



ATSIAAG Update - August 2018

Hello, colleagues and friends!

This is the second of our series of updates from the Co-Chairs of AAG's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ageing Advisory Group (ATSIAAG), Graham Aitken and Ros Malay. We're sending it to all members of ATSIAAG and Friends of ATSIAAG (non-Indigenous members interested in older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander program). We want to let you know what we've been doing, and also keep you up to date with our plans around the AAG Conference in Melbourne in November.

But first, we want to draw your attention to a consultation on dementia research...

The NHMRC's National Institute for Dementia Research has made a call for community input into developing an *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Dementia Research Roadmap*. They are asking interested Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members, including families and carers of people with dementia, as well as interested service providers and researchers, to complete a survey by 30 September 2018 telling them what you think. You can access the survey at this link, and we'd really encourage you to complete it if you have something to say on this topic:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IndigenousDementia>

Now, to tell you a bit about what we've been doing...

We had a really good webinar on *Delivering better care for older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander & Maori peoples: An introduction to cultural safety* at the end of May, featuring Graham Aitken from ATSIAAG, Janine Mohamed from the Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINaM), and Dr Marama Muru-Lanning, a Maori academic from Auckland, talking about cultural safety in aged care. We hope that it was a good introduction for workers, professionals and managers in aged care, to help with making their service delivery culturally safe. To see the recording of the webinars [click here](#) (AAG members only).

Our other big initiative has been a **Ministerial roundtable at Parliament House** in Canberra in June, chaired by Graham Aitken. The roundtable focused on *Better data to drive better aged care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people*. The roundtable was opened by Minister Ken Wyatt, who also launched the from our 5th ATSIAAG Workshop Report from last November, which was about improving access and equity in aged care for our people. The workshop report and media release can be found here:

<https://www.aag.asn.au/news/assuring-equity-of-access-and-quality-outcomes-for-older-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples-what-needs-to-be-done>. The roundtable discussion was really good, and you can find the report from the roundtable here:

[Proceedings of the Ministerial ATSIAAG roundtable on data for aged care](#). If you have any comments, we'd love to hear from you.

What we're planning for November:

The next AAG conference will be held in Melbourne from 21-23 November, and we're working hard to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ageing issues are once again strongly highlighted at the conference. We as Co-Chairs of ATSIAG will be speaking at the opening plenary, and we have quite a few **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander presenters and topics** lined up for the conference, including in about 20 other plenary and concurrent sessions at the time of writing. To find out more, you can access the draft conference program at this link (it's a work in progress, and we're working on securing even more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander speakers):

<https://www.aagconference.asn.au/QuickEventWebsitePortal/2018-aag-conference/aagconference/Agenda>

The **6th ATSIAG Workshop** will be held on the afternoon of Tuesday 20 November, the day before the AAG Conference opens. [Click to see our flier for the 6th ATSIAG Workshop](#). The topic will be *Better aged care assessment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people*. We'd love to see as many of you as possible at the workshop, contributing your ideas, so please make sure you register ASAP. If you have ideas about speakers or other people to be invited to the workshop, please drop us a line as soon as you can.

Finally, our **Yarn Up** session at the conference will be bigger and better than ever. We're scheduling the Yarn Up to begin at lunch time (12.45 pm) on the final day of the conference, and we really want to see all ATSIAG members and Friends of ATSIAG come along to have a bit of a yarn over lunch about what we've been doing, and what you'd like to see us do. For those who want to work a bit harder, we're going to extend the Yarn Up to continue during the after-lunch session of the conference (venue to be confirmed), so that those who want to can stay on and work on some meaty issues with us, including giving some advice and input on a Reconciliation Action Plan for AAG.

We're really looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Melbourne in November. Meanwhile, if you want to get in touch, you can contact us through the AAG office or direct on our email addresses below.

Bye for now!

Best wishes,



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