



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

**Media Release      Monday 3 August 2009      For immediate release**

**National Aboriginal and Islander Children's Day – Tuesday 4 August 2009**  
***Good Child Protection: we do it better together***

“Communities and organisations across the country are standing together for the safety, well-being and rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in celebrating **National Aboriginal and Islander Children's Day on Tuesday 4 August 2009**,” SNAICC Chairperson Steve Larkins said today.

Organised annually by the Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC), the theme for National Aboriginal and Islander Children's Day this year is ‘Good Child Protection: we do it better together’.

Mr Larkins said, “This year's theme and activities highlight how good child protection for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children occurs when families, communities, child and family services, education institutions, and government agencies work together.”

“Good child protection is also about parents and families providing good role models, safe and loving home environments, good daily nutrition, time for healthy play, and encouraging learning at home and school.”

“Too often we only hear about the protection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children when things go wrong. We also know what is working well in protecting our children. The day also celebrates what works.”

“As the federal government prepares the implementation of the COAG National Child Protection Framework, SNAICC looks forward to seeing strong government investment in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child and family services to increase our capacity to do what we do well,” Mr Larkins said.

“We also want to see concerted effort by federal, state and territory governments to work together to better protect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.”

SNAICC's Chairperson will launch National Aboriginal and Islander Children's Day at an Aboriginal early childhood service in Newcastle, NSW, on Tuesday.

**Awabakal Child Care, 5 Grey St, Wickham (Newcastle), NSW**  
**10.30 am Tuesday 4 August 2009**

**For media comment:** SNAICC Chairperson, **Steve Larkins – (03) 9489 8099**  
SNAICC Executive Officer, **Frank Hytten – (03) 9489 8099**  
Media inquiries: Mark Lawrence (03) 9489 8099

A list of events across the country and more information are at [www.snaicc.asn.au/children](http://www.snaicc.asn.au/children)

SNAICC is the national non-government peak body representing the rights and interested of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their families.