

HOME

Monthly Magazine
MAY 2021
ISSUE 5

MAGAZINE

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AND FAMILY SERVICES**

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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Housing Queensland



ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND
HOME MAGAZINE *ISSUE 5*



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Housing Queensland

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

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THE month of May marks the culmination of a huge six months of developing our peak body for housing, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queensland. Later in the month, we celebrate a big milestone with the launch of the organisation after getting the necessary foundations in place.

A big thanks goes to our Housing Working Group and our Leadership Team for a big start to the year. While significant work has already been done, the launch will represent the beginning of the journey and we hope you will join us to make a stronger, more unified sector.

This month's edition of Home Magazine is all about this year's Federal Budget and the various impacts it will have on social and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing around Australia. In this month's edition, we see who the winners were in housing and hear some thoughts from our State government and other peak bodies as to where the improvements can be made.

With stronger state representation in housing for all of our mob, the benefits of a unified approach from community and our governments can be seen more clearly, and it's further evidenced by the continued progress in each State as the year rolls on. While we continue our momentum here in Queensland, it's always great to see other State's and Territories prosper in their own right.

In the next issue, we will bring you the highlights of our Launch and our continued efforts for more engagement opportunities as our organisation gains momentum for community, Queensland and national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing interests.

MARY DOCTOR AND ANGELINA AKEE

INTERIM CO-CHAIRS

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND

Update #5

The Housing Working Group held their fourth 2021 meeting on Wednesday, 21 April 2021.

The following reveals the key decisions raised, discussed and approved at the meeting. The full communicate is available at www.housingqueensland.com.au

MATTERS FOR NOTING

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT SUBMITTED TO DEPARTMENT

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland CEO provided the Housing Working Group with an update on the provide the Quarterly Progress Report January – March 2021 that was submitted to the Department of Housing on 14 April 2021. This report outlined the activities that were completed by the organisation over a three month period and included a Service Delivery Plan with details activities which will be completed up to December 2021.

DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN PROVIDED The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland CEO provided the Housing Working Group with an update on the development of the Draft Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024. The draft strategic plan is divided into several key parts and contains strategic information and is based on discussions with the Housing Working Group that have been conducted since January 2021. Feedback from the Housing Working Group is due at the May 2021 before feedback will be sought from potential members and stakeholders.

WORK LEVEL STANDARDS DISCUSSED The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland CEO provided the Housing Working Group with information on Work Level Standards that will be introduced into our organisation. Between April – June 2021, our organisation will be employing more people. Unwanted salary variations across an organisation must be avoided. The proposed Work Level Standards will provide our organisation with a solution to control these variations. This six-level internal classification system will create a professional organisation that will provides greater job clarity, salary integrity and fairness in the workplace. It will assign a salary category against each level that are supported by a job description.

LAUNCH UPDATE The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland CEO provided the Housing Working Group with a comprehensive update on the launch of the organisation that is scheduled for 11:30am at Queensland Parliament House on Wednesday, 26 May 2021. The CEO also confirmed that the Minister for Housing (Leeanne Enoch) will officially launch the organisation.

APRIL 2021 MEETING WITH MINISTER FOR HOUSING The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland CEO an overview of a meeting that was conducted with the Minister for Housing on 14 April 2021. In attendance at this first meeting between our organisation and the Minister were Mary Doctor (Co-Chairperson), Angelina Akee (Co-Chairperson), Neil Willmet (CEO) and John Huggins (General Manager, Communications & Partnerships). Sharon Kenyon (A/Executive Director, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing) from the Department of Housing also attended. This meeting discussed the organisation, our history, vision, purpose, our housing priority areas and the launch.

OFFICE UPDATE The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland CEO provided the Housing Working Group with an update on potential new office premises at Ground Floor, 41 George Street, Brisbane.

PROPOSED QUEENSLAND ICHO MEETING The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland CEO provided the Housing Working Group with information on a joint Department of Housing and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland workshop for Queensland ICHO's that is scheduled for Tuesday 25 May 2021 in Brisbane. The purpose of this workshop is to update Queensland ICHO's on the implementation of the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Action Plan and the formation of our organisation.

THE NEXT HOUSING WORKING GROUP MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR **WEDNESDAY 26 AND THURSDAY 27 MAY 2021**. THIS WILL BE A FACE-TO-FACE MEETING IN BRISBANE.

News

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT'S BOOST for DOMESTIC and FAMILY SERVICES

THE Palaszczuk Government is boosting support for victims of domestic, family and sexual violence with extra funding for services across the state. Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk announced the extra \$30 million today during Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month.

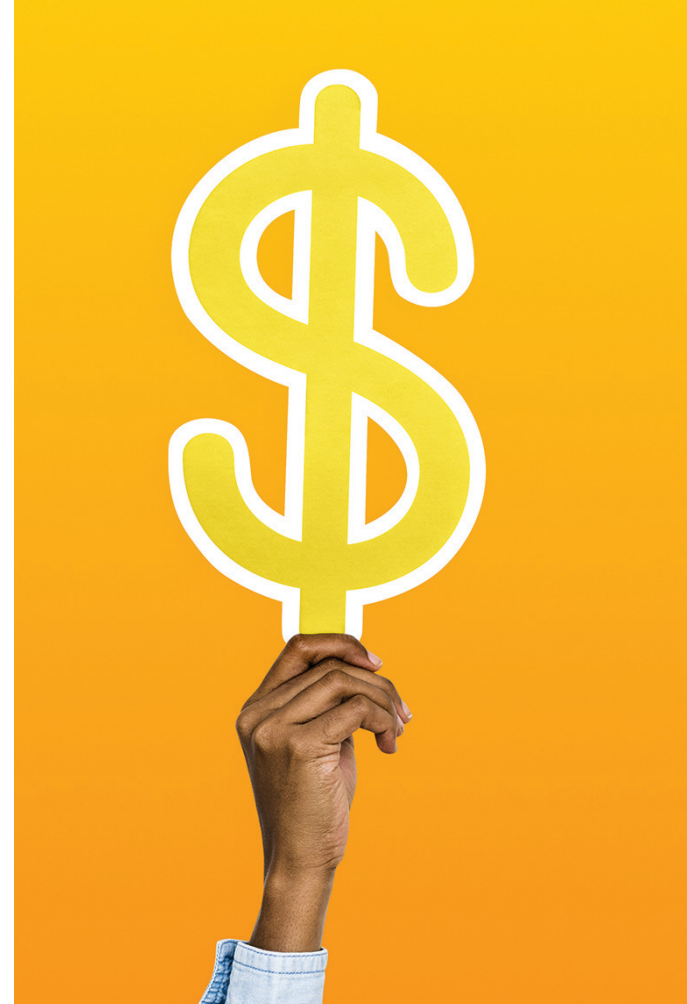
"The additional \$30 million will be delivered over the next four years and is on top of the \$7.5 million extra we committed last year to cope with the higher demand on services during the global pandemic."

The Premier said domestic, family and sexual violence is an incredibly complex issue to tackle – but as a government we are tackling it head on.

"We have invested more to prevent it than any other government in Queensland's history and have worked hard on generational reforms," Ms Palaszczuk said.

"That includes changing attitudes and strengthening justice responses including implementing respectful relationships in schools, establishing specialist domestic and family violence courts and funding new shelters for people escaping violence and abuse."

Reference: '\$30M boost to domestic and family violence services across Queensland', Queensland Government, May 2021



LABOR CALLS FOR MORE SOCIAL HOUSING IN BUDGET REPLY

TENS of thousands of social and affordable housing properties would be built as part of a \$10 billion housing future fund promised by the federal opposition.

Labor leader Anthony Albanese used his budget reply speech to pledge a Housing Australia Future Fund to deliver 20,000 social housing properties in its first five years.

Four thousand of the homes would be allocated to women and children who are escaping family and domestic violence and to older women who are at risk of homelessness.

Labor's plan also includes a promise to build 10,000 affordable homes for frontline workers such as nurses, police, and cleaners, who Mr Albanese said were the "heroes of the pandemic".

A portion of the returns made on the future fund would be used for the repair and maintenance of homes in remote Indigenous communities.

The money would also be put towards crisis accommodation for women and children and specialist services for veterans who are experiencing homelessness.

Reference: 'Labor leader Anthony Albanese promises 20,000 social housing properties in budget reply speech', ABC News, May 2021

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT'S CALLS FOR MORE FUNDING IN INDIGENOUS HOUSING

IN a joint statement from the Premier and Minister for Trade, The Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk and the Treasurer and Minister for Investment, The Honourable Cameron Dick, the Queensland Government has highlighted Indigenous housing as a priority, amongst a list of vital funding measures that Queenslanders need to see in May's Federal Budget.

"Thanks to the way Queenslanders have responded to this health crisis, we're able to focus our attention more intently on rebuilding our economy," Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk said.

The joint statement asked that the Federal Government: Commit \$1 billion over the next 10 years to address overcrowding in remote Indigenous housing in Queensland, noting the National Agreement on Closing the Gap which includes a joint target that 'by 2031 increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in appropriately size (not overcrowded) housing by 88 per cent'.

"We know safe and secure housing is essential to delivering improved health outcomes, greater participation in education and employment, giving children the best start to life and reducing incidences of domestic and family violence. Remote housing funding also supports critically needed jobs and apprenticeships in remote and rural communities."

Reference: 'Time for Scott Morrison to deliver for Queensland', Queensland Government, May 2021

FEDERAL BUDGET: MISSED OPPORTUNITIES TO INVEST IN SOCIAL AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING PIPELINE



THE homelessness and housing sector has eagerly awaited the 2021-22 Federal Budget in a context of unprecedented demand pressure and reducing housing affordability. While the Federal Budget includes measures to assist people into home ownership it falls short of sector calls for significant investment in social and affordable housing supply.

National Shelter is warning that measures to increase access to home ownership risk adding demand pressure to the housing market at a time when prices are rising and where rental vacancies are at a dangerous low.

Adrian Pisarski from National Shelter importantly states that 'social and affordable housing at scale creates the pipeline of investment required to bring institutional investment into social and affordable housing. Governments have been encouraged to provide the suite of incentives to allow social and affordable housing to grow. These include capital and subsidy investments by the Commonwealth including using tax credits and land, planning, capital and operational subsidies from states and local governments.'

Reference: 'Q Shelter response to Federal Budget 2021-22', Q Shelter, May 2021

QUEENSLAND'S BIGGEST POPULATION BOOM in 16 YEARS

QUEENSLAND experienced a boom in new residents not seen in almost two decades as families fled COVID lockdowns in southern states in 2020 in search of a better lifestyle.

Australian Bureau of Statistics figures reveal Victoria had its first net interstate population loss since 2008 last year, with 12,700 people moving out, while more than 18,800 people left New South Wales for other parts of the country.

At the same time, Queensland was a winner, having its highest net gain since 2004, with 30,000 moving to the Sunshine State from interstate.

Brisbane (13,000 people), Perth (3500) and Canberra (300) were the only capital cities to record net gains over the year.

Demographer Mark McCrindle said the exodus from Victoria was "no surprise" as its residents faced a tough year with lengthy lockdowns.

On the other hand, states like Queensland that avoided mass COVID outbreaks were seen as more attractive.

Reference: 'We haven't looked back': Qld's biggest population boom in 16 years', Brisbane Times, May 2021



News MULGUMPIN RETURNS to TRADITIONAL OWNERS



PROTECTED areas on Mulgumpin (Moreton Island) will be transferred back to Traditional Owners after the Palaszczuk Government today passed landmark legislation.

Environment Minister Meaghan Scanlon said in recognition of the Quandamooka Peoples' native title rights on Mulgumpin, the Palaszczuk Government would begin the formal process to return some 17,000 hectares of national and conservation parkland.

"The Quandamooka People have been custodians of Mulgumpin for thousands of years - protecting and managing the land for generations," Ms Scanlon said.

The transfer of national park ownership to the Quandamooka People as Aboriginal land will see it subsequently become jointly-managed areas between the Traditional Owners and Palaszczuk Government.

"It's this government that set in motion Queensland's Path to Treaty, is investing close to \$1 billion to protect the environment and create jobs as part of our economic recovery, and is recognising native title rights over Mulgumpin."

Reference: 'Mulgumpin (Moreton Island) land returns to Traditional Owners', Queensland Government, May 2021



PALM ISLAND COUNCIL DELIVERS FIRST LGBTQI PORTFOLIO IN QUEENSLAND



ANORTH Queensland council has become the first in the state to introduce an LGBTQI portfolio, to ensure the community is represented in all its decisions.

Newly elected deputy mayor of the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council, Andrew Castors, said he was compelled to make the move after identifying a need in the community.

"For years on Palm here we've always had the women's shelter and we've also had the men's group - there was nothing for the LGBT community on the island," Cr Castors said

As part of the portfolio, Cr Castors meets with LGBTQI residents on the island to discuss matters concerning the queer community.

"We're seeing members from the LGBT community from the mainland [Townsville] coming to Palm Island and some of them have now applied for housing because they feel more accepted here than they do on the mainland with their own families," Cr Castors said.

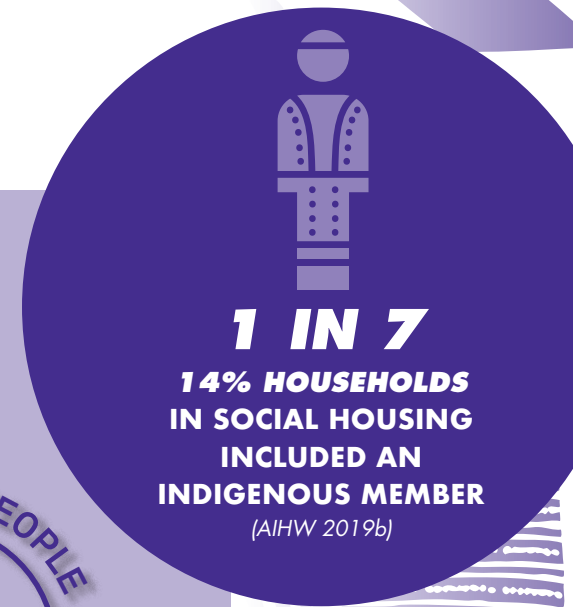
Reference: 'Palm Island council delivers first LGBTQI portfolio in Queensland', ABC News, May 2021

Social Housing

In 2018-19, an AIHW and ABS analysis for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey found the following information about social housing provision for Indigenous Australians.

SOCIAL HOUSING

SOCIAL HOUSING IS RENTAL HOUSING PROVIDED BY STATE AND TERRITORY GOVERNMENTS AND COMMUNITY SECTORS. ITS PURPOSE IS TO ASSIST PEOPLE WHO ARE UNABLE TO ACCESS SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION IN THE PRIVATE RENTAL MARKET. SOCIAL HOUSING INCLUDES PUBLIC HOUSING, STATE OWNED AND MANAGED INDIGENOUS HOUSING, COMMUNITY HOUSING, AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY HOUSING (AIHW 2019a).

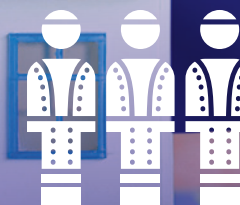


AS AT 30 JUNE 2018:



55,859

INDIGENOUS HOUSEHOLDS WERE IN **SOCIAL HOUSING**, WITH MOST (35,619) IN PUBLIC HOUSING, 13,817 IN STATE OWNED AND MANAGED INDIGENOUS HOUSING AND 6,423 IN COMMUNITY HOUSING (SCRGSP 2019)



17,477

PERMANENT INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY HOUSING (ICH) DWELLINGS WERE MANAGED BY FUNDED AND UNFUNDED ICH ORGANISATIONS (AIHW 2019b)

News



Land agreement CASH FLOWS to WA'S YAMATJI PEOPLE

MILLIONS of dollars in native title money has begun to flow to the Yamatji Nation in Western Australia's Mid West region, the state government says.

The group signed an Indigenous land use agreement in February, following negotiations that began in 2017.

The Yamatji Nation has established a charitable trust, with the government to contribute the first \$10 million of a benefits package totalling approximately \$500 million.

The money is part of a deal to resolve the government's compensation liability for the impairment or extinguishment of native title over about 48,000 sq km of land.

The Yamatji Nation will have non-exclusive possession rights over parts of the former Barnong, Menai Hills and Kadji Kadji pastoral leases, land parcels near the Wanda Nature Reserve, Lucky Bay, and the Aboriginal Lands Trust areas in Carnamah, Kadathini and Eneabba.

The government says the Yamatji Nation Trust will receive \$325 million in cash, as well as revenue streams from mining, and money to develop water resources.

It will also grant access to commercial property, housing, and business development funding.

Reference: 'Land agreement cash flows to WA's Yamatji', Busselton Mail, May 2021

NORTHERN TERRITORY REMOTE HOUSING WINNERS IN FEDERAL BUDGET

AFTER years of advocating, the Northern Territory will receive \$185 Million in funding to improve remote housing in the State.

The Australian Government is supporting significant reform in the provision of housing for Indigenous Australians in remote communities, particularly in the Northern Territory. This will help address overcrowding, homelessness, poor housing conditions and severe housing shortages.

This funding supports the delivery of new houses, housing refurbishments and housing-related infrastructure. It also provides incentives to establish more sustainable housing systems in remote Indigenous communities. There was no funding set aside for remote communities in other parts of the country.

Reference: Budget Paper 3, Australian Government, May 2021

NEW ABORIGINAL HOUSING in ACT



HOUSING ACT will build Ningulangu ("Belonging to: home, place") by the end of the year, and the first tenants will move in shortly after.

Vulnerable elders and other Indigenous people will have housing of a standard they deserved, she said, rather than second-rate homes with cockroaches and holes in walls. They will also be able to have visitors without fear of retaliation. The complex is near the Dickson shops, so residents will be close to markets and the tram.

The ACT Government has worked with the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body (ATSIEB) to ensure the homes will be culturally appropriate. The complex includes yarning circles, fire pits, and native gardens in each dwelling.

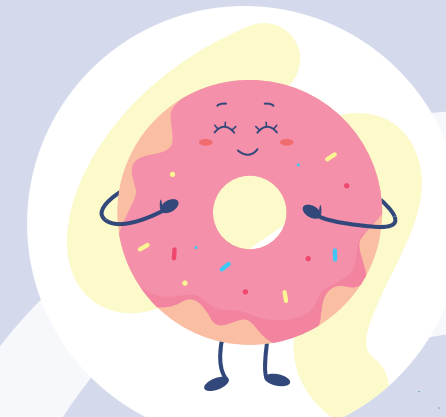
"This sets an excellent example of strong partnership in this community, and can only be done when people come to the table with goodwill together," Ms Hughes, an ATSIEB member, said.

The ACT Government will select tenants based on advice from the Elected Body and elders.

Reference: 'Aboriginal homes for the elderly to be built in Dickson', Canberra Weekly, May 2021

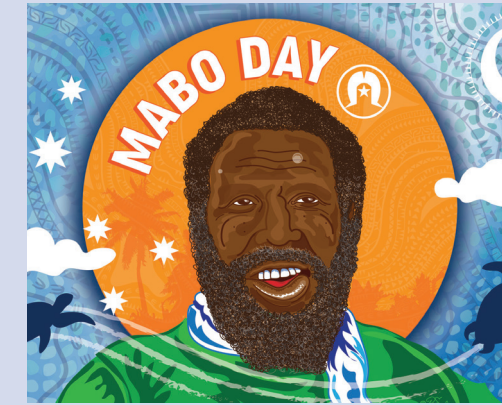


COMING UP IN June 2021



4 JUNE
NATIONAL
DOUGHNUT DAY

3 JUNE
MABO DAY commemorates the anniversary of the 1992 High Court decision in the case brought by Eddie Mabo and others which recognised the existence in Australia of native title rights.



8-15 JUNE
PHILANTHROPY WEEK raises the awareness of philanthropy, honour those who make an outstanding contribution to the community and advance support for the state's charities and community service organisations through sustainable giving.



5 JUNE
WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY aims to be the world's biggest and most widely celebrated environmental action event.

LOOKING BACK IN History

10 YEARS AGO (JUNE 2011)
ABORIGINAL BOXER LIONEL ROSE dies aged 62. He was the first Aboriginal boxer to win a world title when he became the world bantamweight champion in 1968. Lionel was also the Australian of the Year in 1968. He retired from boxing in 1975.

20 YEARS AGO (JUNE 2001)
AUSTRALIA POST issues a stamp commemorating the 10th anniversary of Yothu Yindi's song 'Treaty'.

30 YEARS AGO (JUNE 1991)
PROTESTERS STORM QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENT HOUSE, Brisbane, angry at the Goss Government approval for legislation giving Aborigines limited land rights but restricting their claims to less than 3% of Queensland.





Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Housing Queensland

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