



# NACCHO

National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation

## Media Release

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### A 2020 vision for Aboriginal Australia

2020 summit participant, Dr Mick Adams, Chair of the Aboriginal Medical Services' peak body, NACCHO\*, says he'll be calling for a five year capacity building plan in his sector to, for the first time, match the level of need in the Aboriginal community.

NACCHO's submission to the 2020 Summit\*\* also calls for a new National Health Equity Council of representatives from the health sector to be co-chaired by the NACCHO chair and the Minister for Health and Ageing to monitor and evaluate progress against a series of targets designed to close the gap in life expectancy

"Aboriginal people suffer levels of illness three times higher than other Australians but the primary health care services provided by Aboriginal community controlled health services have never been properly funded to match this level of need" Dr Adams said.

"Aboriginal Medical Services need to be controlled by their local communities in setting priorities and practices, to be upgraded to 21<sup>st</sup> century standard of facilities and resources and to be funded to offer salaries that are competitive with other health organisations to attract the staff they need.

"Aboriginal health services are an important part of the community development needed along with improvements in education, housing and economic development that will ensure Aboriginal people are a vital part of the Australia's future" Dr Adams said

\*National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO)

\*\*NACCHO's 2020 submission is number 7599 on the 2020 website and can be viewed at:

<http://www.australia2020.gov.au/submissions/viewTopic.cfm?id=7599&count=1>

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