

TACKLING INDIGENOUS SMOKING TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

MEETING #1: Friday 5 June 2020

Communique

The Tackling Indigenous Smoking Technical Advisory Group (TIS TAG) met for the first time by videoconference on 5 June 2020.

The National Coordinator Tackling Indigenous Smoking and Chair of the TIS TAG, Professor Tom Calma AO, gave members a background to the TIS program since its beginnings in 2010. He then led a discussion around the role and membership of the TIS TAG. Key points from that discussion included:

- making inroads into reducing smoking rates for priority groups (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in remote Australia; and, pregnant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women);
- continuing work on mapping boundaries and service ‘footprints’ of Regional Tobacco Control Grant recipients;
- the population health promotion model and its relationship to individual smoking cessation approaches;
- how the Quitskills / Quitline Enhancement programs can support TIS teams in their work;
- smoking amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people; and
- progress with TIS program evaluations, namely the process and program improvement evaluation being carried out by the Cultural and Indigenous Research Centre Australia (CIRCA) and the impact and outcome evaluation being carried out by the Australian National University (ANU).

There was also discussion about progress in reducing smoking in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the February 2020 Indigenous Pregnancy Roundtable held in Canberra.

It was decided to follow up a number of procedural matters about how the TIS TAG is to operate with members of the Group out-of-session.

It was noted that a TIS TAG web-page has been established on the TIS website (<https://tacklingsmoking.org.au/about-the-tis-program/tis-program-advisory-group/>).

The date of the next Advisory Group meeting is to be agreed.

