

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association

15 May 2019

## AIDA is committed to working with government to improve representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in the Australian healthcare system

In the days leading into the 2019 federal election, the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) calls on the elected government to work with us to improve representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in the Australian healthcare system.

Today, we release our policy statement titled - <u>Federal Election 2019 – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</u> <u>Medical Workforce</u>, which highlights five key recommendations to improve our healthcare system for Indigenous Australians.

These recommendations call on government to:

- Mandate cultural safety training to ensure a culturally safe health system.
- Work meaningfully with Indigenous health peak organisations and adequately resource the implementations of *The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Medical Workforce* Plan.
- Fully fund the *Implementation Plan of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013-2023* and associated frameworks.
- Recognise the linkages between self-determination and health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples by providing full support for the recommendations in the *Uluru Statement from the Heart.*
- Continue to work in partnership with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led Coalition of Peaks to develop the next Closing the Gap framework and other relevant health and workforce strategies.

As the national peak body representing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander medical students and doctors, AIDA is committed to working tirelessly and constructively with all governments towards achieving these recommendations.

## END MESSAGE

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