

## Meeting minutes

### Meeting details:

<b>Title:</b>	Wide Bay Burnett Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Human Services Network
<b>Date:</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> May 2009
<b>Start time:</b>	10:35am
<b>Venue:</b>	Indigenous Wellbeing Centre - Bundaberg
<b>Chairperson:</b>	Manny Hegarty
<b>Minute taker:</b>	Shelly Howden

### Attendees:

Name	Department/Organisation
Manny Hegarty	Department of Communities, ATSIP
Clowry Kennell	Department of Communities, ATSIP
Shelly Howden	Department of Communities, ATSIP
Reg Jia	Department of Communities, ATSIP
Brenda Williams	Centrelink
James Briggs	Population Health
Jenny Springham	Q Health
Selina Hill	BMRG
Wayne Mulvany	IWC

### Apologies:

Name	Department/Organisation
Ara Harathunian	IWC
Cheri Yavu-Kama-Harathunian	CQU
Patrina Birchall	Youth Justice
Shane Nelson	Kahwun Wooga
Kym Harrison	Wandinny R.A.P.A.S.S

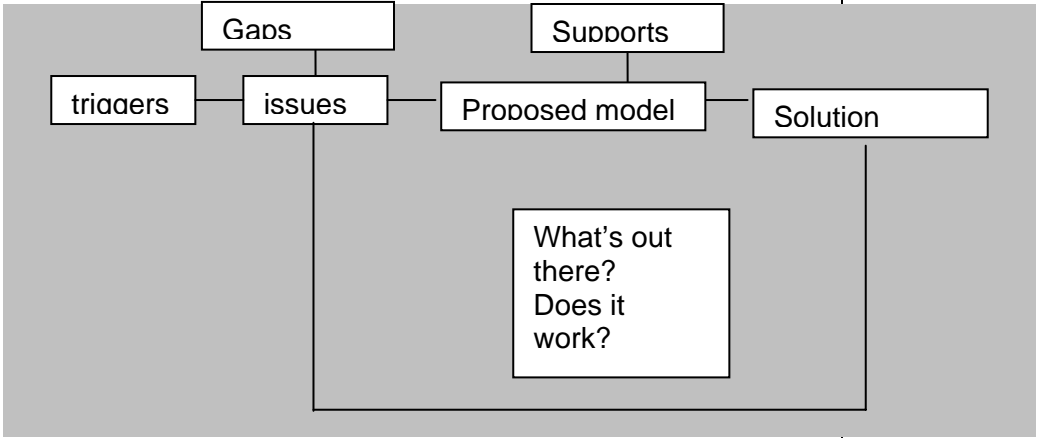
### Review and accept previous minutes:

Discussion	Outcome
Previous minutes distributed to the group and discussed	

### Discussion items:

Item/item number	Discussion and conclusions	Action item	Person responsible
1	Introduction by Manny Hegarty as Chairperson of the meeting and Regional Director of ATSIP. Acknowledgement to the Traditional Owners. Welcome to all members of the WBBATSIHSN.	Introductions	Manny Hegarty
2	Manny provided an update of the changes that have recently occurred within the Department of Communities due to machinery of government changes.  The Department of Communities now comprises of: Housing, Sports and Rec, Child Safety, Office for Women, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (ATSIP).  We have four Ministers and one Director-General, Linda Apelt.	MOG update	Manny Hegarty

	<p><b>Desley Boyle MP:</b> Minister for ATSIP and Local Government.  <b>Phil Reeves MP:</b> Minister for Child Safety and Minister for Sport.  <b>Karen Struthers MP:</b> Minister for Community Services and Housing and Minister for Women.  <b>Annastacia Palaszczuk MP:</b> Minister for Disability Services and Multicultural Affairs.</p> <p>Our structure is still evolving and a transition team has been appointed to work through the changes. However, in the meantime it is business as usual.</p>		
3	<p><b>Sport and Rec positions in the Wide Bay Burnett.</b>  Manny advised that he has recently had discussions with Tony Christensen the regional manager of Sport and Recreation. The previously advertised Sport and Rec positions are still process and will be based in the Wide Bay region.</p>		Manny Hegarty
4	<p>Discussions around the PCYC positions. It was advised that the funding was negotiated at a higher up state level and due to past concerns over accountability of these funds throughout the state it was handed over to PCYC's to manage.</p>		All
5	<p>Discussions around lifting the profile of the WBBATSIHSN meeting to encourage community members to attend. Jenny talked about the need to work together as a group so we can get the ball rolling.</p> <p>Selina also talked about the need to get feedback from the community so that we can hear and voice their concerns.</p> <p>Suggested that Reg Jia could promote the WBBATSIHSN in the ATSIP newsletters and throughout the community when on visits.</p> <p>We as members of the WBBATSIHSN also have a responsibility to bring issues to the group and to take information back to our community. This can also be done when we are attending other community and network meetings.</p> <p><b>A reminder to all as well, that information on the WBBATSIHSN can be found by visiting: <a href="http://www.wbbhsn.org.au">www.wbbhsn.org.au</a></b></p>	<p>Reg to action WBBATSIHSN promotion</p> <p>ALL members to assist with lifting the profile.</p>	ALL
6	<p>Wayne raised an issue re: lack of opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the region and ways that the network can look at addressing these concerns. Especially in the area of employment/training. What is required is funding, support for progression, succession planning, training and real job placements, in order to develop the required on the job skills. A multi-pronged approach is required.</p> <p>There is a lot of funding that goes into education, scholarships and cadetships we also need to look at ways for this money to be redirected into other areas of need.</p> <p>Other suggestions raised during the discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “shadowing” to occur for potential employees to learn on the job skills whilst being mentored. (Identifying someone in the community, talk to our Departments and nurture them through on the job training).</li> <li>• A “think tank” to brainstorm and progress this further.</li> <li>• An action that can be presented at the Negotiation Table.</li> <li>• A concept paper that can be presented to RMCN.</li> </ul>	<p>This item needs further progression into “concept paper”</p> <p>Manny spoke to Wayne after the meeting and requested if he could put some more thought into this and email this to Manny.</p>	Wayne/All open discussion

	 <pre> graph TD     Gaps --&gt; issues     triggers --&gt; issues     issues --&gt; Proposed_model[Proposed model]     Supports --&gt; Proposed_model     Proposed_model --&gt; Solution   </pre>		
7	<p><b>Representatives for RMCN.</b></p> <p>Unfortunately both RMCN reps elected at the previous WBBATSIHSN meeting couldn't attend RMCN. Need to elect reps to attend the next RMCN. Manny to f/up and get dates to be emailed to the group.</p> <p>Many also happy to assist and attend RMCN as it is after the WBBHSWG meeting.</p> <p>Possibly Selina to attend the next RMCN and also discuss her role on Qld's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Council??</p> <p><b>The next RMCN will be in Bundaberg on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May following the Wide Bay Burnett Human Services Working Group (WBBHSWG).</b></p> <p><b>The WBBHSWG is from 10am-12noon, followed by lunch and then RMCN from 1pm-3pm. Venue still has not been confirmed. If you would like to attend please inform Shelly as Manny will be on leave.</b></p>		
8	<p>Discussions regarding Welcome to Country and the term "Elders". Term has changed from a traditional to a contemporary definition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The group discussed how it really comes down to the family group to decide on their "Elders".</li> <li>- Components that make up the person are the most important and the term and use of the word Elder is a "white fella" term and not ours.</li> <li>- Discussion also regarding the gas pipeline - Selina Hill and possible conflicts that need to be sorted out between family groups prior to negotiations with the gas company as family group need to go into the meeting presenting a united front.</li> </ul>	<p>Nothing to progress as decided it is up to individual family groups but this was just food for thought to generate discussion.</p>	<p>Selina Open discussions</p>
9	<p><b>Selina Hill presentation as a member of the Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Council.(QATSIAC)</b></p> <p>QATSIAC was launched on the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the national apology and gives advice to the Queensland government on policies,</p>	<p>Selina to email presentation to Shelly to distribute.</p>	<p>Selina</p>

	<p>programs, services and partnerships to support Tomorrow's Queensland and Closing the Gap targets.</p> <p>The advisory council is made up of 14 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women from across the state. The current members are:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Estelle Bowen</td> <td style="width: 50%;">James William</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Robyn Parkes-Sandri</td> <td><a href="#">Sonia Minniecon</a></td> </tr> <tr> <td><a href="#">Selina Hill</a></td> <td>Max Lenoy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Georgina Archer</td> <td>Napau (Pedro) Stephen</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cindy Shannon</td> <td>Pearly Eatts</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mark Wenitong</td> <td>Norman Clarke</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kevin O'Brien</td> <td>Nathan Jarro</td> </tr> </table> <p>We are fortunate to have both Selina Hill and Sonia Minniecon who are based in the Wide Bay Burnett Region.</p> <p>One of the first tasks for QATSIAC is to develop a preamble into the Qld constitution given us acknowledgement as the first peoples.</p> <p>The draft wording presented to us was:  <b><i>"The state pays tribute to the unique position of Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the first occupants and custodians of this land and for their ancient and enduring cultures which deepen the lives of our state and nation."</i></b></p> <p>Group discussion around the wording and some suggestions/feedback given to Selina from the group and through community consultation. (see below)</p> <p><b><i>"The people of the state of Queensland, pays tribute to the unique values of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as the first peoples of this land and waters for their ancient and enduring cultures which enrich the lives of our state and nation."</i></b></p> <p>Selina would appreciate any feedback and suggestions regarding the preamble.</p> <p>The 2<sup>nd</sup> task for QATSIC is to develop a Reconciliation Action Plan. This plan is currently at Draft stage.</p>	Estelle Bowen	James William	Robyn Parkes-Sandri	<a href="#">Sonia Minniecon</a>	<a href="#">Selina Hill</a>	Max Lenoy	Georgina Archer	Napau (Pedro) Stephen	Cindy Shannon	Pearly Eatts	Mark Wenitong	Norman Clarke	Kevin O'Brien	Nathan Jarro		
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10	<p><b>Department of Communities regional Naidoc funding.</b>          We only have very limited Naidoc funding of \$6000 for the whole Wide Bay and Burnett Region. We are in the process of contacting and inviting community groups to apply for the funding of maximum \$1000 each. For further information please contact Shelly Howden ph: 41259383.</p>		Shelly														
11	<p><b>Brenda Williams: Centrelink:</b> From 1 July 2009 changes to legislation will mean that customers who are in a same-sex de facto relationship will be recognised as partnered for Centrelink and Family Assistance Office purposes. All customers who are assessed as being a member of a couple will have their rate of payment calculated in the same way. For more information, contact Centrelink on ph: 136280 or visit: <a href="http://www.centrelink.gov.au">www.centrelink.gov.au</a>.</p>																

**General business:**

<b>Agenda items for next meeting:</b>	TBA
<b>Next meeting:</b>	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> August – Venue and location TBA