

# Newsletter

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Issue Seven November – December 2008

## Division of Indigenous Education, Training and the Arts

### Welcome from the ADG

Welcome to the last issue for 2008 of the newsletter of the Division of Indigenous Education, Training and the Arts.

This has been a momentous year for our Division, which came into being in March, and for the nation.

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's apology to the stolen generations set the tone for a year of heightened expectations and greater hope for the future.

Mr Rudd said his apology was the first step to a future that embraces all Australians, "a future where we harness the determination of all Australians, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to close the gap that lies between us in life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity".

In October, the Coalition of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed on six ambitious targets to close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, three concerning education:

- To ensure all Indigenous four-year-olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education within five years.
- To halve the gap in reading, writing and numeracy achievements for Indigenous children within a decade.
- To halve the gap for Indigenous students in Year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment rates by 2020.



In September, Queensland Premier Anna Bligh outlined the Government's plan for Tomorrow's

Queensland – Q2 – which includes significant educational and training targets:

- All children have access to quality early childhood education so they are ready for school.

- Three out of four Queenslanders will hold trade, training or tertiary qualifications.

Last month, officers from this Division and education directors from across Queensland reviewed our first year of operations under the Department's Indigenous education strategic directions 2008-2011, particularly how we can "halve the gap" in educational outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Queenslanders.

As a result, we are revising our strategic plans to keep pace with our expectations and outcomes so that we can reach our goal of building strong Indigenous communities supported by learning and the arts.

Early next year we will distribute these updated plans and embark on a new year of improving education, training and employment outcomes for all Indigenous Queenslanders.

Thank you for your continuing support and all the best for the holiday season.

**Terry Kearney, Assistant Director-General**

### Catch us on line

The Division of Indigenous Education, Training and the Arts websites are now live at:

DETA: <http://deta.qld.gov.au/indigenous/Education>:  
<http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/indigenous/index.html>

### Bursary gathers strong response

More than 50 applications have been received from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tertiary students for the Queensland Government's Lambert McBride Perpetual Education Bursary.

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Students enrolled in second or third year studies at a Queensland tertiary institution were able to apply for the \$5000 grant. It is named in honour of the late Lambert McBride, an advocate and lobbyist for Queensland Indigenous rights.

DIETA director of schools Angela Douglas said the bursary advisory committee would advise their decision as soon as practicable.



## Q150 celebrations to honour Indigenous history

The Queensland Government will honour prior Indigenous history during next year's Q150 events celebrating the formal

creation of Queensland as a separate legal entity.

Premier Anna Bligh appointed prominent Indigenous figures Nadine McDonald-Dowd and Steve Renouf to the 15-strong advisory committee for the year-long program of events.

"The anniversary gives us a superb opportunity to celebrate the achievements of all Queenslanders – Indigenous and non-Indigenous," Ms Bligh said.

"Nadine and Steve are great role models and their enthusiasm is inspirational. Both have also made such a great contribution to Queensland in their areas of expertise – Nadine with her work in the arts and community and Steve with his legendary background and work with our youth.

"I look forward to their contributions as we work on ways to develop celebrations next year to their full potential in the areas of youth, arts, sport as well as ways in which we can positively engage with the Indigenous community during events such as National Reconciliation Week."

Ms McDonald-Dowd said their appointments were a wonderful recognition of the value of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and she urged Indigenous communities to get fully involved with Q150.

"It's also wonderful for me to be able to bring my background of arts, theatre, community and culture into the Q150 experience and I am really keen to see what communities say about their own culture 150 years on," Ms McDonald-Dowd said.

Mr Renouf, a born and bred Indigenous Queenslanders, said he could see plenty of reasons to celebrate next year.

"I know there have been a lot of things happen in the past, but there have also, especially lately been a lot more positives for Indigenous Queenslanders," Mr Renouf said.

"I think it's positive that we can celebrate, recognise we have had issues in the past and that we are moving on from that."

## Q150 funding to Indigenous projects

Q150 Indigenous projects funded by the State's Legacy Infrastructure Program and the Community Funding Program:

- \$150,000 for Hopevale Church Restoration
- \$590,000 for a Corroboree Ring at Cherbourg
- \$1,890,000 for an Arts and Heritage Cultural Centre and Tourist Facility at Kowanyama.
- \$1,049,190 for a Community Multi-Purpose Centre at Lockhart River.
- \$500,000 for a community building to house agencies in the Torres Strait.
- \$2.2 million for the beautification of Victoria Park, Torres Strait.
- \$1 million for the Degarra Community Centre
- \$8000 for the North West Queensland Indigenous Catholic Social Services project
- \$9500 Minjerribah Moorgumpin Elders-in-Council project.
- \$7000 to the Bunya Community Environmental Association, Eatons Hill, towards the Kumbartcho Festival, a free family fun day.
- \$8778 to Cairns Regional Gallery Ltd to inform the public on artworks and artists inspired by Far North Queensland.

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- \$9300 to Cooroy State School Parents and Citizens Association to build a Centenary Garden.
- \$9500 to Fitzroy Basin Elders Committee, Rockhampton, to promote awareness of Indigenous culture through a series of workshops.
- \$10,000 to Hockey Queensland, Morningside, to record culturally and historically significant events through Hockey Art, i.e. painting of stories on hockey sticks and balls. The project will be accompanied by a book and DVD depicting the art and storytelling in traditional Torres Strait Islander style.
- \$10,000 to North Stradbroke Island Historical Museum Association Inc, Point Lookout, towards online history of North Stradbroke Island.
- \$7775 to Rathdowney Area Development and Historical Association Inc, to build a model of the tramway system and to develop a permanent display on Pioneering Women of the region including Indigenous, European and Australian women from 1850 to 1930.
- \$10,000 to Salt Water Murriss Quandamooka Inc, Dunwich, towards the production of artworks that will help educate the broader community on the Indigenous history of Quandamooka.
- \$9993 to School of Natural and Rural Systems Management, University of Queensland, Gatton to work in partnership with the KuKu Nyungkul people in Wujal Wujal, to develop a DVD that celebrates the relationships between people and water in the Shipton's Flat area of the Bloomfield River region, Far North Queensland.
- \$10,000 to Yarrabah Police Citizens Youth Club was creating a heritage DVD showcasing the development of the Yarrabah Aboriginal Community over the past 150 years.

For more information visit [www.q150.qld.gov.au](http://www.q150.qld.gov.au)

## TAFE students' documentaries go to air

A group of Indigenous film makers and actors, who completed a broadcasting course at Sunshine Coast TAFE earlier this year, will tell their own stories through a series of television documentaries being screened soon on national television.

Entitled *I belong*, the documentaries were produced by Brisbane-based companies Bush TV Digital and Carbon Media.

The project won a national award at the annual Australian TAFE Marketing Association Awards in Melbourne last month.

Sunshine Coast TAFE's partnership with Bush TV to deliver nationally accredited training in television and new media to young Indigenous people won the Strategic Partnership Collaboration category for achieving positive commercial business outcomes.

Bush TV Digital managing director Wayne Denning said the 27 participants had completed the Certificate III in broadcasting and were now on their way to film-making careers.

"The training has given the participants the opportunity to tell their stories to the world and focus on their own identity by telling stories about belonging," Mr Denning said.

"There is a real sense of excitement among them because their stories will be heard and they also have valuable media skills and real job opportunities."

Inala resident Steve Ellis was one of those who completed the training. For his project he made a documentary about an Aboriginal child adopted into a white family.

"My documentary is called Dan's Belonging and the purpose of telling the story was to highlight the challenges faced by Aboriginals who were adopted into white families," Steve said.

"It was really fun making the doco because we had the full support of the adoptive family and they were always very supportive of Dan's Aboriginality."

Originally from Mungindi NSW, Steve said he was looking forward to using his qualifications and skills to produce a number of exciting new media projects.

"I'm working on a project at the moment about a young Aboriginal boxer's journey and I film Indigenous hip hop bands in Brisbane as well," Steve said.

"As a film maker and radio producer I see my responsibility is to generate more positive

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representations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders for mainstream media outlets.”

The *I belong* documentary series featuring Steve's piece *Dan's Belonging* will be screened on National Indigenous Television (NITV) and Foxtel and Austar.

For more information about Sunshine Coast TAFE broadcasting programs phone the TAFE call centre on 07 5459 3000 or visit

[www.sunshinecoast.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.sunshinecoast.tafe.qld.gov.au)

## Tune into NITV across Queensland

The *I Belong* documentaries will screen on Australia's first 24/7 television service devoted to Aboriginal and Islander programming, National Indigenous Television (NITV), at various times over coming months.

NITV was started in July 2007 and recently expanded its viewing area.

It became available free-to-air via 150 analog transmitters in remote areas of Australia and direct to home satellite called the RIBS (Remote Indigenous Broadcasting Service) in July 2007.

NITV joined Foxtel, Optus and Austar networks on Channel 180 in November 2007.

Recently transmission began via two new terrestrial transmitters in Mount Isa (Channel 35) and Bourke (Channel 60) for local residents of those areas.

In October 2008, NITV began transmission via the TransAct subscription television services in Canberra on Channel 502, and on Neighborhood Cable subscription television services in Geelong, Ballarat and Mildura on Channel 6.

On 27 October, 2008, NITV launched onto the digital Channel 40 via Broadcast Australia's digital free-to-air television trial platform known as Digital Forty Four. The service can be received through the purchase of a set top box or digital television set.

NITV became available inside Parliament House on four internal channels via the House Monitoring System (HMS) on 25 June 2008.

NITV showcases a mix of existing and newly made Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander content from around the nation and runs Australia's first National Indigenous News Service - a daily news and weather service.

NITV provides a national platform for remote, regional, urban and rural communities, Indigenous media practitioners and the growing media talent dedicated to telling Indigenous stories. The service supports and harnesses these productions through a dedicated national team of commissioning editors based in Queensland and Western Australia.

NITV will focus on funding and expanding its programming suite to include music content, youth programming, and more hours of drama and comedy. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities have indicated they want to see the positive and uplifting stories from theirs and other communities.

NITV has become a vehicle for reconciliation between Indigenous Australians and non-Indigenous Australians in the past year.

For more information visit: [nitv.org.au](http://nitv.org.au)

## Indigenous film scheme closes soon

Applications to the Pacific Film and Television Corporation's Indigenous Development Scheme close on 1 December.

The scheme gives Indigenous writers, producers and directors the opportunity to refine their skills by funding the development of Indigenous short film drama and documentary projects.

**Short Drama:** Development investment of up to \$2000 will be provided to the writer of a short drama to develop a scene breakdown and up to three drafts of the screenplay.

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Successful applicants will work with a professional writer who will mentor the development process.

**Documentary:** Development investment of up to \$2000 will be provided to the documentary filmmaker to do research and develop a treatment through a number of drafts.

Successful applicants will work with a professional documentary filmmaker to develop the project to a stage where it can be presented to television broadcasters.

Applications will be accepted from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons who are resident and professionally based in Queensland.

*For more information on the Indigenous Development Scheme and application details please read the guidelines on the PFTC website [www.pftc.com.au](http://www.pftc.com.au) and go to Funding and Guidelines.*

## Clever kids value ecological footprint

Some 32 Indigenous students from schools across the Sunshine Coast region took part in an internationally recognised intensive academic camp in early November.

Minister for Education Training and the Arts Rod Welford said the Klebawan Gifted and Talented Program broke new ground in identifying and expanding educational opportunities for gifted Indigenous students in Years 4 to 6.

“The students are brought together to realise their abilities, reinforce their high potential and learn new skills in this world-leading approach,” Mr Welford said.

“Gifted Indigenous children are underrepresented in programs for the gifted while the below-average academic outcomes for Indigenous children in Australian schools are all too well documented.

“We know that the middle years of schooling are the peak time to recognise and develop gifted students and to inspire them to realise their potential and believe in themselves.

“The program has a strong focus on literacy and numeracy using ICTs that allow the students to work towards their full potential at the camp and back in the classroom.

“Sustainability is the theme of this camp - students will measure their own ecological footprints and devise ways to reduce their impact on the environment.”

Results from the Klebawan (Northern Australian Aboriginal Kriol for ‘clever one’) Program run earlier this year with students from 23 Sunshine Coast schools showed participants achieved higher academic results and enhanced their self-belief.

Dr Graham Chaffey from the University of New England is leading the Department’s program, which has gained recognition from educational experts worldwide. He developed the Coolabah Dynamic Assessment to identify these bright minds.

“By identifying a gifted cohort of Indigenous students, the expectations of schools, teachers, Indigenous communities and the students themselves towards educational outcomes can be positively influenced,” Dr Chaffey said.

“Klebawan uses variety of strategies, including learning clubs, designed to allow the students to develop cognitive efficiency while enhancing academic self-efficacy to help reach their potential.

“At the camp, the students will work individually and as teams to research and present (as junior reporters) their findings on what makes a sustainable lifestyle.

The program will be expanded to Toowoomba, Cunnamulla and Charleville next year.

*For more information email:*  
[penny.hamilton@deta.qld.gov.au](mailto:penny.hamilton@deta.qld.gov.au)

## Pre-Prep lays foundations for success

A major new initiative to enhance the quality and consistency of early childhood education provision for children living in Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities was issued last month.

*Foundations for Success – Guidelines for an early learning program in Aboriginal and Torres Strait*

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*communities* aims to help educators to plan, implement and reflect on a holistic program for children preparing them for the transition into Prep and Year 1.

"Achieving positive educational outcomes for Indigenous children is a high priority for our government," Minister for Education, Training and the Arts Rod Welford said.

"The foundations for successful learning are laid in the early years. This quality early learning program values and builds upon the diversity of culture and languages that Indigenous children bring with them, enhancing their continuity of learning without compromising their identities."

Mr Welford said Foundations for Success was delivered as part of a government commitment, detailed in its 2006 Bound for Success document, to further improve pre-Prep provision for 3½ to 4½ year olds living in 35 Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities.

"The implementation of Foundations for Success across these communities is a step towards achieving the Toward Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland target for all children to have access to quality early childhood education so they are ready for school," said Mr Welford.

"This is a pioneering document which has evolved in collaboration with Indigenous education experts, academics and teaching teams working alongside the children and families in each community.

"Successful early learning relies on strong relationships between school and community. Foundations for Success values home languages in creating dynamic play-based learning environments to support children's developing awareness of Standard Australian English as a second or additional language.

"Foundations for Success supports educators in a range of settings, including schools and early childhood centres in Indigenous communities, to work with the children's families and communities to create a program that reflects their local culture and experience."

For more information or to download a copy of the document, go to:

<http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/indigenous/projects/foundations.html>

## Year of Creativity 2009

Students will be encouraged to develop their creative skills in all aspects of their learning next year, with 2009 set to be the Year of Creativity in Queensland schools.

Minister for Education, Training and the Arts Rod Welford said schools would focus on the development of creativity across all areas of the school curriculum, from science, mathematics, technology, humanities to the arts.

"Students must develop the ability to take knowledge and apply it in creative and innovative ways to find the solution to issues and challenges they face," Mr Welford said.

"The Year of Creativity is an opportunity to celebrate creativity within our schools and to offer new and exciting opportunities for students and teachers to develop their creative skills.

"All schools and teachers have a key role in fostering creativity in their students to prepare them for life."

The Year of Creativity will follow on from the Year of Physical Activity, which is currently occurring in Queensland schools.

Key initiatives which will support the Year of Creativity include Education Week, Science Week, Q150, Ideas Festival, The Edge and Creative Generation. There will also be a range of state-wide, regional and school activities to celebrate creativity at a local level.

The full program for the Year, including a comprehensive range of student opportunities, teacher professional development and resources will be sent to schools.

Further details are available on the Department of Education, Training and the Arts website, <http://deta.qld.gov.au/yearofcreativity>

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## New courses for Cairns SchoolTech

Students enrolling for 2009 at Queensland's specialist secondary school trade training program will be able to select from the traditional trades and the new courses in cookery, childcare, Indigenous health and marine.

Cairns SchoolTech will offer new courses in non-traditional trade areas from next year.

Following its successful first year of operation, SchoolTech's course offering will be expanded and its 2009 intake doubled to 100 students.

This year 50 Woree State High School students studied traditional trade school-based apprenticeships and traineeships in diesel fitting, construction, metal fabrication or electrical trades through SchoolTech.

SchoolTech attracted 98 per cent attendance. The program sees year 11 and 12 students taught by Education Queensland and TAFE teachers, with classes based at the Cairns campus of the Tropical North Queensland Institute of TAFE.

The students gain TAFE qualifications and a Queensland Certificate of Education. Cairns Regional Group Training then helps to place the students with local employers.

This initiative between Tropical North Queensland Institute of TAFE and Woree State High School is providing a fresh approach to school-based apprenticeships and traineeships.

Students have a chance to participate in work placement within industry to equip them for the modern day workforce. Also, all teachers are on the one campus and offer every support throughout the apprenticeship.

Next year, 150 students are expected to enrol at SchoolTech as a result of calls from industry and the greater variety of courses on offer.

The program reflects the aim of the Queensland Skills Plan 2008 to assist youth to move into further education, training and employment while providing skills necessary to enter the workforce.

For more information visit: [www.tnqit.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.tnqit.tafe.qld.gov.au)

## Report calls for lift in children's wellbeing

An Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) report on *The Wellbeing of Young Australians* released recently shows Australia is lagging behind international benchmarks.

The report shows that Australia is well behind leading Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development countries on infant health, mental health, child abuse and neglect and accident and injury. The only exception is immunisation.

The gap between Indigenous Australians and non-Indigenous Australians is well documented, and this study confirms the disadvantage for Indigenous children is shocking.

Australia ranks 20th out of 27 nations for infant mortality. The infant mortality rate for Indigenous Australians is more than double the non-Indigenous rate.

The Federal Government is investing \$533.5 million over the next five years to ensure that by 2013 all Australian children have access to a quality, affordable early childhood learning program, delivered by a university-trained teacher, in the year before formal schooling.

The Government has ambitious targets to close the gap for Indigenous Australians, including the 17-year life expectancy gap within a generation and halving the mortality gap for children under five and the gap in literacy and numeracy achievement within a decade.

The report shows that Australian children report weaker family relationships than the best international results.

For example, only 51 per cent of 15-year-old Australian students agreed their parents spent time 'just talking' to them more than once a week - way behind Hungary at 89 per cent.

The ARACY Report Card provides vital baseline data that will enable us to measure the improvements for Australian children and youth over time.

For more information, go to:

[http://www.aracy.org.au/AM/Template.cfm?Section=ARACY\\_Report\\_Card](http://www.aracy.org.au/AM/Template.cfm?Section=ARACY_Report_Card)

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## Namatjira to Now at Queensland Art Gallery

**23 October 2008 – 15 February 2009**  
**Gallery 5 & 6 Queensland Art Gallery**

The great Albert Namatjira's adoption of the European medium of watercolour for his landscape paintings remains an inspiration to contemporary artists from Ntaria (Hermannsburg) and surrounding regions of Central Australia. Since the 1930s artists there have been producing vibrant and highly regarded art that has made their country celebrated throughout Australia.

This exhibition will highlight work by Indigenous Australian artists from the Hermannsburg School and will include watercolours (from the original and subsequent generations), ceramics and acrylic paintings on canvas.

*For more information visit:*

[http://qag.qld.gov.au/exhibitions/current/namatjira\\_to\\_now](http://qag.qld.gov.au/exhibitions/current/namatjira_to_now)

## New printmaking centre benefits FNQ artists

Cairns artists and Indigenous elders joined Arts Minister Rod Welford to celebrate the announcement of a new printmaking centre to help the Far North's talented Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists launch on to the world stage.

Mr Welford, in Cairns for Regional Parliament in late October, told a gathering at Cairns Centre of Contemporary Arts that Djumbunji Press: KickArts Fine Art Printmaking will open for business early next year.

Djumbunji Press, a centrepiece of the \$10.73 million Backing Indigenous Arts program, will be a state-of-the-art studio and teaching space located at the Cairns campus of James Cook University. The press will receive \$1.63 million in State Government funding to support its establishment and operation in the first four years.

The name Djumbunji, meaning 'belongs to the scorpion place', is significant to both the traditional

owners of the Cairns region, the Gimuy Yindini people, and Torres Strait Islanders.

The printmaking centre will also help the region's artists create work for the inaugural Cairns Indigenous Art Fair to be held at the city's Heritage Sheds from 21-23 August 2009.

*For more information on Djumbunji Press or the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair visit [www.arts.qld.gov.au](http://www.arts.qld.gov.au)*

## Tanks showcase opens way to music career

Tanks Arts Centre has made a firm commitment to help develop the careers of Indigenous musicians from the Cairns region, Cape York Peninsula and the Torres Strait Islands.

With support from Backing Indigenous Arts, Tanks is presenting an artist showcase of some of the region's hottest musicians and delivering two masterclasses focusing on key ingredients required for a successful career in the music industry.

Dave Dow (TI), Willi Kepa, Gudju Gudju, Moses Warusam and the Medics are performing at the showcase on 28 November. As well as inviting local audiences to come along to the free event, Tanks has been actively promoting the showcase to agents, bookers, festival program directors and event organisers.

Mickie Sellton of Tanks said the intention for this approach was to generate serious offers of work for the musicians.

"We'd love for these artists to be invited to play at festivals, local events and business opportunities," Mickie said. "We've been very excited by the response we've received so far and have worked hard to reach musicians in the region, many of whom live in isolated areas. We see this as the beginning of further work of this kind."

For the masterclasses, legendary Australian songwriter Don Walker (Cold Chisel) is presenting a workshop in songwriting and performance while the second workshop covers aspects of recording,

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publicity and promotion to help musicians to manage budgets and improve sales prospects.

Along with funding from Arts Queensland's Backing Indigenous Arts, Tanks Art Centres presents these master classes in partnership with Australasian Performing Right Association and the Australian Independent Record Label Association.

For more information visit: [www.art.qld.gov.au](http://www.art.qld.gov.au)

## Vale Raba Soloman

Vicki Baylis, Regional Executive Director - Education Queensland, North Queensland, writes:

"It is with sadness that I need to let you know that one of our very valuable and long term Community Education Counsellors, Mrs Raba Soloman, passed away recently.

"Raba's work at William Ross SHS and previously at Heatley Secondary College is such that this amazing lady has had a significant and lasting positive impact on the lives of many, many students as well as our staff.

"I am sure you will join with me as I extend our condolences to Joe, Raba's husband, and to her family on behalf of Education Queensland.

"I am sure you will also extend your care and support to the staff and students as well at both William Ross and Heatley. You may also just keep an eye on your own staff and students as Raba's influence is such that she will have touched many lives beyond the two schools where she has worked for the past 26 years.

"It is at times like this that once again we are reminded just how special the people we work with are and how important it is to acknowledge their contributions whenever we can. I know that many of you have already offered both schools support through releasing your staff to assist and genuinely thank you – again your care and compassion for each other is but one of the reasons why I am proud to belong to this Region and District."

## Volunteer to remote Indigenous community

*Bullying. No way!* principal project officer Chris Henderson will be taking up the position of a volunteer live-in caretaker at the Kapululangu Aboriginal Women's Law and Culture Centre in the south-eastern Kimberley this month.

Chris will work for a month with the Aboriginal women elders of Balgo, supporting them in their daily lives. She also will help build young people's employment skills as part of a fledgling cultural tourism enterprise.

Chris will then return to her work with the *Bullying. No Way!* program.

For information about *Bullying. No Way*, visit: [www.education.qld.gov.au/student-services/behaviour-resources/bullying.html](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/student-services/behaviour-resources/bullying.html)

## Advisory Council manager position open

The Queensland Government is in the process of establishing a Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Council to provide the government with high level, strategic advice on policies, programs, services and partnerships that can contribute to meeting the Council of Australian Governments Closing the Gap targets and the Queensland Government's Toward Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland ambitions.

The Council will be chaired by the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and comprise up to 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.

The position of Manager of the Council Secretariat (A08) was advertised in the press on 15 November 2008. This is an identified position (that is one that must be filled by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person) and will be a critical role in ensuring that the Council is effective in meeting its mandate.

*If you are interested in applying for this position, please contact Amanda Scarpato, Tel. 07 3225 8056 or email: [amanda.scarpato@communities.qld.gov.au](mailto:amanda.scarpato@communities.qld.gov.au) or Nick Twist, Director, Business Support, Office for*

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*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships on 07 3247 3740 or email:*

*[nick.twist@communities.qld.gov.au](mailto:nick.twist@communities.qld.gov.au) should you require any additional information.*

## Student stars shine from Cairns to Perth

Joel Hagan, 12, a Year 7 student at Glenvale State School, Toowoomba, was awarded the Leigh-Anne Goodwin Youth Award for his achievements in Rugby League, AFL and athletics at the Queensland Indigenous Sports Awards in Cairns on November 7.

Ashleigh Barty, from Woodcrest College, Springfield, took out her first national singles titles, winning the Optus 12s Spring Nationals at the University of Western Australia Tennis Centre in Perth last month.

It was a fantastic result for the young player who went down in the final of the Optus 12s Winter Nationals earlier this year.

"I've just had so much fun all week, it's been an awesome tournament and it's great to come away with the win," Ashleigh said.

Ashleigh also took out the girls' 12/u doubles final paired with Isabelle Wallace from East Bentleigh, Vic.

Joel was named in the U12 Queensland teams for both league and AFL and was also a member of the Queensland athletics team.

He broke the 100m sprint record at Darling Downs regional level and almost broke the Queensland U12 100m record at QEII.

Joel also won the Robbie Williams Encouragement Award, which is awarded to an emerging Indigenous sports person who it is believed can go on to achieve great things in sport.

It is presented in honour of Robbie Williams, who passed away in 2007. Williams, through his role as ATSIC commissioner, provided a strong voice and was at the forefront of advancing Indigenous causes. He created the annual First Contact Sports and

Cultural Festival in Brisbane, which is now its 15th year, and was integral in First Contact's Regional Sports Program which now provides assistance to over 7000 individuals, communities, clubs and teams annually across more than 50 sporting codes.

Joel is set to race at the 2008 Pacific Schools Games (Australian All Schools and Youth Championships) in Canberra later this month.

*For more information visit:*

[www.indigenoussportqueensland.com](http://www.indigenoussportqueensland.com)

## Jump start to London 2012 for Indigenous athletes and coaches

Athletics Australia, the Australian Institute of Sport and the Australian Sports Commission have launched a talent identification and development program for Indigenous athletes and coaches.

The program will be conducted over four years with the goal of having an increased number of Indigenous athletes participating at the London 2012 Olympic Games and increasing the number of indigenous coaches in the network.

The program is a perfect opportunity for not only Indigenous athletes to develop their talent and skills but also an opportunity for athletics in Australia to take a step forward in terms of coach education and support services.

The initial program will run for 18 months and will involve athletes who are currently participating in the sport at a state or national level of participation and will provide these athletes with an enriching environment of improved training and competition structures that will fast track them to high performance levels and programs. Athletes aged between 17 and 23 years will be selected into the program by reaching the required standards.

Athletes who have been identified to form the pilot group have, in most cases, a coach. These coaches will be included in any camp or education program that is implemented. If requested by the personal coach a mentor coach can be assigned to assist in

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program preparation, and areas such as strength and conditioning. The coaches of identified athletes will be required to comply with a reporting service to allow athlete improvements and progressions to be monitored.

Coaches will also be encouraged to seek professional development opportunities to further develop their skills.

It is anticipated that the main legacy from the Jump Start to London program will be coach education.

Regional coaching coordinators have been appointed to coordinate seminars and skills program in their region. The regional coaching coordinators will initially be in NSW, QLD, WA and NT.

*For further information regarding selection into this program, please contact Sally McGrady on (03) 9869 5013 or [sally.mcgrady@athletics.org.au](mailto:sally.mcgrady@athletics.org.au)*

## In Brief

### Maka Ya out now

The latest issue of *Maka Ya*, the magazine of Indigenous Vocational Education and Training (VET) initiatives, is out this month, packed with stories of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people succeeding as apprentices and trainees.

*Maka Ya* is produced by the Indigenous Vocational Education and Training (VET) Initiatives Unit of the Department of Education, Training and the Arts in conjunction with TAFE Queensland.

To receive a copy, email: [Renita.anderson@deta.qld.gov.au](mailto:Renita.anderson@deta.qld.gov.au) or visit: [www.tafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.tafe.qld.gov.au)

### Life, learning and league festival

20 November

Civic Park, Wembley Road, Woodridge

Email: [brismetrogateway@arldevelopment.com.au](mailto:brismetrogateway@arldevelopment.com.au)

About 700 students from 12 schools in the Logan School District will have the chance to learn about the differing cultures in their community, practical skills about nutrition, team building and sportsmanship while having a positive rugby league experience. Staff from DETA's Inala Learning Engagement Centre will attend the event.

### World Indigenous Peoples Conference: Education 2008 - Indigenous education in the 21st Century – respecting tradition, shaping the future.

7 – 11 December

Rod Laver Arena, Melbourne, Victoria

[www.wipce2008.com.au](http://www.wipce2008.com.au)

### We welcome your contributions

This newsletter is published monthly by the Division of Indigenous Education, Training and the Arts in the Department of Education, Training and the Arts to highlight programs and events that benefit Indigenous Queenslanders. Please send contributions to the editor: [carmel.carrick@deta.qld.gov.au](mailto:carmel.carrick@deta.qld.gov.au)