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National Best Practice Unit –  
Tackling Indigenous Smoking

**JURISDICTIONAL  
WORKSHOP REPORT  
NORTHERN TERRITORY**

13 August 2020

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## Introduction

The Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS) jurisdictional workshops are an important way in which the National Best Practice Unit Tackling Indigenous Smoking (NBPU TIS) provides support to the TIS teams located in the Regional Tobacco Control Grant (RTCG) organisations.

The workshops aim to:

- promote an evidence-based approach to tackling smoking in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities;
- share best practice of 'what works' and develop a community of practice amongst TIS teams (peer-to-peer learning and network building);
- provide a forum for resolving implementation challenges;
- provide training and tools to assist TIS teams in program delivery; and
- ensure a shared understanding of the TIS program

There are six jurisdictional TIS workshops per year<sup>1</sup>.

## The Northern Territory Jurisdictional Workshop

Usually TIS jurisdictional workshops are held face-to-face in a major or regional centre within the jurisdiction(s). Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic has made this impossible, and the Northern Territory jurisdictional workshop was held by videoconference (Zoom). The workshop was held on its planned date of 13 August but was shortened from the usual full day to 3 ½ hours to fit the online format.

### Program

A draft workshop program was developed in consultation with TIS teams from the Northern Territory. See [Attachment A](#) for an outline of the program as distributed to participants ahead of the workshop. Details of the Workshop session are as follows<sup>2</sup>.

- 1. Housekeeping and Zoom meeting workshop guidelines (Benjamin Stewart, NBPU TIS)**
- 2. Acknowledgement of Country & Introductions (Maxine Turner, NBPU TIS)**
- 3. Latest Update for the TIS Program from the National Co-ordinator (Prof. Tom Calma AO)**

Professor Calma gave an overview of the TIS Program for the new participants as well as for existing teams. Information covered included: the



**Figure 1: Prof Tom Calma AO addresses the workshop**

<sup>1</sup> The workshops for New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, and for Tasmania and Victoria are combined.

<sup>2</sup> See <https://tacklingsmoking.org.au/resources/jurisdictional-workshop-presentations/> for copies of presentations. A video of the workshop has also been made available online.

expansion of programs to target pregnant women and remote area smokers; continuing evaluation to monitor the efficiency and effectiveness of individual programs; an overview of TIS program processes; questions for TIS staff; the TIS program's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and information about World No Tobacco Day 2020.

#### 4. Impact evaluation of TIS regional grants on smoking outcomes (Raglan Maddox, ANU)

Doctor Maddox briefed the meeting on progress with the TIS impact evaluation, which aims to understand tobacco use and tobacco related outcomes and assess whether there are greater improvements in communities where there is a TIS Regional Tobacco Control Grant (RTCG) recipient. The evaluation is looking at data from mainstream sources as well as that collected through the Mayi Kuwayu Study which looks at how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander wellbeing is linked to things like connection to country, cultural practices, spirituality and language (<https://mkstudy.com.au/>).

While COVID-19 has affected the ability of the evaluation team to work in communities, they have been mapping TIS boundaries and the reach and intensity of programs and policies implemented across the country.



Figure 2: Participants attending the workshop by Zoom

#### 5. Program update from the Department of Health (Trudy McInnis, Department of Health)

Ms McInnis updated participants on the TIS program from the perspective of the Department of Health, including on: new smoking rate data; new/expanded remote RTCGs; new NT remote Indigenous Tobacco Control Working Group; Indigenous Smoking in Pregnancy Roundtable; updates to governance and administration; COVID-19; and plans for the coming year.

## 6. Supporting Indigenous Smokers to Assist Quitting, Implementation phase (Gillian Gould, iSISTAQUIT)

This presentation was delivered by Associate Professor Gillian Gould from the University of Newcastle about the Supporting Indigenous Smokers to Assist Quitting (SISTAQUIT) program's implementation phase.

## 7. Tobacco Control Research (David Thomas, Menzies School of Health Research)

Professor David Thomas from Menzies School of Health Research / AMSANT in Darwin updated the workshop on co-ordinating tobacco control policy and action in the Northern Territory, through implementing the NT Tobacco Action Plan 2019 – 2023 and the collaborative work of the Indigenous Tobacco Control Working Group under the Northern Territory Aboriginal Health Forum. These processes are focusing on in reducing smoking rates in remote areas.

## 8. TIS Team Shared Success Stories (TIS Team Volunteers)

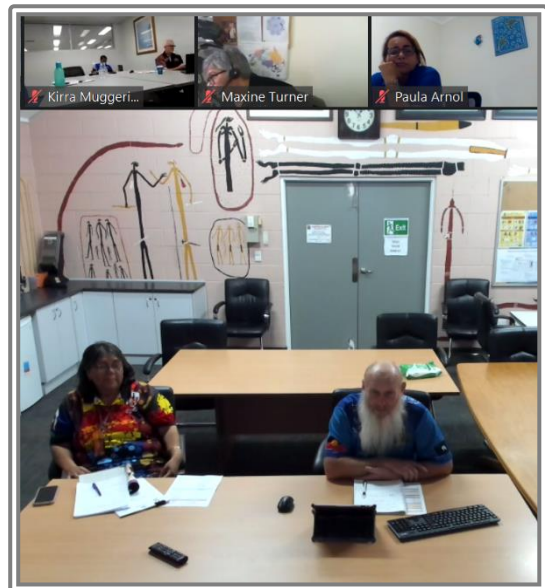
Each TIS team was invited to brief the workshop about their approach to tackling smoking in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities they serve and their successes and challenges.

## 9. Introduction of new Remote Services teams (TIS Team Volunteers)

Four new services have recently been funded under the TIS Program, to expand the focus on reducing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander smoking rates in remote and very remote areas. These are:

- Wurli Wurlinjang Aboriginal Corporation (Katherine, Northern Territory)
- Torres Health Indigenous Corporation (Torres Strait Islands, Queensland)
- Institute for Urban Indigenous Health (Tiwi Islands, Northern Territory)
- Central Australian Aboriginal Congress (Alice Springs, Northern Territory)

Each team was invited to introduce themselves, their organisation and the communities they serve to the other participants.



**Figure 3: Suzi Berto and Peter Gazey addressing the workshop from Wurli Wurlinjang Health Service, Katherine**

## 10. Reflections on the messages from the workshop / Wrap up from the National Co-ordinator (Prof. Tom Calma AO)

Professor Tom closed the workshop, thanking all participants and especially the TIS teams for their informative presentations, noting that their level of enthusiasm and interest is fundamental to driving positive change.

## Attendance

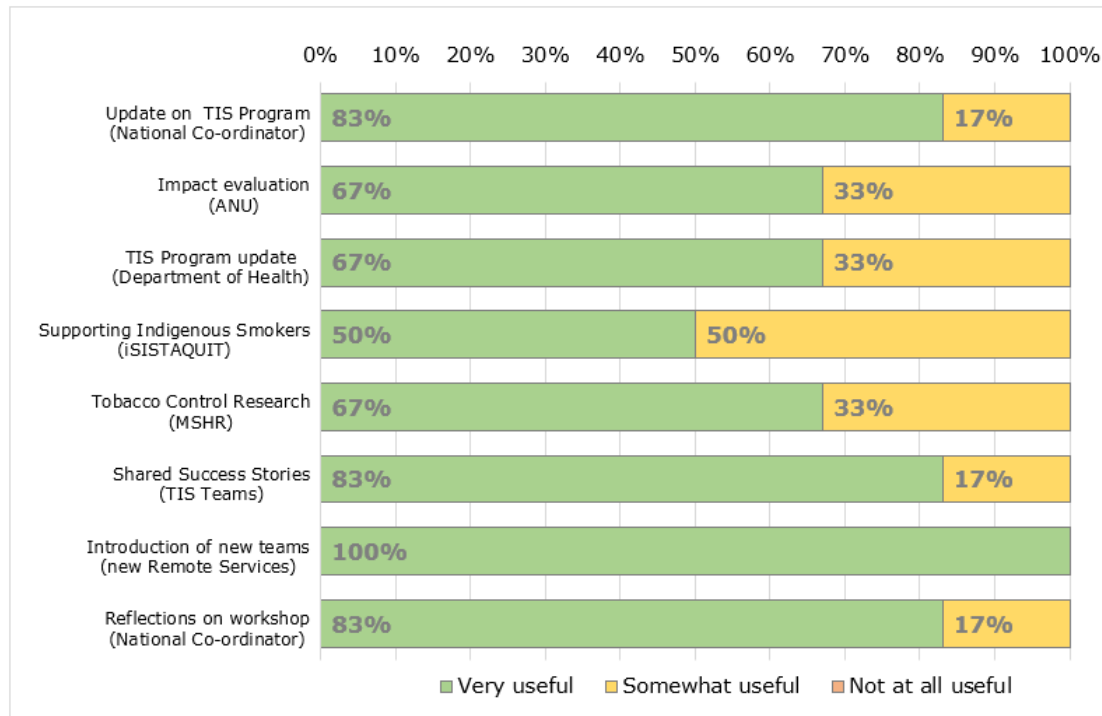
The workshop was well-attended, with 44 participants in the videoconference. This included 25 representatives from 12 different TIS teams from across the Northern Territory and including the new remote teams.

See [Attachment B](#) for a list of participants.

## Participant Evaluation

Each jurisdictional workshop includes participant evaluation, with both quantitative and qualitative feedback. This assists the NBPU TIS to ensure that future workshops are of most use to TIS teams. When workshops are held face-to-face, participant evaluation feedback can be received both online and in hardcopy; with online videoconferences participants are asked to respond using an online survey platform (Qualtrics). Response rates for online videoconferencing are generally lower than for face-to-face workshops, partly because multiple TIS team members attending through one video location are likely to give one response, and partly because it may be difficult for participants to find the time to respond once they leave the workshop and return to their busy workplaces. The NBPU TIS is continuing to look at ways to increase evaluation response rates in the videoconference format.

A total of 18 participant evaluation responses were received for the Northern Territory jurisdictional workshop. Overall satisfaction with the workshop was high. All sessions were rated as 'very useful' or 'somewhat useful' (see Figure 1). No sessions were rated by any participant as 'not at all useful'.



**Figure 4: Participant evaluation of Northern Territory jurisdictional workshop sessions, August 2020 (n=18)**

A limited number of comments were provided by participants on the workshop, but all were positive, expressing satisfaction in the workshop experience:



*Great to hear about all the good work that has continued throughout the pandemic*

*Great session! Well done Team TIS!*

*Great forum to catch up and meet others.*

There was even a request from one participant for more Zoom workshops:

*Thanks, and can we do this regularly, especially during COVID19*

Half (50%) of participants felt the need for more discussion time during the workshop, with the remaining 50% happy that enough time had been set aside for discussion. No-one felt there was too much discussion. The NBPU TIS is continuing to refine the design of workshops to maximise discussion time between participants, noting that this is inherently challenging in the videoconference format and the need to balance participatory processes with the length of the workshops.

### **Feedback on use of Zoom for the workshop**

The Zoom delivery was acceptable to participants, with the use of Zoom rated as 'very good' by a third (33%) of respondents and 'okay' by the remaining two-thirds. No-one felt the use of Zoom to be a problem. However as one person noted Zoom is different to the face to face format which 'allows for exchange of ideas and networking.'

Most participants (67%) reported having a few problems with the Zoom connection during the workshop. The remaining 33% had a very good connection. No-one found it was not good at all.

Most participants stated that three hours was just the right length for the workshop (83%). However, a few respondents (17%) felt the workshop was too long. No-one felt it was not long enough. Respondents were evenly split regarding whether more breaks were needed during the workshop. Fifty percent felt the number of breaks was just right, whilst the remaining 50% felt a short break (10 minutes) every hour would have been better. No-one felt there were too many breaks.

The main benefit of using Zoom for the workshop that was noted by respondents concerned being able to participate from a distance:

*Not having to travel!*

*It can work when travel is restricted*

People also appreciated the chat function and being able to see other participants and hear what they are doing:

*The chat function is another way of contributing*

*Can see individuals faces*

*It was really good seeing everyone and getting the updates*

Generally, people did not feel there was much to be done to improve the format. As one person noted 'not much you can do as its online'. The only practical comment provided on how the Zoom workshop format could be improved, was the suggestion to have two short breaks during the meeting instead of one.

# ATTACHMENT A: Workshop Program

## NT TIS Jurisdictional Workshop Program

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020

**ZOOM Meeting ID:** 979 2909 1374

**PASSWORD:** 878073

**START TIMES: SA & NT – 9:30AM / NSW & ACT – 10:00AM**



Duration	Session	Facilitators/Speakers
START TIME	<b>Welcome</b>	
5 MINS	Housekeeping - Zoom meeting workshop guidelines	Benjamin Stewart NBPU Project Officer
5 MINS	Acknowledgement of Country & Introductions	Maxine Turner NBPU Project Officer
20 MINS	National Co-ordinator - Latest Update for the TIS Program and Q&A	Prof. Tom Calma AO National Co-ordinator TIS
20 MINS	Impact evaluation - TIS regional grants on smoking outcomes	Raglan Maddox PhD MPH
20 MINS	Department of Health - Program update and Q&A	Trudy McInnis Department of Health
15 MINS	iSISTAQUIT - Supporting Indigenous Smokers to Assist Quitting, Implementation phase	Associate Professor Gillian Gould
15 MINS	<b>Video conference break</b>	
20 MINS	Menzies School of Health and Research - Tobacco Control Research	Prof. David Thomas
35 MINS	RTCGR / TIS Team Shared Success Story <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Danila Dilba (5 mins)</li> <li>• Katherine West Health Board (5 mins)</li> <li>• Sunrise Health Service (5 Mins)</li> <li>• Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corp (5 mins)</li> <li>• Nganampa Health Council (5 mins)</li> <li>• Anyinginyi Health (5 mins)</li> <li>• Central Australian Congress (5 mins)</li> </ul>	TIS Team Volunteer
20 MINS	Introduction of new Remote Services teams <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congress (5 mins)</li> <li>• Tiwi Islands (5 mins)</li> <li>• Wurli (5 mins)</li> <li>• Torres Health (5 mins)</li> </ul>	TIS Team Volunteer
5 MINS	National Co-ordinator - Reflections on the messages from the workshop - Wrap up	Prof. Tom Calma AO National Co-ordinator TIS
<b>Workshop close</b>		

## Attachment B: Attendance

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
1	Dan Mangunda	Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation
2	Andrew Perusco	Australian Government Department of Health
3	Jean Wasaga-Thompson	Australian Government Department of Health
4	Margo Saunders	Australian Government Department of Health
5	Marlene Duus	Australian Government Department of Health
6	Trudy McInnes	Australian Government Department of Health
7	Raglan Maddox	Australian National University
8	Sue Kruske	Australian Nurse-Family Partnership Program (ANFPP)
9	Donna Lemon	Central Australian Aboriginal Congress
10	Jenna Pauli	Central Australian Aboriginal Congress
11	Emma Stubbs	Central Australian Aboriginal Congress
12	Kirsty Hampton	Central Australian Aboriginal Congress
13	Loma Cuevas-Hewitt	Cultural and Indigenous Research Centre Australia (CIRCA)
14	Kirra Muggeridge	Danila Dilba Health Service
15	Jenon Batty	Danila Dilba Health Service
16	Alex Godfrey	Danila Dilba Health Service
17	Leanne Brooke	Deadly Choices Tiwi Islands
18	Dr Penney Upton	Health Research Institute University of Canberra
19	Lucky Zenio	Institute of Urban Aboriginal Health
20	Donisha Duff	Institute of Urban Indigenous Health
21	Luke Dumas	Institute of Urban Indigenous Health
22	Nathan Appo	Institute of Urban Indigenous Health
23	Prof. Gillian Gould	iSISTAQUIT – University of Newcastle
24	Alison Hart	iSISTAQUIT – University of Newcastle
25	Jessica Hagley	Katherine West Health Board
26	Martika Rockman	Katherine West Health Board
27	Michelle Newman	Katherine West Health Board
28	David Thomas	Menzies School of Research
29	Gordon Boot	Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation
30	Justine White	Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation
31	Prof Tom Calma AO	National Coordinator TIS
32	Benjamin Stewart	NBPU TIS
33	Desley Thompson	NBPU TIS
34	Maxine Turner	NBPU TIS



## Attachment B: Attendance

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
35	Raquel Kerdel	NBPU TIS
36	Kelly Franklin	NBPU TIS
37	Rod Reeve	NBPU TIS
38	Moana Tane	Ngaanyatjarra Health Service
39	Cyndi Cole	Nganampa Health Council
40	Lee Lawrie	Nganampa Health Council
41	Tania Leishman	Sunrise Health Service
42	Paula Arnol	Torres Health Indigenous Corporation
43	Peter Gazey	Wurli Wurlinjang Aboriginal Health Service
44	Suzi Berto	Wurli Wurlinjang Aboriginal Health Service