



NATSIAACC

National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander
Ageing and Aged Care Council



Elders Council Expression of Interest

About NATSIAACC

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ageing and Aged Care Council ('NATSIAACC') is the National Peak body that aims to be an independent voice that will improve the care our Elders and Older People receive. NATSIAACC works with our Member's across Australia to ensure Elders and Older People are able to access support and care that is culturally safe, trauma aware and healing informed, and recognises the importance of their personal connections to community and Country and/or Island Home.

Our Members are ageing and aged care service providers, and organisations with an interest in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led care that support NATSIAACC's objectives. NATSIAACC provides our Members with support and guidance about the issues that our Communities face and to learn from the wisdom and experience of Elders and Older People

NATSIAACC Objectives:

- To develop ageing and aged care policies, and manage programs and processes, which respond effectively to the needs of Elders and Older people, and facilitate access and participation at equitable rates for the Elder and Older Person population.
- Advocate for improvements in the ageing and aged care sector which will benefit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander providers, Elders and Older People.
- Be a council of excellence in the provision of ageing and aged care services by providing leadership, best practice and conducting research.
- Develop partnerships and relationships within the ageing and aged care sector to improve the quality, availability and suitability of ageing and aged care services for Elders and Older People.
- Collect data and participate, collaborate and lead research that seeks to create efficiencies and other benefits to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander providers for the benefit of the community, and improve availability and suitability of ageing and aged care services for the community.

Role of the Elders Council

The role of the Elders Council is to:

- Advise the Board of Directors on cultural issues and issues concerning Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders accessing or needing to access Ageing and Aged Care Services.
- Work within the principles outlined in NATSIAACC's Strategic Plan.
- Reasonably represent the diversity of views among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities.

Elders Council Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the Elders Council include:

- Becoming familiar with NATSIAACC's purpose, objectives, services, and sector.
- Attend and participate in meetings.
- Support the communication and promotion of NATSIAACC's purpose and objectives within the relevant state.
- Utilising own skills, experience, knowledge and networks to support the growth and success of NATSIAACC within the Ageing and Aged Care Sector.
- Review of any initiative to improve accessibility or quality of culturally appropriate aged care services to our Elders and Older People regardless of location.
- Cultural oversight and advisory role to NATSIAACC's Board of Directors on strategy and other relevant policies and initiatives.



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Elders Council meetings and time commitments

- Requirement to attend a minimum of two meetings per year with an additional meeting per year with NATSIAACC's Board of Directors. With a minimum of one meeting every two (2) years to be face-to-face.
- Meetings will be held by any form of technological means by which Members are able to hear each other and participate in discussion.
- Also, any additional meetings as required. These meetings may include (but not limited to) additional meetings called by the Chair of the Elders Council.
- On occasion, there may be out of session discussions via email for the Elders Council to provide advice to NATSIAACC's Policy Team on topics to guide NATSIAACC's submissions and position papers.
- On occasion, there may be some pre-reading to be completed prior to each meeting.
- Must have access to a computer and Microsoft Teams to attend online meetings.
- Term as a member of the Elders Council is three (3) years.
- Members of the Elders Council will be provided sitting fees for time spent attending formal meetings, time on meeting business and official travel time. Travel and costs will be organised by NATSIAACC's Secretariat.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to become a member of the Elders Council, you are to:

- Be an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person over the age of 50 years.
- Have received Aged Care Services for a minimum of 12 months or be able to speak to the needs of people who have received such services.
- Be prepared to provide cultural guidance to the NATSIAACC Board of Directors on matters relating to the delivery and improved access to Aged Care Services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Be able and prepared to travel interstate to attend face-to-face meetings.
- Gain support from a Full Member organisation of NATSIAACC within their state/territory (**note:** if having difficulty obtaining support, NATSIAACC Secretariat will provide support).
- Adhere to the Elders Council Terms of Reference and the NATSIAACC Members Code of Conduct.

Composition of the Elders Council

- The minimum number of Members is five (5).
- The maximum number of Members is eight (8), being made up of:
 - One Member from each of the eight states/territories.
 - One of the eight Members will be elected as Chair by the Elders Council and endorsed by the Board of Directors.
 - One of the eight Members will be elected as Deputy Chair by the Elders Council and endorsed by the Board of Directors.

Application Process

To apply to become a Member of the Elders Council:

- Applications must be via the 'Elders Council Application Form', signed by the applicant, and must include:
 - A written commitment that at all times while a member of the Elders Council will abide by:
 - The Elders Council Terms of Reference.
 - The NATSIAACC Members Code of Conduct.



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- NATSIAACC's Board of Directors will consider each application for membership at the first meeting following the date the application is received. In considering an application, NATSIAACC's Board of Directors may:
 - Accept or reject the application.
 - Ask for more details as to why the Board of Directors should approve the application or respond to queries the Board of Directors may have to assist in consideration of the application.
- If the Board of Directors ask for more information, their determination of the application is deferred until the information is given.
- If multiple applications are received from a state/territory, The Elders Council member must be approved by NATSIAACC Full Members from that state/territory, in a vote among that group of Full Members. The candidate with the most votes would be selected, subject to endorsement from NATSIAACC's Board of Directors.
- The Board of Directors do not have to give a reason for rejecting an application.
- NATSIAACC's Company Secretary will make contact in writing with applicants to advise of the decision made by the Board of Directors as soon as practicable.

How to Apply

Applicants are invited to submit an application in line with NATSIAACC's Expression of Interest by emailing your application to the Company Secretary at cassarah@natsiaacc.org.au.

Please ensure your application includes a completed Elders Council Application Form and letter of support by a NATSIAACC Full Member.

Applications to be submitted by Friday, 24th October 2025.