

Queensland Government's NEW STANDARDS for SAFER, SECURE HOUSING

QUEENSLAND'S HOUSING REQUIRES

\$4.1 BILLION

NEW QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT

CHAMPIONS ANNOUNCED

LOW VACANCY

RATES across 80% OF QUEENSLAND

ANGLICARE'S RENTAL AFFORDABILITY

SNAPSHOT 2021

INDIGENOUS LEADERS SUPPORT

CALL for SERVICE DELIVERY AUDIT

AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS HOUSING PROGRAM on AGENDA

Record TENDER AVVARDED to BUILD HOMES IN NORTHERN TERRITORY

New project to DESIGN AFFORDABLE HOUSING in WESTERN AUSTRALIA







HOW TO CONTACT US

Home Magazine welcomes submissions from our members and partners on the great work that is being undertaken to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing outcomes in Queensland. If you would like to contribute story ideas for consideration or comment on items in Home Magazine, please contact our Communications Team at admin@housingqueensland.com.au

Previous Home Magazine issues can be viewed online at www.housingqueensland.com.au

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Housing Queensland
Level 54
111 Eagle Street
Brisbane QLD 4001
Phone: (07) 3012 6349

HOME MAGAZINE *ISSUE 4*



- 2 WELCOME
- 3 PEAK BODY UPDATE

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland

4 QUEENSLAND HOUSING NEWS

Queensland Government's new standards for safer, secure housing Queensland's housing requires \$4.1billion

- 5 Low Vacancy Rates Across 80% of Queensland Anglicare releases Rental Affordability Snapshot 2021
- 6 ICHO & COUNCIL NEWS

Indigenous leaders support call for service delivery audit

7 DATA

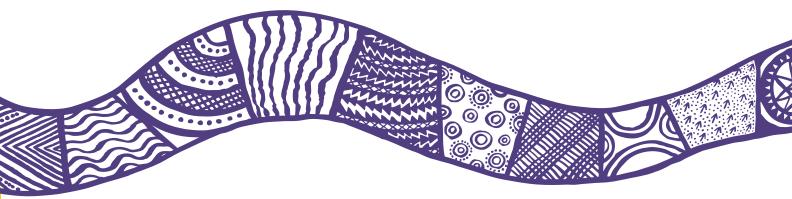
Facts & Figures: Overcrowding

8 NATIONAL HOUSING NEWS

Australian Indigenous housing program on agenda Record tender awarded to build homes in NT New project to design affordable housing in Western Australia

9 CALENDAR/HISTORY

Looking Back in History







FTER a busy three months of building the foundations of our organisation and embarking on our initial work to progress our sector development initiatives, we will now be taking the first steps in our journey to grow our organisation.

With multiple phases of organisational development on track, we will expand our reach and become strong advocates for our members.

To mark this important phase and to carry on with the work ahead of us, we will be officially launching our organisation next month at Parliament House in Brisbane. The Housing Working Group and our Leadership Team have been working tirelessly since the start of the year to put our organisation in a position to launch and we look forward to celebrating yet another milestone in our short, yet exciting and busy journey.

As part of our initiatives to strengthen our sector, we hope you will join us at the May launch to learn more about our organisation and connect with fellow ICHO's, government and community stakeholders for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing.

While we in Queensland continue to make significant steps in the development of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing sector, we have also observed increased progress and advocacy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing nationally. Other States are beginning to develop their sectors and have louder, united voices which is encouraging to see.

You will also notice in this month's edition of Home Magazine that governments and key decision makers are listening and progressing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing matters which we hope will continue.

Enjoy reading this edition of Home Magazine and watching the progress of our sector in Queensland and Australia.

MARY DOCTOR AND ANGELINA AKEE

INTERIM CO-CHAIRS

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND

Update #4

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland had its third meeting of 2021 on 24 and 25 March 2021. The following reveals the key decisions raised, discussed and approved at the meeting. The full communique is available at www.housingqueensland.com.au

THE HOUSING
WORKING GROUP
CONFIRMED THAT
THE NEXT MEETING
WILL BE HELD VIA
TELECONFERENCE
ON WEDNESDAY
21 APRIL 2021.

DECISIONS

PEAK BODY BOARD CHARTER APPROVED The Housing Working Group reviewed and discussed the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland Board Charter and approved its use. This Board Charter provides an overview of our strategic outlook and reflects the corporate governance policy of the organisation. It defines the roles, responsibilities, obligations and authorities of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland's Board of Directors, both individually and collectively. PEAK BODY STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY APPROVED The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland CEO provided the Housing Working Group with an overview on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland Stakeholder Engagement Strategy. The Housing Working Group reviewed and discussed the strategy and approved its use.

FINANCE, AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) APPROVED

The Housing Working Group reviewed Finance, Audit & Risk Committee TOR and approved its use. The purpose of this document is to define the role and responsibilities of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland Finance, Audit and Risk (FAR) Committee.

NOMINATIONS AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) APPROVED The Housing Working Group reviewed the Nominations and Remuneration Committee TOR and approved its use. The purpose of this document is to define the role and responsibilities of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Nominations and Remuneration Committee.

PEAK BODY DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY POLICY FINALISED The Housing Working Group reviewed the Delegation of Authority Policy and approved its use. This policy sets out the circumstances under which the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland Board may delegate its responsibilities. Delegations of Authority are the mechanisms by which a Board enables officers to act on behalf of the organisation.

PEAK BODY BOARD CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY FINALISED The Housing Working Group reviewed and approved the Code of Conduct (Code). It applies to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Housing Queensland Board (Company Directors). This Code sets out the expectations of conduct and behaviour of Company Directors, in general and specifically in relation to legal duties associated with performing their role. As well the Code outlines expected standards of behaviour outside their role as a Company Director where they may impact on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Housing Queensland's reputation.

PEAK BODY MEMBERSHIP DOCUMENTATION FINALISED The Housing Working Group reviewed and discussed the two-page membership application form and approved its use.

PEAK BODY MEMBERS CHARTER APPROVED The Housing Working Group reviewed and discussed the one-page Members Charter, its members pledge and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland pledge and approved its use.

PEAK BODY WEBSITE FINALISED The Housing Working Group reviewed and discussed the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland website content and after viewing the website approved the website going live. The website address is www.housingqueesnland.com.au

PEAK BODY SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN 2021 APPROVED The CEO presented the Service Delivery Plan 2021 to the Housing Working Group. A service delivery plan or a forward work plan outlines the level and types of activities and organisation or project will provide. It is an organisation's planning framework. The Service Delivery Plan 2021 details the actions that will be undertaken to establish Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland. It provides information on the Actions, Responsibilities, Budget and Timeframes. It was approved by the Housing Working Group.

MATTERS FOR NOTING

PEAK BODY CONSTITUTION UPDATE During this meeting, the Housing Working Group participated in the second constitution workshop that was conducted by Gadens Law Firm to fine tune the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland constitution. The workshop made edits to the March 2021 draft version of the constitution. It is anticipated that the constitution will be finalised in April or May 2021.

PEAK BODY HOME MAGAZINE PRESENTATION The General Manager of Communications and Partnerships presented the Housing Working Group with 'Home Magazine', a monthly, 12-page magazine that will be viewable on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland website sent to select stakeholders.

PEAK BODY POTENTIAL PREMISES The Housing Working Group undertook a site visit to a new potential office site in Brisbane. It is hoped that this site can be secured by May 2021.

PEAK BODY STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPMENT The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland CEO provided the Housing Working Group with a strategic plan template has been developed. The development of the strategic plan development has commenced and will be finalised after the incorporation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland.





Deputy Director-General, Homelessness and Housing, **Trish Woolley** (far right) and A/Executive Director, Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander Housing, **Sharon Kenyon** (far left) meet
with the **Housing Working Group members**.



News

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT'S **NEW STANDARDS** FOR *safer*, *secure housing*



INISTER for Public Works and Procurement Mick de Brenni has helped score a big win for millions of Australians today, with a majority of State and Territory Building Ministers agreeing to include a national minimum standard for new housing in the public comment draft of the National Construction Code 2022.

Minister de Brenni said a minimum accessibility standard would ensure safe, secure and liveable housing especially for seniors, with significant growth expected in the number of Australians remaining in their homes as they age.

"Housing should be designed to accommodate all people, regardless of their age or disability," the Minister said.

"From young families with children to those

INISTER for Public Works and with a temporary injury or permanent disability Procurement Mick de Brenni has as well as the elderly, these reforms will benefit helped score a big win for millions everyone.

"Finding a suitable rental home or home to purchase can be incredibly challenging for the 3.8 million seniors and the 4.4 million Australians with a mobility-related disability.

Minister de Brenni said the minimum accessibility standard will now form part of the National Construction Code 2022 public comment draft, which is scheduled to be released on 10 May.

The national minimum accessibility standard would include simple but crucial features at the silver standard of the Liveable Housing Design Guidelines.

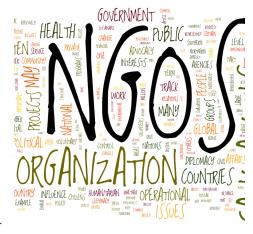
Reference: 'New standards for safer, secure housing', Queensland Government, April 2021

NEW QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT CHAMPIONS ANNOUNCED

n April, the Government Champion Program will continue to provide an opportunity for Chief Executives of Queensland Government agencies to work together with identified communities towards improving life outcomes for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people, in a collaborative partnership.

In a complementary program, Queensland Ministers will act as individual champions for discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Under the Ministerial Government Champion's Program, Ministers work closely with mayors and community leaders from their partner community to engage more effectively with Cabinet on the opportunities and challenges facing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

While new Queensland Ministers and Chief Executives of Government agencies have been delegated their respective communities, the Honourable Annastacia Palaszczuk MP (Premier and Minister for Trade), Honourable Craig Crawford MP (Minister for Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships), Ms Katarina Carroll (Commissioner, Queensland Police Service), Mr Robert Setter (Commissioner, Public Service Commission) and Dr Chris Sarra (Director-General, Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships) will serve all Queensland Indigenous communities. Reference: Government Champions, Queensland Government,





OUSING and support organisations in Brisbane have jointly launched a pre-budget campaign urging the Queensland government to commit \$4.1 billion to urgently build more social housing.

Queensland has already committed to spending \$1.6 billion over 10 years to build around 5,500 social and affordable homes. Construction has started on just under half of those properties.

But social services believe that number is well short of the mark and there were nearly 26,397 households listed on the state government's Public Housing Register as of last September.

Queensland Council of Social Service (QCOSS) gathered 12 organisations together for the Town of Nowhere campaign, including Micah Projects, Brisbane Housing Company, Mission Australia, Save The Children and St Vincent de Paul Society recently.

They argue that the Public Housing Register represents at least 47,000 people seeking accommodation — more than the population of towns like Gladstone, Mount Isa or Gympie.

QCOSS chief executive Aimee McVeigh said it was clear "Queensland is currently in a housing crisis". Reference: 'Queensland's housing 'crisis' requires \$4.1b, social services tell

state government'. ABC News. April 2021



LOW VACANCY RATES ACROSS 3 80% OF QUEENSLAND



HE first quarter results for 2021 state rental vacancies are in, with the latest data revealing 78.9% of Queensland's rental markets remained static or experienced tighter strains on the number of rentals available. It's a similar narrative for national vacancy rates, with empty rental listings remaining low across Australia.

According to the current vacancy report, released by the Real Estate Institute of Queensland (REIQ), 70.2% of the state's rental vacancies remain under 1.0%, with the biggest pinch recorded in Brisbane's inner city, with rates dropping 0.5% over the quarter.

The most pronounced rental demand levels far outstrip available vacancies is across regional Queensland, with the tightest vacancies currently to be found in the Fraser Coast's Maryborough (0.2%) followed by the Southern Downs (0.3%) and Bundaberg regions (0.5%), while a rate of 0.4% has been recorded across Gympie, Rockhampton and Sunshine Coast.

Reference: 'Extremely Low Vacancy Rates Endure Across 80% of Queensland', Real Estate Institute of Queensland, April 2021

ANGLICARE RELEASES RENTAL AFFORDABILITY SNAPSHOT 2021

VERY year Anglicare
Australia tests if it is possible
for people on low incomes to
rent a home in the private market.
They do this by taking a snapshot
of the thousands of properties listed
for rent on realestate.com.au on one
weekend in March or April.

Anglicare then assess whether each property is affordable and suitable for fourteen types of households on low incomes and found a dire situation.

THE SNAPSHOT FOUND THAT OUT OF 74,266 LISTINGS:

- \bullet NEITHER MELBOURNE NOR SYDNEY HAD ANY AFFORDABLE LISTINGS FOR A PERSON ON JOBSEEKER.
- THERE WERE NO LISTINGS (0 PERCENT) THAT WERE AFFORDABLE FOR A PERSON ON YOUTH ALLOWANCE ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTRY.
- FOR A COUPLE LIVING ON THE AGE PENSION, ONLY TWO PERCENT OF RENTALS WERE AFFORDABLE.
- SINGLE RETIREES HAVE IT EVEN WORSE, WITH LESS THAN ONE PERCENT OF LISTINGS LEFT TO COMPETE FOR.
- A SINGLE PERSON WORKING FULL-TIME ON THE MINIMUM WAGE WILL FIND THAT ONLY ONE PERCENT OF RENTALS ARE AFFORDABLE.
- COMPARED WITH 2020, EVERY SINGLE HOUSEHOLD TYPE IS WORSE OFF AS RENTS CONTINUE TO RISE FOR THE AUSTRALIANS WHO CAN AFFORD IT LEAST.

Reference: Rental Affordability Snapshot, Anglicare Australia, April 2021

News

INDIGENOUS LEADERS SUPPORT CALL FOR SERVICE DELIVERY AUDIT

ORE than 60 Indigenous leaders from Queensland's 17 First Nations councils have gathered in Cairns in April 2021 to discuss common issues affecting their communities, such as housing and inadequate service delivery.

The Indigenous Leaders Forum (ILF) heard from speakers including Minister for Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts Leeanne Enoch and Assistant Local Government Minister Nikki Boyd, as well as key departmental decision-makers, over the two-day forum.

The ILF offered its collective support to
Mornington Shire Council Mayor Kyle Yanner
whose urgent plea for an independent audit to be
held into the services that are being delivered to his
community because the current situation on Mornington
Island reaching crisis point.

ILF Co-Chair, Hope Vale Mayor Jason Woibo, said the unacceptable conditions Mayor Yanner and his community are experiencing

demonstrated just how crucial it was for the services being delivered to First

the services being delivered to First

Nations communities to be improved.

"Mayor Yanner is not alone in this.
The ILF is united on the need for change.
The health and welfare of our people depends on it," Mayor Woibo said.

ILF Co-Chair, Lockhart River Mayor Wayne Butcher, said the adequacy of service delivery to First Nations communities was of critical

Reference: 'Indigenous leaders support call for service delivery audit', Local Government Association of Queensland, April 2021

DEADLINE FOR SMOKE ALARMS LOOMS



FROM 1 JANUARY
2022 RESIDENTIAL
RENTAL PROPERTIES
REQUIRED TO HAVE
INTERCONNECTED,
PHOTOELECTRIC
SMOKE ALARMS
INSTALLED

CHO's are being encouraged to act now as the deadline for residential rental properties to comply with smoke alarm legislation looms.

Fire and Emergency Services Minister Mark Ryan said from 1 January 2022, residential rental properties would be required to have interconnected, photoelectric smoke alarms installed in every bedroom, in hallways and on every level.

"The law applies when new leases are commenced or an existing lease is extended, but we urge all property owners to transition to the new safer alarms as soon as possible.

"It's simple - smoke alarms save lives and interconnected, photoelectric smoke alarms are the safest option available," Mr Ryan said.

"This is about landlords putting the safety of their tenants first while also protecting their property and rental income."

Mr Ryan said residential rental properties that didn't comply with the legislation would be unable to be rented out from January next year.

"If you haven't made the necessary changes to your rental property now is the time. Complying with the legislation is not optional, it's the law.

Reference: 'Silence is deadly, compliance isn't', Queensland

Reference: 'Silence is deadly, compliance isn't', Queenslanc Government, April 2021

Overcrowding

In 2018–19, the AIHW and ABS analysis of National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey found that Indigenous Australians released a snapshot of overcrowding.

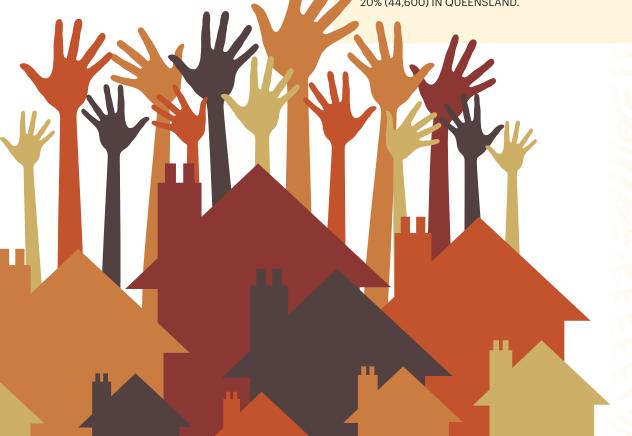
18% of INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS LIVING IN OVERCROWDED

Key findings were that:

- INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS WERE 3.7 TIMES AS LIKELY TO BE LIVING IN OVERCROWDED CONDITIONS AS NON-INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS.
- EIGHTEEN PER CENT (145,340) OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS WERE LIVING IN HOUSING CONSIDERED OVERCROWDED, COMPARED WITH 5% OF NON-INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS.
- THE 2018–19 RATE REPRESENTED
 A DECLINE IN OVERCROWDING
 SINCE 2004–05, WHEN ALMOST 27%
 OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS LIVED IN OVERCROWDED HOUSEHOLDS.

• IN TERMS OF HOUSEHOLDS, DATA FROM THE 2016 CENSUS SHOWED THAT THE PROPORTION OF OVERCROWDED INDIGENOUS HOUSEHOLDS WAS ALSO AROUND 3 TIMES THE RATE OF NON-INDIGENOUS HOUSEHOLDS—10% OF INDIGENOUS AND 4% OF OTHER

THE **2018–19 HEALTH SURVEY** ALSO FOUND THAT, IN TERMS OF PEOPLE, overcrowding was highest for Indigenous Australians in the Northern Territory, WHERE **51%** (37,000) OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS LIVED IN OVERCROWDED HOUSEHOLDS. OTHER STATES AND TERRITORIES RANGED FROM 8% (600) OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS LIVING IN OVERCROWDED HOUSEHOLDS IN THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY TO 20% (44,600) IN QUEENSLAND.





AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS

HOUSING PROGRAM ON AGENDA

POPULAR but defunct housing program for remote Indigenous communities has been thrown a lifeline in a Senate report on the effectiveness of the government's northern Australia agenda.

Among the 29 recommendations in the report, tabled on Wednesday, is a push to re-establish the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing and to generally improve "severe socio-economic disadvantage" faced by Indigenous people living in the country's north.

The long-running program was rolled out by the states and territories from 2008 until 2018 when it was axed by the Turnbull Government.

The end of the program came despite pleas from leaders in Indigenous communities where it is common to have between 15 and 20 people living in two and three-bedroom dilapidated homes for it to be continued.

Queensland's Indigenous mayors and councillors passed a resolution in November 2020 calling for a revamp of the scheme.

A 2017 review found the \$5.4bn program delivered 11,500 homes -4000 newly built and 7500 refurbished - across Australia and cut overcrowding from 52.1 per cent in 2008 to 41.3 per cent in mid-2015.

Reference: 'Indigenous housing program on agenda', The Australian, April 2021

NEW PROJECT TO DESIGN AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

NEW pilot project by architecture students from The University of Western Australia and Indigenous representatives from the North West aims to provide affordable and culturally appropriate housing to communities in the Pilbara.

The UWA Masters in Architecture students will work with representatives from Robe River Kuruma to co-design a number of family houses planned for Karratha.

The pilot project aims to provide affordable housing using contemporary prefabrication techniques as a showcase for other indigenous and non-Indigenous groups.

The students are working with the Robe River Kuruma people to incorporate culturally appropriate aspects and make the design appropriate in terms of commercial and regulatory design principles, block sizes and budget.

The houses will have a prefabricated service core, with two bathrooms, a kitchen and laundry with a secondary structural system built around the frame.

The completed result is indistinguishable from a normal house but uses a different building method and technology.

Reference: 'New project to design affordable housing', The University of Western Australia, April 2021

RECORD TENDER AWARDED TO ABORIGINAL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE TO BUILD HOMES IN NORTHERN TERRITORY

HE Territory Labor Government's groundbreaking remote housing program has reached a new milestone with the awarding of a \$51.5 million contract to build 87 homes in Galiwin'ku.

Local Aboriginal Business Enterprise, Bukmak Constructions will carry out the works over five-years, providing apprenticeship and other training opportunities for residents of the remote island community.

This is the largest single contract awarded to date under the Territory Labor Government's Remote Housing Investment Package which aims to alleviate overcrowding and improve living conditions; provide sustainable employment; enable economic development opportunities; and engage remote communities through Local Decision Making.

Bukmak Constructions, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation (ALPA) plans to facilitate a community-based training program for local Yolngu workers, creating career pathways with the offer of apprenticeships and traineeships.

The five-year contract period will support a pipeline of works in the East Arnhem region, opening up opportunities for Territory trades and supply businesses as well as associated support industries such as mechanics and catering.

Reference: 'Record tender awarded to Aboriginal Business Enterprise to build homes in Galiwin'ku', Northern Territory Government, April 2021



COMING UP IN

May 2021

MAY

DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH

is held in May each year to raise community awareness and promote a clear message that domestic and family violence will not be tolerated in our communities.

27 MAY

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK (NRW)

is celebrated across Australia each year between 27 May and 3 June. The dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey-the anniversaries of the successful 1967 referendum and the High Court Mabo decision.

3 MAY LABOUR DAY

9 MAY mother's day



26 MAY NATIONAL SORRY DAY LAUNCH OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND Queensland Parliament House, Brisbane

15 MAY

THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF

FAMILIES is an opportunity to raise awareness of issues relating to families in the international community

27 MAY

AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Host a tea your way on Thursday 27th May to raise essential funds for people impacted by cancer.





A NEW PEAK HOUSING BODY IS HERE

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland was established in early 2021. We are a new not-for-profit organisation that is the professional peak representative body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing providers in Queensland. We are an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation and our purpose is to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing outcomes in Queensland.

WANT TO BE A MEMBER?

Run an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing organisation in Queensland?

Or are you an Indigenous Council in Queensland?

THEN YOU BELONG WITH US!

To become a Member of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland and to enjoy our benefits, please email us at membership@housingqueensland.com.au