



## Sport – More Than Just A Game

A new report will be released on **Monday 24 June** at approximately **10.20am** by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs.

On 20 September 2012 the Committee adopted the terms of reference for the inquiry into the contribution of sport to Indigenous wellbeing and mentoring with a focus on:

- sporting bodies increasing opportunities for Indigenous participation, including opportunities for Indigenous women
- non-government organisations utilising sport as a vehicle to improve outcomes for Indigenous people, and
- the contribution of Indigenous sporting programs, as supplied by:
  - the sporting codes
  - the private and NGO sectors, and
  - federal government assistanceto Closing the Gap targets.

The committee conducted six public hearings in Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane and received 58 submissions in total.

The committee's report will make strong recommendations including a plan of action for the Commonwealth Government to review what is being done in the area of Indigenous sport programs and what needs to be improved.

Committee Chair, Ms Janelle Saffin MP said, "Sport can be the 'hook' or 'vehicle' to provide opportunities for communities to come together, to encourage Indigenous participation in education and employment, and to demonstrate positive behaviours through local and elite sporting role models."

"The Committee found that sport is much more than just a game – it can be a pathway to stronger communities and better opportunities."

For more information, see the Committee's website at [www.aph.gov.au/sport](http://www.aph.gov.au/sport) or contact the committee secretariat on **(02) 6277 4559**.

**For media comment**, please contact the Committee Chair Ms Janelle Saffin on 0418 664 001. **For background information**, contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 62774559 or [atsia.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:atsia.reps@aph.gov.au)