

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HEALTH EQUALITY COUNCIL

Teleconference (intended meeting was cancelled due to H1N1)

31 July 2009

COMMUNIQUÉ

The National Indigenous Health Equality Council (NIHEC) intended to hold its fourth meeting in Brisbane on 9 and 10 June 2009 however this meeting was cancelled due to the potential risks associated with transmission of the H1N1 influenza virus at that time.

A NIHEC teleconference was subsequently held on 31 July 2009 to ensure progress on key issues.

Members were provided with an update on the work of NIHEC's Working Groups that address Workforce and the development of the National Target Setting Instrument in preparation for the next Council meeting in September 2009.

Members also discussed the Commonwealth's chronic disease package; the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission (NHHRC) Final Report; men's health and the national sexual health strategies.

NIHEC finalised its Vision Statement articulating Council's role and how it will support the Government by providing targeted strategic policy advice to assist in Closing the Gap on Indigenous disadvantage. The Statement is now available on the NIHEC website.

The next NIHEC meeting is in Canberra on 9 and 10 September 2009.