of processes and practices in health research sector and beyond

3.2 Education and training

3.2.1 Scholarships update

Lowitja Institute CRC Scholarship Program

The Lowitja Institute CRC is committed to developing a strong base of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health researchers. Current scholarship holders are listed in Appendix 1. There were no PhD completions during the reporting period.

The Lowitja Institute CRC scholarship program provides an opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and workers to develop their health research skills and contribute to strengthening the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workforce. Funded research activities will also contribute to the Lowitja Institute CRC's research

evidence and ability to impact policies, programs, and practises that lead to positive change in the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Lowitja Institute CRC Scholarship holders are supported to undertake research that contributes to the Lowitja Institute CRC research agenda. A research activity funded by a Lowitja Institute CRC scholarship will contribute to a field of health research that falls within one or more of the Lowitja Institute CRC research program areas.

Co-funded scholarships

Co-funding scholarships enable the Lowitja Institute CRC to collaborate with Participants to provide additional scholarships for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and 11 postgraduate scholarships were established in the last reporting period with Queensland University of Technology, La Trobe University, Edith Cowan University (The Neil Thomson Scholarship), The George Institute of Global Health, The University of Melbourne, Griffith University, the Australian National University, and the Menzies School of Health Research. The work is ongoing and there were no completions during the current reporting period.

3.2.2. Other education and training support

The Lowitja Institute CRC Impact Tool

The Lowitja Institute CRC commissioned the development of an impact tool for application to research projects to measure the benefit of the research to contributing towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing. The Lowitja Institute CRC has been working with James Cook University of this project. The tool will be trialled with certain Lowitja Institute CRC-funded projects to test its validity with a view to incorporating its use in future Lowitja Institute CRC projects.

Lowitja Institute CRC Awards

The Lowitja Institute conducts a number of awards, and our 2016 International Conference provided the opportunity to conduct these awards. Awards announced at the conference were:

- **The Lowitja Institute Outstanding Achievement in Indigenous Health and Wellbeing** for an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, as nominated by the Lowitja Institute Board of Directors. The inaugural award was given posthumously to Mr Tiga Bayles.

An open application process was conducted for the following awards:

- **The Lowitja Institute Emerging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researcher Award** This award recognises excellence for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers at the mid-career level and was awarded to Associate Professor Roxanne Bainbridge from James Cook University.
- **The Lowitja Institute Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Award** recognises excellence for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers undertaking either Masters or PhD study, awarded to Dr Lisa Whop from the Menzies School of Health Research.
- **The Lowitja Institute Research Leadership Award** is a partnership between the Cranlana Programme and the Lowitja Institute to offer this award that recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research leadership and excellence. This winner was Professor Gail Garvey, Deputy Division Leader, Wellbeing and Preventable Chronic Diseases division, Menzies School of Health Research.

We also conducted an open process for our *Tarrn Doon Nonin* Ethics Award which promotes and upholds respectful ethical practice in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research. Unfortunately, no applications were received for this award.

3.3 SME engagement

Submissions

- The National Health and Medical Research Council reviewed their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research ethics guidelines in June 2017. The Lowitja Institute provided a submission to inform this Review and suggested both high-level and process-level improvements to promote awareness and measure the effectiveness of the two guidelines to ensure they are used adequately. The submission partly draws on a past evaluation that was undertaken in 2013 by the Lowitja Institute in partnership with the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS). The evaluation reviewed previous versions of the NHMRC's ethics guidelines.
- The Lowitja Institute made a submission to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights Inquiry into Freedom of Speech in Australia on 19 December 2016. The Institute outlines how evidence shows that racism is a fact of life for many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and also that racism and ill health are linked. Through drawing on research that was funded by the Institute, the submission maintains that allowing people to 'offend, insult, humiliate or intimidate another person or a group of people' on the basis of race, can potentially cause harm and thus widen the health gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians. The Lowitja Institute CEO, Mr Romlie Mokak, was also invited to give evidence in person to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights in Canberra on 31 January 2017.
- In April 2017, the Lowitja Institute provided the Royal Commission into the Detention of Children in the Northern Territory with a submission to inform improvements to the child protection system and the youth justice system. The submission highlights the urgent need to reduce the detention and incarceration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the justice system and outline recommendations to support the Royal Commission's consideration of alternatives to the incarceration of young people and how systems can be improved. The submission outlines three critical factors to achieve improvements: (1) Drive any future changes through new targets set in national policy, (2) investigate all stages of the justice system particularly early intervention and diversion, and (3) engage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, organisations, and researchers with expertise and experience with the social and cultural determinants of health and wellbeing.
- The Lowitja Institute submission to the Medical Research Futures Fund (MRFF) in July 2016 recommended a number of key areas in which MRFF investment could make a valuable contribution to the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples:
 - Scope of research — Recommended that the MRFF should acknowledge health equity, and the role of prevention and early intervention in improving health for all people, when setting priorities and strategies for funding research
 - Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health leaders: Recommended genuine partnership and engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, through the NHLF, in the governance of the MRFF

- Research training — Recommended identifying a long-term commitment and investment in capacity building for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research workforce.

Seminars and workshops

- On 12 and 13 December 2016, in Canberra, the High Commissioner for Canada and the Lowitja Institute CEO chaired a Canada–Australia Roundtable on Indigenous Health and Wellness Roundtable convened by the High Commission, the Institute and the Australian National University. The aim of the roundtable was to bring together experts and community health representatives from Canada and Australia to discuss, examine and compare health policies and services for Indigenous peoples in both countries. Some of the common themes include negative experiences of colonisation and cultural disruption, poor health and wellbeing over many generations, a powerful desire for self-determination, and the need for cultural differences around health and wellbeing to be understood and applied at the community, family and individual levels. For more information about this collaboration see page 23.

- On 29 March 2017, the Lowitja Institute hosted a briefing by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and individuals for the United Nations Special Rapporteur Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Ms Victoria Tauli-Corpuz. With 10 participating representatives, the discussions focused on the need for Australian governments to have a new and different way of working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. To do this, the Lowitja Institute discussed the need for efforts that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and knowledges, address and eliminate racism, and are underpinned by a rebalancing of power toward Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander institutions and communities.

The Lowitja Institute also accepted the Special Rapporteur's invitation to provide additional follow-up information and proposed recommendations for the Final Report. This additional input included a call for government to invest in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and infrastructure, and a description of global networks that can be bring together Indigenous health experts, academics and policymakers to effect positive outcomes for First Peoples.

- The Lowitja Institute convened the Valuing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Young Men workshop to share knowledge on the strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young men and the supporting role they play, aspire to play, in their relationships, families and communities. Held 30–31 March 2017, the meeting commenced the design of research questions and innovative activities to increase understanding of what enables Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young men to be the best they can be. An Advisory Group was established at the workshop to support further development of research questions and activities. The Advisory Group has met twice since the workshop to finalise proposed research questions and support the development of a collaborative project for project partners.

Knowledge Exchange Plans

We have updated our Knowledge Exchange Plan to guide funded projects through knowledge exchange and research translation. In May, we provided an information session to a planning workshop for one our funded research projects, and received positive feedback on the importance of this early advice. In responding to this feedback, we have designed Knowledge Exchange information sessions for broader implementation across all future funded projects.

The Lowitja Institute International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference 2016

In November 2016, the Lowitja Institute conducted its first International conference, in Melbourne: The Lowitja Institute International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference.

The aim of the conference was to celebrate, share and strengthen Indigenous knowledges and bring together Indigenous people from around Australia and the world.

The Conference themes—Identity, Knowledge, Strength—provided the opportunity for delegates to:

- celebrate Indigenous knowledges in a safe and strong cultural space
- share wisdom and stories, and learn from Elders and each other
- learn about the best science, practices and solutions
- participate in exploratory and difficult conversations and leave the conference with new perspectives and expanded methodologies
- connect and enrich engagement with colleagues and peers
- build and enhance opportunities for partnerships across research, policy and community
- craft a strong statement to inform action and influence national and international Indigenous health and wellbeing agendas
- enjoy a rich and varied art, performance and social program
- leave the conference inspired and energised by our identity, knowledge and strength to drive individual and collective work that benefits Indigenous peoples.

More than 700 people registered for a range of Conference events. These delegates came from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, India, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Nepal, Norway, the Phillipines and the United States of America.

The conference had a strong keynote speaker agenda, including:

- The Hon Ken Wyatt, Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care who opened the Conference.
- Lowitja Institute patron, Dr Lowitja O’Donoghue AC CBE DSG
- Professor Megan Davis, Professor of Law at the University of New South Wales, and immediate past Chair and current expert member of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- Moana Jackson, Ngati Kahungunu/Ngati Porou and a lawyer working in New Zealand on Treaty/constitutional issues and international Indigenous rights
- Chief Wilton Littlechild, Commissioner with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada,
- Professor Karina Walters, William P. and Ruth Gerberding Endowed Professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Washington, an enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
- Ms Gunn Heatta, a Sami woman from northern Norway, Director of the only Sami mental health and drug and alcohol service in the country
- Professor Marcia Langton, Chair of Indigenous Studies at the University of Melbourne

The conference offered a comprehensive concurrent workshop program across the three days and a rich Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural program. Of a total of 143 presenters, 72 per cent were Indigenous. The conference also released a Conference Statement, disseminated widely nationally and internationally.

For more information about the conference, see <http://lowitjaconf2016.org.au>.

Aboriginal Adult Literacy Program

The Lowitja Institute is continuing to support the Aboriginal Adult Literacy Program run by the Literacy For Life Foundation through in-kind activities, including the Lowitja Institute Chair being a member of the Foundation Board and as partner to an ARC grant.

Centre of Excellence Collaborations

The Lowitja Institute has partnered with two successful National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Centre of Research Excellence applications, aligning well with two of our programs: Social Determinants of Health, and Policy, and Systems Research.

- Centre of Research Excellence on Social Determinants of Health Equity: Policy research on the social determinants of health equity (Fran Baum CIA, Flinders University)
- Centre of Research Excellence for Integrated Quality Improvement (CRE-IQI).

Speeches and seminars

- A Question of Value: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, delivered by Mr Romlie Mokak, CEO of the Lowitja Institute, as the 2016 Medicine and Society Oration for the Cranlana Programme, Melbourne, 10 August 2016
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Futures: More Than Closing The Gap, delivered by Mr Romlie Mokak, CEO of the Lowitja Institute, to the NIDAC 4th National Indigenous Drug & Alcohol Conference, Adelaide, 13 October 2016
- The Lowitja Institute International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference 2016, delivered by Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue AC CBE DSG, Patron of the Lowitja Institute, to the Lowitja Institute International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference, Melbourne, 8 November 2016
- How are you contributing to the targets? Finding your place in the (NATSHP) Implementation Plan, delivered by Mr Romlie Mokak, CEO of the Lowitja Institute, to the 2016 IAHA National Forum, Canberra, 1 December 2016
- Opening remarks and contribution to panel discussions, Mr Romlie Mokak, CEO of the Lowitja Institute, to the Canada - Australia RoundTable on Indigenous Health and Wellness, Canberra, 11 – 13 December 2016
- Things have got to change, delivered by Ms Pat Anderson AO, Chair of the Lowitja Institute, to the AIATSIS National Indigenous Research Conference 2017, 21 March 2017.

Apunipima Christmas campaign

This year is the first time we have trialled a Christmas Fundraising campaign in support of one of our partner organisations Apunipima. The campaign was targeted to be practical and supported the baby basket program.

4. Results

4.1 Commercialisation

- Lit.search is an online search tool that facilitates searches in PubMed for literature on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health. This continues to be a particularly popular resource with some 10,400 users during the reporting period; this represents a significant, more than quadruple increase in usage (from 2,200 in the last period). Lit.search users can choose to look at all literature or one of 27 predetermined topics, and can refine each choice with keywords, publications dates, and a full text or citation option. PubMed is a global database that with more than 24 million citations for biomedical literature from MEDLINE, life science journals, and online books. Lit.search is available at www.lowitja.org.au/litsearch.
- Lowitja Institute CRC website content is a popular resource for numerous audiences with some 22,400 downloads of research and other material, an increase of 26 per cent. Some older publications continue to be particularly popular in tertiary courses, such as the *Beyond Band-aids: Exploring the Underlying Social Determinants of Aboriginal Health* webpage, which received some 3,800 visits during the reporting period.

4.2 Intellectual property management

The Lowitja Institute CRC maintains the same intellectual property (IP) management principles as in our previous CRCs. We disseminate and promote knowledge and outputs of our research as widely as possible. Any IP the Lowitja Institute holds is usually in the form of publications that are produced by the Lowitja Institute from the research activities undertaken by the CRC. Of prime importance to the Lowitja Institute is the recognition and protection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander IP generated through our research activities.

Our Research Funding Activity Agreements have identified IP schedules that will be negotiated at the time of entering into the funding agreement so that all parties are aware of the IP management arrangements before any research commences. The schedule will ensure that there is adherence to the National Principles of IP Management for publicly funded research.

The documents underlying our IP principles are: the *Lowitja Institute Intellectual Property Policy* and the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Knowledge and Cultural Protocols Policy*, both written in 2011.

As at the report date, the Lowitja Institute does not hold any patents and has not applied for any patents both within Australia or internationally. This reflects our decision to give end-users access to our research outputs at little or no cost.

4.3 Communications

Unlike the 2015–16 reporting period when 11 project reports were published, one was released by Lowitja Publishing for the current reporting period reflecting the completion of CRCATSIH residual projects. In addition, we produced multiple promotional and ancillary materials supporting the work of the Lowitja Institute CRC and its knowledge translation activities.

The reduction of the number of printed publications and mass distributions has been a priority. Hardcopy distributions—targeted to key audiences— have been reduced by 50% from the last reporting period to some 500 copies. Downloads from our website have increased 26 per cent to some 22,400 items. Website use in general grew 25 per cent during the reporting period, with approximately 78,700 unique visitors and 229,300 page-views.

Lowitja Institute CRC publications are also available through the Australian Indigenous Health/InfoNet, Australian Policy Online, RMIT Publishing Informit Collections, the EBSCOhost international bibliographic database and through the National Library of Australia, the State Library of Victoria and the library of the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies.

We have also made a concerted effort to produce more video and audio material for wider dissemination of our activities, including 25 videos for our November 2016 international conference (see page 12) highlighting keynote speakers and daily summaries. In this reporting period, our videos on the Vimeo platform have been viewed 8,389 times and 2,952 times on YouTube.

For promotion of the conference, we signed up more than 2000 subscribers to our Conference Update email list and the Conference website received some 23,000 individual visitors. Prior to the conference we undertook a targeted social media (Twitter) campaign with the goal of increasing abstract submissions and registrations. Early in the event, the conference trended No. 1 in the country and generated some 50 million Twitter impressions over the three days.

Also for the conference, we developed new branding and a suite of materials with the assistance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander creative agency, Carbon Media.

We published 21 editions of the fortnightly eBulletin. In late June 2017, subscribers numbered some 3180, about 27 per cent higher than the year before. The eBulletin includes publications, events, jobs, conferences, scholarships and resources that focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and the social determinants of health, the areas of interest to our readers. We receive, and welcome, contributions from all our Participants. We also receive a low but steady flow of requests from non-Participant organisations to promote their content through our networks.

The stakeholder database is now 6700 names strong, a growth of 27 per cent over the last reporting period. Careful segmentation makes this a very important communications resource for the Lowitja Institute CRC not only for promotional/marketing purposes, but to identify and bring together specific interest groups, or segments, around activities such as workshops, roundtables and seminars.

Our principal social media communications channel is Twitter, which grew by 25 per cent to approximately 6900 followers. All our activities are promoted through Twitter and we participate in appropriate social media activity by our partners. Twitter has proved to be an invaluable communication channel for the Lowitja Institute CRC as it has helped us connect more effectively with our key audiences principally Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous researchers and organisations. We are also followed by people and organisations working in policy development.

Social media/Twitter has been particularly useful in the promotion of our conference. Targetted 'tweets' contributed significantly to drawing attention to the call for abstracts; we received some 320 submissions from a target of 120. Similarly, it enabled us to reach

audiences from northern Russia to rural Peru, and throughout Australia, and assisted the representation of 15 countries in the conference registrations.

We continue to enjoy a Google Ads grant that currently gives us US\$10,000 per month advertising value for the promotion of our activities.

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17
Website unique visitors	49,087	58,980	78,678
Website page-views	200,920	202,000	229,287
Google ads impact	N.A.	N.A.	20% of website sessions
Downloads of resources	13,565	16,500	22,398
Lit.Search (page-views)	2941	2263	10,400
Ethicshub (page-views)	1133	1022	2828
Twitter followers	4,228	Approx. 5,500	Approx. 6,900
eBulletin subscribers	2,280	2,500	3,083
Kindle	N.A.	6 publications	N.A.
Stakeholder database	4800	5300 approx.	6669 approx

Key Media

- Multiple media interviews were held around the November 2016 conference, featuring Ms Gunn Heatta, Professor Karina Walters, Chief Wilton Littlechild and Mr Romlie Mokak, including with ABC radio and television, Koori Mail, National Indigenous Times, CAAMA Radio, and Radio Larrakia.
- **A conversation with Romlie Mokak and the MJA news and online editor Cate Swannell available on [YouTube](#) and [podcast](#)**
- Indigenous prison rate soared 52% in decade, report reveals, by Melissa Davey, *The Guardian*, 24 August 2016
- **Cranlana Oration -**
<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bigideas/cranlana-programme-medicine-and-society/7872226>
- 31 March – RN Life Matters - [Addressing racism in Australia's health system](#)

Policy Statements:

- Royal Commission into Northern Territory juvenile detention Statement by the Lowitja Institute, 28 July 2016

Submissions:

- Submission to the Royal Commission into the Detention of Children in the Northern Territory, 24 March 2017
- Freedom of speech in Australia – Inquiry into the operation of Part IIA of the Racial Discrimination Act 1975 (Cth) and related procedures under the Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986 (Cth), Parliament of Australia 2017
- The Lowitja Institute submission to the Joint Committee
- CEO Mr Romlie Mokak evidence to Joint Committee on 31 January 2017
- Public Call – Research Priorities in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health – 5 September 2016
- Structural Review of NHMRC’s Grant Program – 5 September 2016
- Medical Research Future Fund – 15 July 2016.

5. Resources

5.1 Governance – Board, committees and key staff

The Lowitja Institute Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health CRC is hosted by its managing agent, the National Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research Limited, a company limited by guarantee and trading as the Lowitja Institute. The Institute is endorsed as a tax-exempt charity and public benevolent institution by the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission. There has been no change in operating structure during the reporting period. Company membership remained at twelve; see Table 1 below.

Table 1 – The Lowitja Institute Membership

Member Name	Date Joined
Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies	10/08/2009
Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc.	10/08/2009
Danila Dilba Health Service	10/08/2009
Flinders University	10/08/2009
Menzies School of Health Research	10/08/2009
QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute	10/08/2009
The University of Melbourne	10/08/2009
Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association Ltd.	26/06/2014
Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives	02/10/2014
Healing Foundation	28/11/2014
Indigenous Allied Health Australia	21/05/2015
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker Association	21/05/2015

5.1.1 The Lowitja Institute Board

The Lowitja Institute is governed by a skills based and representative Board of Directors. The Board is chaired by Ms Pat Anderson AO, an Alyawarre woman who is known nationally and internationally as a powerful advocate for the health of Australia's First Peoples. Ms Anderson has extensive experience in Aboriginal health, including community development, advocacy, policy formation and research ethics. In June 2014, Ms Anderson was appointed Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for distinguished service to the Indigenous community as a social justice advocate, particularly through promoting improved health, educational and protection outcomes for children. Ms Anderson completed her term as Co-Chair of the Prime Minister's Referendum Council on 30 June 2017. During the reporting period, Ms Anderson was awarded the Human Rights Medal 2016 by the Australian Human Rights Commission and Ethic Cowan Edith Cowan University conferred on her a Doctor of Medical Science *honoris causa*.

During the reporting period, other Institute directors included:

- Professor Greg Anderson, the head of the Iron Metabolism Laboratory who until recently served as Deputy Director of the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute (2012–16) (retired December 2016 Board Meeting)
- Professor Peter Buckskin PSM, a Narungga man from the Yorke Peninsula and the Dean: Aboriginal Engagement and Strategic Projects at the University of South Australia
- Mr Selwyn Button, a Gungarri man from south-west Queensland and the Assistant Director-General (Indigenous Education), Department of Education, Training and Employment, Queensland
- Mr Brendon Douglas, the Director of Research and Innovation at Charles Darwin University and an Executive Council member of the International Development Contractors Group
- Mr Ali Drummond, a qualified nurse of Torres Strait Islander descent and a Lecturer in the School of Nursing, Queensland University of Technology
- Dr Tamara Mackean, a descendant of the Waljen Peoples of Western Australia and a Senior Research Fellow Indigenous Health at the Southgate Institute for Health, Society and Equity, Flinders University
- Mr Russell Taylor AM, a Kamilaroi man with family connections to La Perouse in Sydney and Principal of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (retired December 2016 Board meeting)
- Ms June Oscar AO, a Bunuba woman from Fitzroy Crossing and Chief Executive Officer of Marninwarntikura Women’s Resource Centre
- Professor Fiona Stanley AC, Founding Director and Patron of the Telethon Kids Institute (formerly Telethon Institute for Child Health Research), Distinguished Research Professor at the University of Western Australia and Vice-Chancellor’s Fellow
- Ms Robynne Quiggin, Deputy Commissioner Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission, (resigned September 2016 Board Meeting)

At the Annual General Meeting in December 2016, the Financial accounts and reports were presented. At the close of the meeting it was noted that current Directors, Russell Taylor, Greg Anderson and Robynne Quiggin would step down from the Board.

Key objectives of the Lowitja Institute Board successfully completed during the reporting period included:

- the development of a Business Plan
- implementation of the research agenda for the Lowitja Institute CRC.

Table 2 – The Lowitja Institute Board of Directors

Name	Role and Term	Key Skills	Independent/ Organisation	Meeting attendance
Ms Pat Anderson	Chair from October 2010	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, corporate governance, sectoral experience (community)	Independent	4/4
Professor Greg Anderson	Director from November 2013	Research and development/ technology transfer, education/capacity development	QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute	1/2
Professor Peter Buckskin PSM	Director from October 2010	Education/capacity development, corporate governance, research and development, sectoral experience	Independent	2/2
Mr Selwyn Button	Director from July 2013	Education/capacity development, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health	Independent	4/4
Mr Brendon Douglas	Director from December 2014	Finance, public/private investment, business development/legal/marketing	Charles Darwin University	4/4
Mr Ali Drummond	Director from November 2012	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health	Queensland University of Technology	3/4
Dr Tamara Mackean	Director from December 2015	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health	Flinders University	4/4
Ms June Oscar AO	Director from May 2016	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child health	Independent	2/4
Professor Fiona Stanley AC	Director from May 2016	Maternal and child health, epidemiology and public health	Independent	1/4
Ms Robynne Quiggin	Director from May 2016	Legal/human rights law	Independent	1/2
Mr Russell Taylor AM	Director from November 2013	Public/private investment, sectoral experience and business development/ legal/marketing	Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies	2/2

Table 3 – Lowitja Institute Board of Directors meeting dates

Lowitja Institute Board of Directors Meeting Dates	Venue
22 September 2016	Canberra
8 December 2016	Melbourne
16 March 2017	Melbourne
8 June 2016	Townsville

5.1.2 Committees

Finance and Audit Committee

The Finance and Audit Committee met three times during the 2016–17 financial year.

There are five members—three independents and two Directors:

- Ms Thelma Hutchinson (Independent member)
- Mr Dennis Clark (Independent member)
- Ms Kerry Bodle (Independent member)
- Mr Selwyn Button, Director
- Mr Russell Taylor, Director (Retired December 2016)
- Mr Brendon Douglas, Director.

The role of the Finance and Audit Committee is to advise the Board by reviewing:

- financial information that will be provided to the CRC Program, Essential Participants, Advisory Board or the public
- strategic financial plans, operating and capital budgets
- audit activities
- the system of internal controls, risk management and information
- investment management activities
- insurance coverage of significant risks and uncertainties.

Table 4 – Finance and Audit Committee membership

Name	Role and Term	Meeting Attendance
Mr Russell Taylor	Chair – retired December 2016	2/2
Mr Selwyn Button	Member	3/4
Mr Brendon Douglas	Member – joined March 2017	1/2
Ms Thelma Hutchinson	Independent Member	2/4
Mr Dennis Clarke	Independent Member	2/3
Dr Kerry Bodle	Independent Member	1/3

Table 5 – Finance and Audit Committee meetings

Meeting Dates	Venue
13 September 2016	Teleconference
29 November 2016	Teleconference
7 March 2017	Teleconference
30 May 2017	Teleconference

5.1.3 Key Staff

Table 6 – Key Staff

Name	Lowitja Institute CRC	Time Committed
Romlie Mokak	Chief Executive Officer	100%
Catherine Richards	Director, Corporate Services	100%
Mark Glazebrook (Dr)	Director, Innovation and Business Development	100%
Jill Guthrie (Dr)	Director, Research and Knowledge Translation	July 2016–February 2017
Mary Guthrie	Knowledge Translation Manager	Until February 2017
Leila Smith	Knowledge Translation Manager	Appointed March 2017
Cristina Lochert	Communications Manager	100%

Table 7 – Research Program Committees

Name	Lowitja Institute CRC Program	Organisation
Professor Kerry Arabena, Chair	Social Determinants of Health	The University of Melbourne
Dr Ray Lovett	Social Determinants of Health	Australian National University
Dr Roxanne Bainbridge	Social Determinants of Health	James Cook University
Ms Suzanne Ingram	Social Determinants of Health	The George Institute for Global Health
Ms Vanessa Harris	Social Determinants of Health	Northern Territory Mental Health Coalition
Professor Adrian Miller	Social Determinants of Health	Griffith University
Professor Cindy Shannon, Chair	Health Workforce	The University of Queensland
Associate Professor Marion Kickett	Health Workforce	Curtin University
Dr Michael Wright	Health Workforce	Curtin University
Mr Scott Avery	Health Workforce	First People Disability Network
Ms Janine Mohamed	Health Workforce	Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives
Professor Roianne West	Health Workforce	Griffith University
Dr Mark Wenitong, Chair	Policy and Systems	Apunipima Cape York Health Council
Associate Professor Ted Wilkes	Policy and Systems	Curtin University
Dr Jill Guthrie	Policy and Systems	Australian National University
Dr Kim O'Donnell	Policy and Systems	Flinders University
Ms Donisha Duff	Policy and Systems	Kidney Health Australia (until December 2016)

5.2 Participants

In the third year of the Lowitja Institute CRC, there were nine Essential Participants and 13 Other Participants. All participants have been approved by the CRC Programme.

Two Participant forums were held to discuss the current work, future activities, and issues of governance and funding: on 7 November 2016 in Adelaide and on 21 June 2017 in Melbourne.

Table 8 – The Lowitja Institute CRC Participants

Participant's name	Participant type	ABN	Organisation type
Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia	Other	89 287 854 542	Industry
Aboriginal Medical Alliance of the Northern Territory (AMSANT)	Other	26 263 401 676	Industry
Australian Government Department of Health	Other	97 643 356 590	Australian Government
Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS)	Essential	62 020 533 641	Industry
Australian National University	Other	52 234 063 906	University
Central Australian Aboriginal Congress	Essential	76 210 591 710	Industry
Central Queensland University	Other	39 181 103 288	University
Charles Darwin University	Other	54 093 513 649	University
Curtin University	Other	99 143 842 569	University
Edith Cowan University	Essential	54 361 485 361	University
Flinders University	Essential	65 542 596 200	University
WA Department of Health	Other	28 684 750 332	Western Australia Government
Griffith University	Other	78 106 094 461	University
La Trobe University	Other	64 804 735 113	University
James Cook University	Essential	46 253 211 955	University
Menzies School of Health Research	Essential	70 413 542 847	University
Queensland University of Technology	Other	83 791 724 622	University
QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute	Essential	31 411 813 344	University
The George Institute for Global Health	Other	90 085 953 331	University
The University of Melbourne	Essential	84 002 705 224	University
The University of New South Wales	Essential	57 195 873 179	University
The University of Queensland	Other	63 942 912 684	University

5.3 Collaboration

The Lowitja Institute worked in partnership with the NHMRC to plan a Research Translation Symposium. The Symposium will be held in November 2017, and is titled NHMRC-Lowitja Institute Symposium 2017: The Butterfly Effect: Translating Knowledge into Action for Positive Change. A scientific committee was established comprising 18 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers and representatives from the Lowitja Institute and the NHMRC. The two-day program attracted over 220 abstracts from Australia and abroad, reflecting the strong interest in sharing knowledge about effective research processes and outcomes in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing.

The Canada – Australia Indigenous Health and Wellness Working Group was established to progress initiatives from the Canada-Australia Roundtable on Indigenous Health and Wellness held in Canberra 11–13 December 2016 (see page 11 for more information about the roundtable). The Lowitja Institute is the Australian lead and secretariat for the collaboration. The aim of the Working Group is to identify priorities related to Indigenous health and wellbeing for bi-national collaboration and action. This includes addressing racism and power imbalances, and further supporting Indigenous people to utilise their skills to create change. The Working Group will do this by developing mechanisms for sharing knowledge and strengthening impact, guiding the development of specific initiatives, including project stewardship and committing to the evaluation of the Collaboration.

The **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Justice Partnership** was formed in April 2017 to undertake research and advocacy efforts across both the health and legal sectors to address health system racism and discrimination. The partnership comprises of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander legal, health and wellbeing organisations, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers, and non-Indigenous legal networks. The Lowitja Institute is a member of the executive of this partnership and is leading and research initiatives to support the workplan of the partnership.

Cranlana Programme

The Lowitja Institute CRC and the Cranlana Programme collaborated in the establishment of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research Leadership and Excellence Award. The Award is a fully funded position in the [Cranlana Programme's Executive Colloquium](#), which is a unique development course for senior leaders from across the public, private and community sectors. The award recognises senior, established Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander researchers who have made a significant contribution to their academic field. The 2016 winner of this award was Professor Gail Garvey, Deputy Division Leader, Wellbeing and Preventable Chronic Diseases division, Menzies School of Health Research.

Professional Certificate in Indigenous Research

This course is offered by the University of Melbourne, a Lowitja Institute CRC Essential Participant. It is an interdisciplinary coursework program that explores research and develops research skills from an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspective. Lowitja Institute CRC staff contribute a specialist writing and editing workshop to the program.

5.4 Financial management

In 2016/17 the Institute reported a surplus of \$120,523. Total income of \$4.7m includes Commonwealth Government funding of \$4m, external consultancies of \$371,039 and CRC Participant contributions of \$220,000, received for the purpose of conducting the activities of the Lowitja Institute CRC. Expenditure totalled \$4.6m. This was the third year of operation for the Lowitja Institute CRC and there were no extraordinary events which impacted on delivering the principle activities of the Institute.

Please see also National Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research Limited, ACN 138 780 695, Annual report for the financial year ended 30 June 2017.

6. Additional Requirements

A Transition plan was completed in July 2016 where it was stated that the main objective of the Lowitja's Institute business plan was that it must transfer from the CRC business model to become an independent and robust organisation.

The Lowitja Institute's proposed approach is to deliver public value through leading new business ventures, leveraging our research legitimacy and cultural authority, and by drawing on our current organisational capabilities.



Lowitja Insight[®] will provide evidence and insight that supports better decision-making, for better health and wellbeing outcomes. This will include a Lowitja Congress, *Translating Knowledge into Action* forums, policy papers and tailored research activities, and *Resilas*, an online tool to help design research in a way that prioritises benefits for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.



Lowitja Standards[®] will ensure consistency and quality in the way that health and wellbeing services are delivered to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This will be achieved through the development of good practice standard as defined by evidence, and the expertise and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. These will be applicable across the health and wellbeing sector with utility across other related sectors.



Lowitja Consulting[®] will be a professional consultancy service drawing on the expertise of our extensive member and partner base. This service will provide tailored research and advice to policymakers, the private sector, and member-based organisations. This advice will be timely, relevant and support policy development evaluation, organisational change, ethical practices and service delivery.



Lowitja Ventures[®] will provide alignment of principles and product where the health and wellbeing industry provides the product or service, such as bio-medical or data mining technologies, and the Institute shapes the cultural appropriateness of 'how' it is offered. The Institute, for example, recently partnered with *The Lancet* Medical Journal to produce ground-breaking international research into the health and wellbeing of indigenous peoples.

A comprehensive Business case has been developed which is presently being presented to various stakeholders to provide support in providing resources to transition from the CRC to a viable business entity.

Over the next year the Institute will concentrate on completing all the remaining outputs for the current CRC and will develop a comprehensive Wind-Up Plan to transition to the new business model.

8. Glossary of terms

AIATSIS	Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies
AMSANT	Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance of the NT
CRE-IQI	CRE for Integrated Quality Improvement
CRCATSIH	Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
FU	Flinders University
GIGH	The George Institute for Global Health
IP	Intellectual Property
Lowitja Institute CRC	Lowitja Institute Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health CRC
La Trobe	La Trobe University
NATSIHP	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
UNSW	University of New South Wales
UoM	The University of Melbourne
UQ	The University of Queensland

Appendix 1: Lowitja Institute Scholarship Students

Name	Level	Project Title	Program	Institute	Start Date	Expected Finish Date
Margaret Harvey	PhD	Researching my island home – Navigating through the intersection of research and culture in the creation of live performance	1	AIATSIS	March 2014	March 2018
Emily Munro-Harrison	PhD	Urban Invisibility: Identities of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in urban Victoria	1	UoM	January 2016	July 2018
Alister Thorpe	PhD	Engage–Exchange–Change: Strengthening Indigenous health research engagement, action, translation and impact	1	UoM	June 2016	Sept 2019
Vicki Couzens	PhD	<i>Koorramook Yakeeneeyt</i> (Possum Dreaming): Cloaks, cultural traditions and wellbeing in Aboriginal communities	1	AIATSIS	January 2016	January 2018
Mathew West	PhD	Development of a targeted foot complications screening and intervention program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	3	La Trobe	June 2016	June 2018
Suzanne Ingram	PhD	Communication needs of Indigenous people whose first language is English for culturally competent chronic disease health care	2	GIGH	November 2014	June 17
Tara Lewis	Masters	Culturally responsive methodology for the communication assessment of Australian Aboriginal children	1	UQ	January 2015	April 2018
Robert Monaghan	Masters	The role of management in improving sexual health service delivery in Aboriginal community controlled health services	1	UNSW	January 2015	January 2018
Nicky Flynn	PhD	(De)constructing Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: The Aboriginal standpoint	3	FU	February 2015	March 2018
Scott Avery	PhD	A critical analysis of disability in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities	1	UNSW	November 2014	August 2017

Appendix 2 – Publications list

Publications and reports for end-users

Published by the Lowitja Institute

K. Silburn, H. Reich & I. Anderson (eds), 2016, *A Global Snapshot of Indigenous and Tribal People's Health: The Lancet–Lowitja Institute Collaboration*, The Lowitja Institute, Melbourne.

21 eBulletins

Journal Articles 2016–17

Kinchin, I., Doran, C. M., McCalman, J., Jacups, S., Tsey, K., Lines, K., Smith, K. & Searles, A. 2017, *Delivering an empowerment intervention to a remote Indigenous child safety workforce: its economic cost from an agency perspective*. *Evaluation and Program Planning*, vol. 64, pp. 85–9.

Onnis, L., Baird, L. & Brown, C. *Exploring how Indigenous entrepreneurship drives the development of Social and Emotional Wellbeing Innovation Hubs: A sustainable Indigenous-led enterprise*. This manuscript has been submitted to *Journal of Organisational Management* (currently under review).

Mokak, R. 2016, The health of Indigenous and tribal peoples across the world: The Lancet–Lowitja Institute Global Collaboration, *Medical Journal of Australia*, vol. 205, no. 1, p. 6.

Appendix 3: Collaborators in Lowitja Institute CRC activities

Organisation	Type of interaction / activity
Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia	Participant, Research Partner
Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance of the NT	Participant, Research Partner
Abstarr Consulting	Systemic Racism Workshop
Act for Kids	Research partner
Apunipima Cape York Health Council	Research partner
Australian Government Department of Health	Participant
Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS)	Essential participant Research partner
Australian Government Department of Health	Participant
Australian Indigenous HealthInfonet	Research Partner
Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association	Conference Scientific Committee
Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies	Essential Participant
Australian National University	Research Program Committee, Participant, research partner
Australian Nurse Partnership Program Support Service	Research partner
Batchelor College	Research partner
Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Aboriginal Corporation	Essential Participant
Central Coast Local Health Service	Research partner
Central Queensland University	Participant
Charles Darwin University	Participant, research partner
CIHR Institute of Aboriginal Peoples' Health	Conference Scientific Committee
City of Melbourne	Conference Organising Committee
Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives	Conference Scientific Committee, Research Program Committee
Cranlana Programme	Research leadership award
Culture is Life	Conference Organising Committee
Curtin University	Participant, Research Program Committee
Deakin University	Research partner
Edith Cowan University	Essential Participant, co-funded scholarship
Education Queensland Transition Support Services	Research partner
Epic Good Foundation Manager	Conference Cultural Committee
First Peoples Disability Network	Research Program Committee
Flinders University	Essential Participant, research partner, Research Program Committee
Genetic Health Queensland	Research partner
Genetic Services of Western Australia	Research partner
Goulburn Murray Empowered Communities	Research Partner
Government of Western Australia Department of Health	Participant, research partner
Griffith University	Participant, research partner, co-funded scholarship, Research Program Committee

Gurriny Yealamucka Health Services Aboriginal Corporation	Research partner
Healing Foundation	Conference Organising Committee
Indigenous Allied Health Australia	Conference Organising Committee
James Cook University	Essential Participant, research partner, Research Program Committee
Kidney Health Australia	Research Program Committee
La Trobe University	Participant, co-funded scholarship, research partner
Literacy for Life Foundation	Research partner
Machado Joseph Disease Foundation	Research partner
Menzies School of Health Research	Essential Participant, research partner
National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation	CEO ex officio Board representation
National Flexible Learning Services Youth & National Network	Research partner
NT Department of Health	Research partner
Nunyara Aboriginal Medical Service	Research partner
Office of Population Health Genomics, Dept of Health WA	Research partner
Office of the Chief Psychiatrist SA	Research partner
QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute	Essential Participant
Queensland Health	Participant
Queensland University of Technology	Participant, research partner, co-funded scholarship
Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC)	Research partner
Simon Fraser University, BC Canada	Conference Organising Committee
Southgate Institute for Health Society & Equity	Research partner
Sunrise Health Service	Research partner
The George Institute of Global Health	Participant, co-funded scholarship, Research Program Committee
The University of Auckland	Conference Organising Committee
University of Hawai'i	Conference Scientific Committee
The University of Melbourne	Essential Participant, research partner, Research Program Committee, co-funded scholarship, Conference Organising & Scientific Committees
The University of New South Wales	Essential Participant
The University of Queensland	Other Participant, Research Program Committee
University of Adelaide	Research partner
Yarrabah	Research partner
Yalu Marnghithinyaraw Indigenous Corporation	Research partner
WA Health	Participant
University of Otago	Conference Scientific Committee
University of Queensland	Program Committee member
Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency	Conference Scientific and Cultural Committees
Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation	Systemic Racism Workshop CQI Tender Research Partner Conference Organising Committee
Women's and Children's Health Network	Research partner
Wontulp-Bi-Buya College	Research partner
Wurundjeri Council	Conference Cultural Committee