



9 December 2021 Meeting Communiqué

The NHLF met for the last time for 2021 on 9 December, with the meeting being a blend of in-person and video conference. The meeting was presided over by the NHLF chair, Donna Murray. This meeting discussed the future governance arrangements moving into 2022 as there will be new Chairs for the NHLF, there are other campaigns of interest for the NHLF, and we move into the implementation phase for the new National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan (Health Plan) 2021-2031.

The Health Plan was renewed before the 2023 expiry of the old Health Plan to align with important policy reforms including the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, the 10-year Primary Health Care Plan, and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce Plan. In 2022, NHLF members will be involved in the Working Group for the development of the Health Plan Accountability Framework, and the overarching governance group for the ongoing monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the Health Plan.

In early 2022, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce Strategic Framework and Implementation Plan 2021-2031 will be launch. NHLF members will also be involved in the Working Group to develop the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for this Plan.

During the middle of 2021 the NHLF and the Climate and Health Alliance worked together to co-host a climate and health roundtable, with the aim of developing a position statement on climate and health and how the two bodies can work together to tackle the health impact on communities. This drafting of the NHLF Position Statement will be finalised in early 2022.

The NHLF was given an update by Craig Ritchie, CEO of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies on their Cultural Heritage work and how it relates to the Health Plan. Similarly, the Race Discrimination Commissioner presented to member on the development of an Anti-Racism Framework by the Australian Human Rights Commission.

At the first meeting for 2022, the NHLF will see the ending of the current terms for the Chair, Donna Murray, and Deputy Chair, Janine Mohamed, and the election of new Chair and Deputy Chair.

Next Meeting

The first quarterly NHLF meeting for 2022, is scheduled for 3rd March 2022.

For further information, please contact the nhlf@iaha.com.au.