

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR THE 2009 NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER WOMEN'S GATHERING (NATSIWG)

This is an opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women to nominate to be a delegate at the 2009 NATSIWG. Nominations are sought from Northern Territory women who can provide leadership on Aboriginal women's issues.

WHAT IS NATSIWG?

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Gathering (NATSIWG) is an event for Aboriginal women from across the country to meet and determine working priorities for the Commonwealth, States, Territory and New Zealand Ministers' Conference on the Status of Women. The Ministerial Conference brings Women's Ministers together to discuss issues of importance for women. The purpose of NATSIWG is to deliver an action plan to the Ministers' Conference that relates to Aboriginal women's issues.

Next year NATSIWG is being held in Brisbane. To represent the Territory it is essential that a diverse range of voices be heard.

Women of all ages are encouraged to apply. The Office of Women's Policy will provide training and opportunities to develop your leadership skills.

WHAT KIND OF OPPORTUNITIES DOES NATSIWG PROVIDE TO DELEGATES?

NATSIWG is an opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait women to:

- create networks and make connections with other female Aboriginal leaders from around the country;
- consult with local women to bring their ideas and energy to a national forum;
- discuss problems and share solutions at a national forum;
- participate in agenda setting for Aboriginal women to be heard on a regional, national and international level; and
- open and maintain a dialogue with policy makers to ensure Aboriginal women's policy reforms come from the ground up, and are not dictated from the top down.

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR NORTHERN TERRITORY DELEGATES

OWP utilises the following criteria to select delegates via a competitive selection process.

1. Possess leadership qualities and a willingness to share the outcomes of NATSIWG with your communities. Delegates must be able to demonstrate a strong Aboriginal support base at a local, state or national level.
2. Express an interest in advising government about the emerging issues impacting on Aboriginal women, their families and communities.
3. An ability to work cooperatively and effectively in a team. Possess interpersonal skills that facilitate working with others towards responses to issues affecting Aboriginal women within a national framework.

4. Possess good communication skills that facilitate participation in discussion with other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from around Australia.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWP AND NT DELEGATES

It is expected that the delegates shall:

1. Represent local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women's interests at the NATSIWG;
2. Provide a written report of their attendance at NATSIWG and outline any key issues for the NT;
3. Fulfil their responsibility as a delegate by completing/undertaking any projects that arise out of NATSIWG; and
4. Participate in the planning and facilitation of two Aboriginal Women's forums in the Northern Territory during March and April 2009. Attend NATSIWG in May 2009 and finalise any actions arising from the gathering.

How do I find further information about NATSIWG?

If you would like more information about NATSIWG please contact the Office of Women's Policy, Department of Health and Families on 8999 2703 or 8999 2604 or log onto the Office of Women's Policy website at www.women.nt.gov.au.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Your expression of interest must include a statement outlining how you will approach your role as a delegate to successfully fulfil the responsibilities of the role. Your application should also be made with specific reference to your interest in, or involvement with, the following five key areas as outlined in the Northern Territory Government's women's policy *Building on Our Strengths: A Framework for Action for Women in the Northern Territory 2008 – 2012*:

- Health and Wellbeing;
- Safety;
- Economic security;
- Leadership and participation;
- Life Balance in Aboriginal communities.

Please send your application to:

Ms Janette Galton
Office of Women's Policy
Department of Health and Families
PO Box 40596
CASUARINA NT 0811

Applications close on Friday 23 January 2009.