

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association

22 November 2016

## AIDA attends the Pacific Region Indigenous Doctors Congress in Auckland

The Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) is proud to send a delegation of members to represent Australia, and attend the Pacific Region Indigenous Doctors Congress (PRIDoC) in Auckland, from Sunday 27 November to Thursday 1 December.

AIDA is a partner in the delivery of PRIDoC, which is a biennial congress serving as a platform for cultural exchange between Indigenous doctors and other health professionals in the Pacific region. It also provides delegates with the opportunity to discuss ideas, actions and evidence that are specific to Indigenous health.

The 2016 topic for the congress is 'Talking about Transformation' and delegates are invited to participate in conversation about transformation in Indigenous medical education, healthcare and workforce and most importantly transformation for Indigenous health outcomes.

AIDA CEO Craig Dukes says "PRIDoC provides a place for Indigenous medical professionals to come together in a culturally safe environment to share stories and experiences with one another. Getting together in this way reaffirms what makes Indigenous doctors different. Indigenous health professionals are able to draw strength from one another and take this strength back to their home countries to continue teaching the importance of health and culture."

Mr Dukes, who will be attending his third congress this year, said he is particularly impressed with the high calibre of presenters on the program for 2016. AIDA's President Dr Kali Hayward, Vice President Dr Sean White and student members Ryan Bulger, Louise Richardson and Destiny Powell will present on behalf of AIDA and contribute to what Mr Dukes says is "one of the strongest programs yet."

This is the eighth congress for PRIDoC which continues to gain momentum with each new meeting. The Te Ohu Rata o Aotearoa (Te ORA), the Māori Medical Practitioners Association, have continued this movement in their delivery of PRIDoC in 2016 and AIDA are very pleased to be a part of it.

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