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National Best Practice Unit –  
Tackling Indigenous Smoking

**NATIONAL CEO  
WORKSHOP REPORT**

Ngunnawal Country (Canberra)  
24 June 2024

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August 2024

## 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 aims of TIS workshops include:

- reviewing Grant Recipient priorities and the appropriate support that the NBPU needs to provide.
- sharing evidence and best practice, and strategies for adaptation at local and regional levels.
- resolving implementation challenges.
- enhancing support, collaboration, network building and communication.
- providing training and tools to assist in program delivery.
- support for performance reporting and evaluation methods and skills.
- dissemination of information and tools on performance reporting, data collection and evaluation; and
- supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership in tobacco control.

The NBPU TIS organises and delivers one national TIS workshop for CEOs and TIS coordinators per year.

## Attendance

The workshop was attended by 60 participants, including 38 representatives from all 26 Grant Recipients. See [Attachment A](#) for a list of participants.

## Program

The 2024 National CEO Workshop was held over a full day on 24 June 2024 on Ngunnawal Country (Canberra). See [Attachment B](#) for an outline of the program as distributed to participants ahead of the workshop.

Summaries of the Workshop sessions are as follows – please see participant presentations on the TIS Website<sup>1</sup> for details.

### **1. Opening remarks and strategic overview (Professor Tom Calma AO, National Coordinator TIS)**

This presentation was delivered by Professor Tom Calma AO and covered the objectives of the TIS program and why it's needed; an overview of the TIS Program processes; Budget 2023-24: TIS, vaping and cancer outcomes; National Tobacco Strategy 2023-2030; National Preventive Health Strategy 2021-2031; information on the TIS funding period 2023-2026; vaping reforms; and cancer mortality rates.

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://tacklingsmoking.org.au/resources/national-ceos-workshop-presentations/>





#### **4. Implementing the TIS Program: a CEO perspective - Panel Q&A (Professor Tom Calma AO, National Coordinator TIS)**

Professor Tom facilitated a Q and A Panel discussion with a particular focus on strategies to meet the national target of reducing Indigenous smoking rates to 27% by 2030. Key issues discussed included:

- Challenges in delivering services across large areas (IREGs)
- the engagement of younger team members and partnerships with the Lung Foundation.
- regional collaboration and strategy development to enhance program effectiveness
- the use of social media for community engagement
- recruitment challenges in remote areas and the importance of local connections
- Innovative Branding and Community Engagement, including shared efforts in branding, health promotion events, community presence and successful partnerships with AFL teams for broader outreach
- a collaborative approach including internal team collaboration; culturally sensitive intervention activities; and the importance of local leadership in program planning and execution.

#### **5. Tobacco Free Evaluation Update (A/Prof Raglan Maddox, ANU)**

Associate Professor Raglan presented information on Thiitu Tharmmay; Indigenous specific evidence; the broader social and political context of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tobacco use; e-cigarettes and confused messaging; what ANU is going to do for the TIS evaluation; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander smoking rates; and smoke-free behaviours.

#### **6. National Lung Cancer Screening Program (A/Prof Lisa Whop, Australian National University)**

Associate Professor Lisa Whop presented information on the National Lung Cancer Screening Program (NLCSP) guidelines including their purpose; the guiding principles; and how to contribute to their development.

#### **7. TIS Implementation and Outcome Evaluation Update (Lena Etuk, CIRCA)**

This presentation was delivered by Lena Etuk from CIRCA and included information on CIRCA's research team and their network; CIRCA's evaluation of TIS; initial preliminary wave 1 findings; and the next steps.

#### **8. Q&A Panel**

A Panel Discussion of the TIS Coordinator, the evaluators and the Department of Health and Ageing discussed:

- the importance of robust data collection for program evaluation; and
- the need for AMS to engage directly with community members, especially those facing financial hardships.

#### **9. Partnerships In Practice (Donna Holden)**

This presentation was delivered by Donna Leigh Holden from the Partnership Brokers Association. It covered information relating to partnerships including intent; reasons

to partner; the partnering continuum; partnering processes; the partnering cycle; resources/contributions mapping; principles of partnership brokering; partnership brokering roles; understanding partnership performance; process for reviewing partnerships; and additional resources and information.

**10. Closing remarks (Professor Tom Calma AO, National Coordinator TIS)**

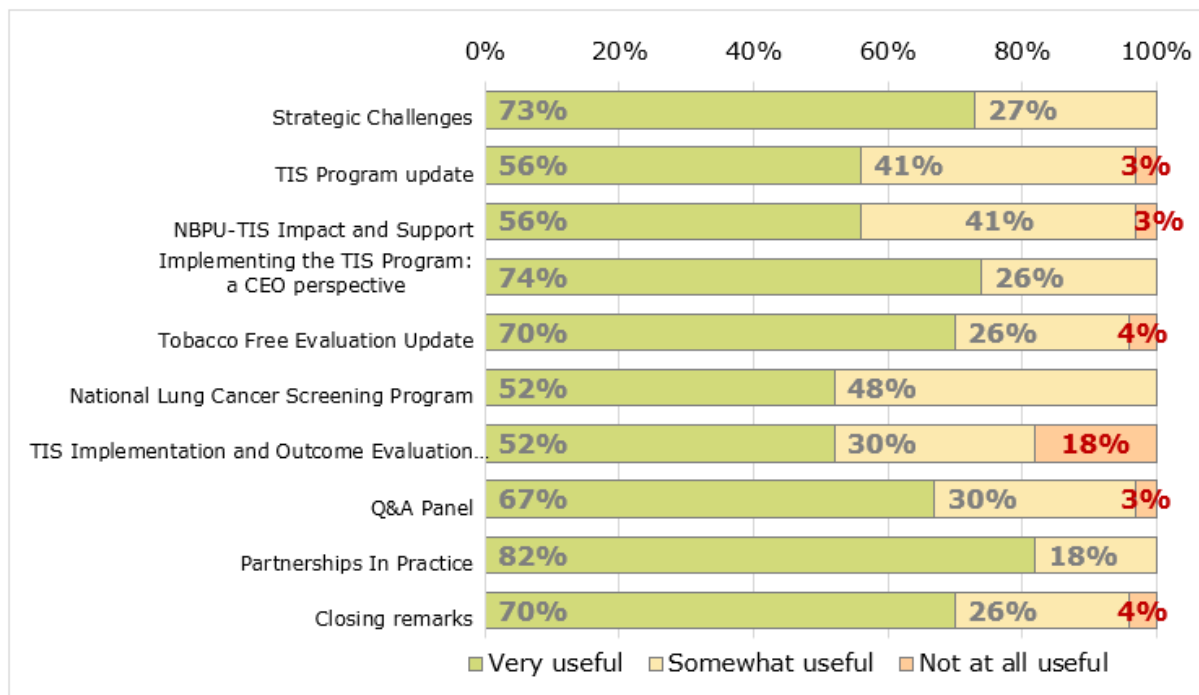
Professor Calma summarized the key points of the workshop. thanked participants for their attendance and wished them safe travels on their return to their services.

**Participant Evaluation**

Each TIS 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 Grant Recipients and their TIS teams.

Participant evaluation feedback was collected using an online survey platform (Qualtrics). A total of 36 responses to the survey were received. When asked to rate the workshop on a scale of 1-10, respondents gave the workshop an average rating of 7.81

All sessions were well received by the majority of survey respondents, however the session with the highest rating was 'Partnerships in Practice' which was rated as 'very useful' by 82% of respondents and 'somewhat useful' by the remaining 18% of respondents (Figure 6).



**Figure 6: Participant evaluation of National CEO workshop sessions, June 2024**

Overall the majority (75%) of participants who responded to the survey were very satisfied with the workshop content, with the remainder somewhat satisfied (25%).

Just over half of the respondents were also happy with the length of sessions (54%), with the remaining respondents being somewhat satisfied (38%) or not at all satisfied (8%).

Most respondents were happy with the overall length of the session (72%), whilst the remainder were somewhat satisfied (20%) or not at all satisfied (8%).

Overall, qualitative feedback from participants was very positive:

*Just a great event that certainly got my creative juices flowing!*

*Overall a good day and made us feel welcome and the opportunity to network as well*

*Very informative sessions and certainly new information being presented. Happy to share the information, we have heard today.*

*Worth attending -partnership session excellent*

*It was a great opportunity to gather with leadership within the TIS space and look at things working positively as well as challenges that are being faced across the Nation. Wish there were more opportunities like this as [it is] beneficial.*

*Thank-you, a really great day spent talking strategically about current and future state.*

Aspects of the workshop which participants nominated as being particularly useful included:

*The opportunity to network with other peers and stakeholders. More stakeholder presentations and more time (perhaps a two days) would be better.*

*General updates on the program. Getting together to share information.*

*Meeting people during the breaks*

*Networking CEO stories strategic overview partnerships*

However, there were some suggestions for improvements:

*The sections on Partnerships painted a picture that is easy if you follow a simple set of rules. The reality is very different and for ACCHOs, funding, reporting and deliverables are too much about satisfying policies rather than satisfying the flexibility to deliver the services to the community without being placed under the microscope.*

*Extend the workshop and have a bigger venue.*

*Too many sessions which were rushed. Try to have less with more time.*

*More time to hear the challenges from organisations and strategies to overcome*

*Maybe 2 days instead of 1*

*Timeliness and changing agendas*

*Could TIS managers/coordinators have a workshop on Partnerships in Practice from an operational perspective as they are actively working with partners on the ground.*

## ATTACHMENT A: Attendance

| <b>Name</b>               | <b>POSITION HELD</b>  | <b>ORGANISATION / DEPARTMENT</b>                             |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Prof. Tom Calma AO</b> | National TIS Coordinator                                    |  |
| <b>Jason Smith</b>        | Chief Executive Officer                                     | Awabakal   |
| <b>Jane Lennis</b>        | Regional TIS Manager  | Galambila Aboriginal Health Service                          |
| <b>Naomi Ingram</b>       | Acting Chief Executive Officer                              | Galambila Aboriginal Health Service                          |
| <b>Adam Phillips</b>      | Chief Executive Officer                                     | Grand Pacific Health   |
| <b>Duncan McWhirter</b>   | Business Manager  | Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service                          |
| <b>Carrine Liddell</b>    | Deputy Chief Executive Officer                              | La Perouse Land Council                                      |
| <b>Chris Ingrey</b>       | Chief Executive Officer                                     | La Perouse Land Council                                      |
| <b>Cherie Bell</b>        | Deputy CEO  | Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service             |
| <b>Megan Humphries</b>    | Manager Quit B Fit  | Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service             |
| <b>Simon Costello</b>     | Deputy Chief Executive Officer                              | Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Services |
| <b>Judy Clarke</b>        | Facilitator   | Flinders Island Aboriginal Association Inc.                  |
| <b>Toni Wood</b>          | Board Member  | Flinders Island Aboriginal Association Inc.                  |
| <b>Lionel Austin</b>      | Manager - Preventative Health Unit                          | Victorian Aboriginal Health Service                          |
| <b>Adelina Stanley</b>    | Executive Manager Service Development & Outreach Operations | Apunipima Cape York Health Council                           |
| <b>Lynette Anderson</b>   | Operations Manager  | Institute for Urban Indigenous Health                        |
| <b>Sharna Partner`</b>    | Operations Manager  | Institute for Urban Indigenous Health                        |
| <b>Renee Williams</b>     | Chief Executive Officer                                     | Torres Health Indigenous Corporation                         |
| <b>Isabella Johnson</b>   | General Manager, Programs                                   | Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia                 |
| <b>Tanya McGregor</b>     | Chief Executive Officer                                     | Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia                 |
| <b>Tim Lawrence</b>       | Tackling Indigenous Smoking Coordinator                     | Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia                 |
| <b>Jacqui Clarke</b>      | Executive Manager   | Nunkuwarrin Yunti of South Australia Inc.                    |
| <b>Kerriann Campbell</b>  | Chief Operations Officer (COO)                              | Nunkuwarrin Yunti of South Australia Inc.                    |
| <b>Simon Prideaux</b>     | Chief Executive Officer                                     | Yadu Health  |
| <b>Marlon Fernando</b>    | Chief Operations Officer (COO)                              | Bega Garnbirringu Health Services Inc.                       |
| <b>Tracey Brand</b>       | Chief Executive Officer                                     | Derbarl Yerrigan Health Sevice                               |
| <b>Deborah Woods</b>      | Chief Executive Officer                                     | Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service                |
| <b>Jenny Bedford</b>      | Deputy CEO  | Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services                        |
| <b>Lesley Nelson</b>      | Chief Executive Officer                                     | South West Aboriginal Medical Services                       |
| <b>Nicole Bowser</b>      | Director of Community Services                              | South West Aboriginal Medical Services                       |
| <b>David Thomas</b>       | Public Health Manager                                       | Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory      |
| <b>John Paterson</b>      | Chief Executive Officer                                     | Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory      |
| <b>Karen Kairupan</b>     | Executive Manager - Public Health Section                   | Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation                     |
| <b>Donna Ah Chee</b>      | Chief Executive Officer                                     | Central Australian Aboriginal Congress                       |
| <b>Rob McPhee</b>         | Chief Executive Officer                                     | Danila Dilba Health Service                                  |
| <b>Jessica Hagley</b>     | Regional Manager Big Rivers TIS program                     | Katherine West Health Board                                  |
| <b>Sinon Cooney</b>       | Chief Executive Officer                                     | Katherine West Health Board                                  |
| <b>Steve Rossingh</b>     | Chief Executive Officer                                     | Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation                         |
| <b>Rebecca Bond</b>       | Chief Executive Officer                                     | Sunrise Health Service Aboriginal Corporation                |



| <b>Name</b>                 | <b>POSITION HELD</b>          | <b>ORGANISATION / DEPARTMENT</b>                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Ben Mudaliar</b>         | Assistant Secretary           | Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care |
| <b>Katherine McHugh</b>     | Assistant Director            | Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care |
| <b>Ray Depoma</b>           | Departmental Officer          | Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care |
| <b>Vanessa Garwood</b>      | Director                      | Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care |
| <b>John Gram</b>            | Director                      | DSS Community Grants Hub                                 |
| <b>Dr Raglan Maddox</b>     |                               | Australian National University                           |
| <b>Lena Etuk</b>            | Director                      | CIRCA  |
| <b>Donna Holden</b>         | Consultant                    | Donna Leigh Holden Consulting                            |
| <b>Ashleigh Parnell</b>     | Senior Research Officer       | Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet/NBPU-TIS             |
| <b>Eileen Van Iersel</b>    | National Program Manager      | NBPU-TIS   |
| <b>Glenn Clarke</b>         | Program Officer               | NBPU-TIS   |
| <b>Kelly Franklin</b>       | Operations Coordinator        | NBPU-TIS   |
| <b>Kerindy Clarke</b>       | Workforce Development Advisor | NBPU-TIS   |
| <b>Maxine Turner</b>        | Senior Project Officer        | NBPU-TIS   |
| <b>Nathan Kropinyeri</b>    | Program Officer               | NBPU-TIS   |
| <b>Onike Williams</b>       | Program Officer               | NBPU-TIS   |
| <b>Scott McLennan</b>       | Communications Manager        | NBPU-TIS   |
| <b>Sonette Johnson</b>      | Program Officer               | NBPU-TIS   |
| <b>Rod Reeve</b>            | Managing Director             | Ninti One Ltd  |
| <b>Penney Upton</b>         | Associate Prof                | University Of Canberra/NBPU-TIS                          |
| <b>Thrishila Parshu Ram</b> | Research Fellow               | University of Canberra/NBPU-TIS                          |

## ATTACHMENT B: Workshop Program

### Tackling Indigenous Smoking National CEO's Workshop

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Venue: Forrest Room 2 - Rydges Canberra  
17 Canberra Ave, Forrest Ngunnawal Country



| Duration | Session  | Facilitators/Speakers  |
|----------|--|--|
| 8.30 am  | Registration Commences   |  |
| 9.00 am  | Welcome to Country   | Ngunnawal Traditional Owner<br>Aunty Violet Sheridan   |
| 9.10 am  | Welcome and housekeeping   | Eileen Van Iersel<br>National Program Manager NBPU TIS   |
| 9.15 am  | Strategic Challenges   | Prof. Tom Calma AO<br>National Co-ordinator TIS  |
| 9.40 am  | TIS Program update   | Vanessa Garwood<br>Department of Health and Aged Care  |
| 10.10 am | Morning tea  |  |
| 10.30 am | National Best Practice Unit Tackling Indigenous Smoking Impact and Support | Maxine Turner, Senior Program Officer<br>and Dr Penney Upton - NBPU TIS                            |
| 11.00 am | Implementing the TIS Program: a CEO perspective - Panel Q&A                | Prof. Tom Calma AO<br>National Co-ordinator TIS  |
| 11.40 am | Tobacco Free Evaluation Update   | A/Prof. Raglan Maddox<br>Yardhura Walani, Australian National<br>University                        |
| 11.50 am | National Lung Cancer Screening Program                                     | A/Prof. Lisa Whop & A/Prof. Raglan<br>Maddox<br>Yardhura Walani, Australian National<br>University |
| 12.00 pm | TIS Implementation and Outcome Evaluation Update.                          | Lena Etuk<br>Director, Cultural & Indigenous Research<br>Centre Australia                          |
| 12.15 pm | Q&A Panel  | Prof. Tom Calma AO,<br>A/Prof. Raglan Maddox, Lena Etuk &<br>DOH&AC                                |
| 12.35 pm | Lunch break  |  |
| 1.15 pm  | Partnerships In Practice   | Donna Holden<br>Development Practitioner, Donna Leigh<br>Holden Consulting                         |
| 3.35 pm  | Afternoon tea  |  |
| 3.45 pm  | Closing remarks  | Prof. Tom Calma AO<br>National Co-ordinator TIS  |
| 4 pm     | Workshop Close   |  |