



THE COALITION OF PEAKS

Overview

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How the COP advocate self-determination

The member organisations of the COP cover different areas of importance in Indigenous affairs. As such, the COP is constituted of a diverse array of Indigenous expertise in areas such as health, education and justice. The formal recognition of these organisations reinforces Indigenous knowledge as the primary resource for improving life outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, therefore enhancing self-determination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals and the organisations that represent them.

Community driven

The Coalition of Peaks are first and foremost accountable to their communities. Each individual organisation is responsive to, and respectful of, the unique and diverse needs of their communities. This process creates a communicative passage between communities and the Australian Government that has otherwise been overlooked by the Australian Government. It also allows for jurisdictions to tailor the implementation of set targets based on the distinct needs of each community.

The Importance of Shared Decision Making

The purpose of the COP is to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander autonomy and increase engagement through participation. This is a direct response to past policies and programs executed by the Australian Government without the inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander oversight. The Closing the Gap agenda is an example of this. Now, the agenda will be implemented by a shared decision-making process with the COP, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) and the Australian Government. This is central to the COP belief that community input is fundamental to achieving any targets set by the Closing the Gap agenda.

Organisational Structure

The Governing board in the COP is elected by associated communities and organisations. This election process ensures the accommodation of diverse needs and unique make up of communities across Australia. Decisions are made by consensus, lead representatives are elected internally, and debates on important issues are conducted to extract the knowledge contained within the various organisations. Meetings take place face-to-face where possible, often involving fifty participants who collaborate to decide upon appropriate action. These decisions are then passed on via 12 elected representatives that partly constitute the Joint Council, the organisational body designed for communication between the COP and the COAG.

The COP National Members

Below is a list of the core members of the COP

- Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINaM)
- First Nations Media Australia
- First Peoples Disability Network
- Indigenous Allied Health Australia
- Lowirja Institute
- National Association of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners
- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services
- National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
- National Family Violence Prevention and Legal Services Forum
- National Native Title Council
- SNAICC- National Voice for Our Children
- The Healing Foundation
- Australian Indigenous Doctor's Association
- Gyaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia

For more information

<https://coalitionofpeaks.org.au/>

Community-led indigenous organisations are openly invited to apply to join the Coalition.

Contact

info@coalitionofpeaks.org.au
