

Metro North Health message from the

Chief Executive and ED Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

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Summary:

- Acknowledging Coming of the Light

Message feedback



Audience: All staff



Read: 2 min



For: Information

Dear colleagues,

Today we recognise Coming of the Light, an important cultural and spiritual celebration for Torres Strait Islander peoples. This day marks the arrival of Christianity in the Torres Strait Islands in 1871 and continues to hold deep significance for many Torres Strait Islander communities.

Across Metro North Health, we acknowledge and celebrate the strength, resilience and rich cultural heritage of Torres Strait Islander peoples. Coming of the Light is a time of reflection, connection and pride – an opportunity to recognise the enduring importance of culture, community and identity in shaping health and wellbeing.

We also acknowledge, with respect, that this day is not celebrated by everyone, including within Torres Strait Islander communities. We honour the diversity of perspectives, histories and experiences that exist, and we are committed to creating a culturally safe and inclusive environment where all voices are respected.

As we reflect on Coming of the Light, we are reminded of the importance of truth-telling, respect and shared responsibility. Creating a health system that is free from racism and responsive to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples remains at the heart of our work.

Today also marks an important milestone for Metro North Health – one year since the release of our [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anti-Racism Policy 010568](#) and *Stop Racism it Starts with Me* campaign.

Over the past year, we have continued to advance our work in addressing racism across our health service. The policy and campaign continue to build greater awareness, encourage meaningful conversations, and provide clearer pathways to identify, report and respond to racism. While progress has been made, we recognise that this journey continues and that achieving lasting change requires ongoing commitment from all of us.

Each of us has a role to play in fostering a workplace where cultural safety is embedded, where diversity is valued and where racism has no place. We encourage staff to visit the [QHEPS Stop Racism campaign page](#) to learn more.

Together, we can continue to build a stronger, safer and more equitable health system for our communities.

Regards,
Sherry and Nick

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.

Metro North Health's vision

Creating healthier futures together—where innovation and research meets compassionate care and community voices shape our services.



**Queensland
Government**

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