



ABORIGINAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

PREAMBLE

On 1 July 2024, the South Australian Royal Commission into Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence (the Commission) commenced. The Commission is required to inquire into four key areas:

Prevention: How South Australia can facilitate widespread change in the underlying drivers of family, domestic and sexual violence.

Early intervention: How South Australia can improve effective early intervention through identification and support of individuals who are at high risk of experiencing or perpetrating domestic, family and sexual violence.

Response: How South Australia can ensure best practice response to domestic, family and sexual violence through the provision of services and supports.

Recovery and healing: How South Australia can embed an approach that supports recovery and healing through reducing the risk of re-traumatisation and supporting victim-survivors to be safe and healthy.

The Commission is to have regard to the views and experiences of Aboriginal communities, and to recognise the rates of family, domestic and sexual violence experienced by Aboriginal women and children and the over-representation of Aboriginal people in current service systems.

The National Agreement on Closing the Gap was established in July 2020, in partnership between Australian governments and the Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Organisations.

The objective of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap is to enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and governments to work together to overcome the inequality experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and achieve life outcomes equal to all Australians.

There are four priority reforms at the centre of the National Agreement:

1. Formal partnerships and shared decision making
2. Building the Community Controlled Sector
3. Transforming government organisations
4. Shared access to data and information at a regional level

The Commission recognises the Closing the Gap objectives and the priority reforms. The Commission is committed to conducting its inquiry in alignment with the priority reforms.

To reflect this commitment, the Commission has established an Aboriginal Partnership Committee for the purpose of developing recommendations about service delivery to Aboriginal people and within Aboriginal communities.

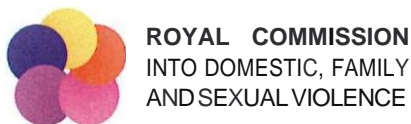
This partnership agreement records the agreed arrangements for the formal partnership between the Commission and SAACCON, in relation to the establishment of the Commission's Aboriginal Partnership Committee.

PARTNERSHIP PARTIES

1. The Partnership Agreement is between The South Australian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Network (**SAACCON**) and Royal Commissioner Natasha Stott Despoja AO (**the Parties**).
2. SAACCON:
 - 2.1. Is a body made up of South Australian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations and peak bodies. It is also an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation.
 - 2.2. Is the jurisdictional peak for South Australia and is a member of the Coalition of Peaks.
 - 2.3. Has responsibilities for policies, programs and services related to Closing the Gap. It is directly involved in the delivery and monitoring of services to the Aboriginal community, and its members are supported in their service delivery by the SAACCON Secretariat.
 - 2.4. Supports the vision for a genuine partnership between Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations and SA Government in developing and implementing the National Agreement for Closing the Gap.
3. The members of SAACCON at the time of signing are shown at Schedule A.
4. SAACCON member organisations are representative of Aboriginal peoples' interests in Closing the Gap, as they are accountable to and directly involved in the delivery and monitoring of services to Aboriginal communities, including domestic, family and/ or sexual violence services.

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT SCOPE

5. The Partnership Agreement takes effect on the signature of both parties.
6. The Partnership Agreement will be in place until 1 July 2025.
7. The Partnership Agreement may be updated or amended at any time by agreement in writing by both parties.
8. The parties do not intend any of the provisions of this Partnership Agreement to be legally enforceable.



OBJECTIVES

9. The objects of the Partnership Agreement are:
 - 9.1. to ensure that the Commission develops recommendations regarding domestic, family and sexual violence sector service delivery to Aboriginal people and communities in partnership with the Aboriginal Partnership Committee; and
 - 9.2. to do so by ensuring the equal participation and shared decision making by the members of the Aboriginal Partnership Committee in developing those recommendations.
10. The parties are committed to implementing the Partnership Agreement in a transparent, consultative and accountable manner.

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE

11. The Aboriginal Partnership Committee (the Committee) will include equal representation from the Commission and SAACCON, to ensure a fair partnership and shared decision making by consensus.
12. Membership of the Committee will not exceed six members.
13. Membership of the Committee will include Commissioner Stott Despoja.
14. Of the remaining five members of the Committee, two will be nominated by Commissioner Stott Despoja and three will be nominated by SAACCON.
15. The members nominated by SAACCON will represent Aboriginal peoples' interests in relation to domestic, family and sexual violence sector service delivery to Aboriginal people and communities. They are not nominated to represent their own individual interests, or those of any particular organisation with which they are associated.
16. The Committee will be co-chaired by:
 - 16.1. Commissioner Stott Despoja; and
 - 16.2. SAACCON Lead Convenor Scott Wilson.

PROCEDURE

17. The Committee will meet four (4) times during the term of the Commission's Inquiry. Additional meetings will be scheduled if necessary.



18. Decisions of the Committee will be made by consensus.
19. If necessary, each of the members of the Committee, including the co-chairs, may nominate a representative to attend meetings on their behalf. Any representative who attends must be prepared and authorised to express views and make decisions on behalf of the member they represent.
20. Committee meetings will proceed if a quorum of four members is present. In that case, decisions of the Committee may be made by consensus of the members who are present.
21. Committee meetings will be chaired by both co-chairs of the Committee, unless the co-chairs agree that the meeting will be chaired by one co-chair or a co-chair with another Committee member.
22. Administrative support will be provided by the Commission's staff.
23. A member of Commission staff, and a member of the SAACCON secretariat, may attend Committee meetings as observers. Those attendees may make notes of the meeting.
24. Minutes of meetings will be prepared by Commission staff and saved in the Commission's electronic document management system. Minutes will be circulated to the Commission secretariat and SAACCON secretariat. They will not be circulated any further unless otherwise agreed.
25. All documents prepared for or distributed to the parties and all discussions carried out during the meetings, will be treated as confidential, unless otherwise agreed.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

26. The Commission will provide to the Committee any information or documents obtained by the Royal Commission using the Royal Commission's compulsive powers, which the Committee agrees would be relevant to the Committee's functions, in accordance with the principles of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.
27. Information may be provided to the Committee in a de-identified or aggregated way.



ROYAL COMMISSION
INTO DOMESTIC, FAMILY
AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

On behalf of South Australian Government

11/9/24

Natasha Stott Despoja AO

Date

Royal Commissioner

Royal Commission into Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence

South Australian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Network

Executive Members

11/9/24

Mr Scott Wilson

Date

Lead Convenor

South Australian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Network

11/9/2024

Ms Christine Brown

Date

Chief Executive Officer

South Australian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Network



SCHEDULE A

SAACCON MEMBERS AS AT AUGUST 2024

Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (SA)
Aboriginal Family Support Services Inc
Aboriginal Health Council of SA Ltd
Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement SA
Aboriginal Sobriety Group Indigenous Corporation
Arabana Aboriginal Corporation
Family Violence Legal Services Aboriginal Corporation
First Nations of SA Aboriginal Corp.
InComPro
Iwiri Aboriginal Corporation
Kura Verla Incorporated
Kornar Winmil Yunti (KWY)
Mobile Language Team
Narungga Nation Aboriginal Corporation
National Indigenous Network Initiative (NINI)
Ngarrindjeri Ruwe Empowered Communities
Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Women's Council
Nunga Mi:Minar Incorporated
Nunkuwarrin Yunti Inc
Pangula Mannamurna Aboriginal Coporation
Port Lincoln Aboriginal Health Service
South Australian Aboriginal Education Training Committee
South Australian Native Title Service Ltd
SA Stolen Generation Aboriginal Corporation
Tauondi College
Umeewarra Aboriginal Media Association Inc.