



Dear colleagues,

Today we acknowledge and celebrate Mabo Day. This day highlights and signifies historical achievements and dedication of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including the late Eddie Koiki Mabo, who challenged and fought to achieve the Australian High Court's landmark Native Title decision (1992).

The actions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders and community who challenged the Australian legal system, led to victorious overruling of the legal fiction of terra nullius (land belonging to no-one), recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' connection and rights to land and country as Traditional Owners, and paving the way for future generations.

Mabo Day provides an opportunity to reflect on the enduring strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their persistent efforts towards Reconciliation.

Today we will be hosting a Mabo Day celebration with staff and community at the Sandgate Town Hall from 10am to 2pm. We will have the privilege of listening to a panel of inspirational Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members as they share their experiences and knowledge, advocating for the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, as well as traditional dancing and food. Staff are welcome to join us as we commemorate this special day.

Next Wednesday 11 June, Caboolture Hospital will host a special unveiling of a Torres Strait Island Dhoeri Headdress, which is proudly being displayed at the hospital's main entrance in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Mabo Decision last year.

The Dhoeri was created by Torres Strait Islander artist Thomas Pedro, who has connections to the Gab Titui Cultural Centre on Waiben (Thursday Island) and specialises in making custom headdresses. This artefact, along with others, are displayed to welcome Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members and all consumers to a safe environment, as well as provide an opportunity to share and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture with everyone who visits Caboolture Hospital.

We encourage staff to participate in the cultural celebrations being held across Metro North Health facilities. This is an opportunity for us to join together with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander colleagues and community to listen and learn about some of the oldest cultures and traditions on earth. Through sharing this knowledge and walking alongside our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, we have the opportunity to build a future health care system guided by the principles of equality, Reconciliation and

mutual respect.

We invite you to watch this short [film](#) to reflect on the life and legacy of Eddie Koiki Mabo.

Regards,

Liz and Sherry

Metro North Health



We uphold our commitment to health equity through our Values in Action
Respect | Integrity | Compassion | High performance | Teamwork

Metro North Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Land upon
which we live, work and walk, and pay our respects to Elders both past and present.



**Queensland
Government**

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