



SNAICC
National Voice for our Children
(Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation)
Level 7, Melbourne Polytechnic (Collingwood)
20 Otter Street
Collingwood VIC 3066

Media Advisory

3 September 2019

1200 gather to address Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children's rights and wellbeing

More than 1200 delegates including Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children's services, health and wellbeing workers from the government and non-government sectors are in Adelaide this week for the 8th SNAICC (pron: snake) National Conference.

"The 8th SNAICC National Conference is a chance for people from communities across the country to come together to share knowledge about what is best for our children," says Adjunct Professor Muriel Bamblett, SNAICC Chair.

"Our work differs in each state and territory. Each community faces unique challenges with its own solutions. This is why the conference plays an important role bringing people together to strengthen cultural knowledge and connections. It's a space to yarn about what's working and what's not working," says Ms Bamblett.

The conference showcases knowledge, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from across Australia and gives delegates the chance to hear from leading national and international child rights and development experts.

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous peoples draws from her experiences in the Philippines to discuss the challenges Indigenous peoples face and how it translates to the Australian Indigenous context.

Dr Moana Eruera, Ministry for Children, New Zealand, brings her knowledge of NZ child protection policies working towards closing the gap between Māori and non-Māori children.

Delegates will also hear from

- Natalie Lewis, Family Matters campaign Co-Chair and CEO of QATSICPP
- June Oscar, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner
- Richard Weston, Former CEO, The Healing Foundation; Co-Chair, Family Matters campaign

The expertise of local South Australian representatives includes

- Professor Fiona Arney, Australian Centre for Child Protection, SA
- April Lawrie, Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People, SA

- Cathy Taylor, Chief Executive, Department for Child Protection, SA

Tuesday 3 September, Adelaide Convention Centre 10am vision overlay followed by interview opportunities

Conference highlights www.snaicc.org.au/conference/program,
www.snaicc.org.au/conference

Mark Jeffery, media manager, 0419 732 583

The 8th SNAICC National Conference is being held on the land of the Kaurna people, *Tarntanya* (red kangaroo place) at the Adelaide Convention Centre, and its theme is *Growing Up with Strong Identity, Culture and Connection*.

SNAICC – National Voice for our Children is the national non-government peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. SNAICC works for the fulfilment of the rights of our children, in particular to ensure their safety, development and wellbeing.

Founded in 1981, SNAICC was established to engage to promote and accommodate a strong voice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their families. Over the past 30 years SNAICC's has achieved key milestones in policy developments at state, territory and federal levels to develop innovative and useful resources for the sector.

SNAICC is governed by an influential Board of Directors made up of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled children and family services.

**8TH SNAICC NATIONAL
CONFERENCE**
2-5 September 2019
Adelaide Convention Centre
www.snaicc.org.au/conference

GROWING UP WITH
STRONG
IDENTITY • CULTURE
AND CONNECTION

