



## **Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council**

### **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce Working Group**

The Secretary,  
Senate Employment, Workplace Relations  
and Education References Committee  
Suite SG.52, Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Carter

I am pleased to submit the enclosed submission to the inquiry into Indigenous training and employment outcomes.

This submission has been developed under the auspices of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce Working Group (ATSIHWWG), an Australian Government and State/Territory government body set up by the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council (AHMAC).

Although the Department of Education, Science and Training and the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations are members of the ATSIHWWG they have provided separate submissions to the inquiry. Therefore, they have not contributed to the development of this submission.

The ATSIHWWG was established by the AHMAC in 2002 to oversee the national level implementation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce National Strategic Framework (endorsed by AHMAC 2002). The Framework is a five to ten year strategic reform agenda that aims to build a more competent health workforce for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as a key mechanism in addressing Indigenous health issues.

The Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health provides the ATSIHWWG Secretariat and manages a range of health programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including activities to improve the capacity of the Indigenous health workforce and to ensure that the general health workforce is responsive to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Further communication with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce Working Group can be directed to the ATSIHWWG Secretariat on (02) 6289 9706.

Yours Sincerely

John Ramsay  
Chair, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce Working Group  
August 2004