



Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care Inc.
www.snaicc.asn.au

Media Statement – For Immediate Release – 10 September 2007

The largest ever national conference on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families kicks off next week

The Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC) will hold the largest ever national conference on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in Adelaide next week from 19 to 21 September.

“Approximately 700 delegates from across the country will come together and put Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children at centre stage,” Ms Muriel Bamblett, AM, SNAICC Chairperson, said today. “This will be an exciting time of discussion, exchange and learning for all the representatives of children’s and family services attending the conference.”

An exciting line-up of international and Australian speakers will raise issues of pressing importance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their families.

Ms Bamblett said, “Key Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders in the areas of education, health, welfare, well being and rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, including **Dr Chris Sara, Dr Helen Milroy, Mr Tom Calma, and Ms Tania Major**, will present keynote speeches.”

“Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister **the Hon Mal Brough** and Federal Opposition Indigenous Affairs Spokesperson **Ms Jenny Macklin, MP** will address the delegates on the last day,” Ms Bamblett said.

“We are also pleased to welcome our international Indigenous guests from the United States and Canada to present keynote addresses at the conference. Mr Terry Cross and Ms Cindy Blackstock, who are leaders of national child and family welfare organisations in their respective countries, will be sharing with us how they have made great successes in improving Indigenous life expectancy and achieving improvements in child welfare and education outcomes for Indigenous children in their countries,” Ms Bamblett said.

“The Conference, under the theme ‘*Ngadluko Ngartunnaitya – For Our Children*’, is an opportunity for delegates to make renewed commitments to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children,” Ms Bamblett said.

Amongst those attending the conference will be delegates from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-run child and family welfare and early childhood services. Many will be travelling far from community-run services in remote areas of Western Australia, the Northern Territory, Queensland, and South Australia.

“SNAICC is proud to acknowledge our sponsors, the federal government Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, the Department of Education and

Children's Services and the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (SA), Department of Health and Community Services (NT), Office for Children, Department of Human Services (VIC), Department for Community Development (WA), Department of Health and Human Services (TAS), Department of Community Services (NSW), Office for Children, Department of Communities (QLD), and the SNAICC Resource Service (SRS). Their financial support makes this conference possible," Ms Bamblett said.

Keynote speakers and workshop presenters are available for media comment. Media representatives may attend the conference for free, but as asked to register as 'Media' with the attached registration form.

More information on SNAICC's National Conference is on our website:
www.snaicc.asn.au/news/NationalConference2007.html

SNAICC is the national peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their families. Our last National Conference was in 2003.

For Media Comment: Ms Muriel Bamblett, SNAICC Chairperson: 0407 802 026

For inquiries, Media registration and information: Mark Lawrence, SNAICC Publications Officer: 03 9489 8099 or mob: 0425 832 127



FOR OUR CHILDREN

SNAICC National Conference

Adelaide Convention Centre
19 – 21 September 2007



SNAICC

Secretariat of National
Aboriginal and Islander
Child Care Inc.

MEDIA REGISTRATION

All media representatives wishing to cover the SNAICC National Conference are requested to **register as 'Media'** in order to gain access to the conference and its venue.

Please complete this form and fax it to SNAICC (see contact details below).

Media Organisation:				
Please circle relevant choice:	Print	TV	Radio	Online
Name:				
Role: (Journalist, camera operator, photographer etc)				
Program:				
Telephone:				
Email:				
Address:				
State/Territory:		Postcode:		

'Media' Registrations to SNAICC's conference are free.

Registered media representatives may have access to all the Keynote speeches in the Plenary Hall. However, media representatives may not attend conference workshops.

Please note that some Conference speakers have expressly requested that they **NOT be filmed** while presenting. All media representatives must seek permission before filming or photographing Conference speakers and delegates.

Further information is available from the Conference Media Liaison, Mark Lawrence:

Mob: 0425 832 127

Tel: 03 9489 8099

Email: publications@snaicc.asn.au

Fax: 03 9489 8044