

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service

Media statement

3 July 2019

NAIDOC Week – Let's work together for a shared future

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (SCHHS) is celebrating NAIDOC Week 7 - 14 July across its facilities, under the theme 'Voice. Treaty. Truth.' Inviting locals to join in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.

NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC is celebrated by Australians of all walks of life.

SCHHS Cultural Practice Program Coordinator Lance Lewis said the week is a great opportunity to participate in a range of activities and to support your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

"The message this year makes it even more important for all Australians to join us in these celebrations. Australia's Aboriginal history is a story over 65,000 years in the making. The history we have to share isn't just about the history of our First Peoples, it is the history of every single Australian.

"We want everyone to approach our long history with openness and honesty, and to understand our special connection with the land our family and our community."

Lance said: "We all need to be on the same page, so we can then move forward together towards true reconciliation."

"We will hold celebrations at Nambour, Caloundra, Maleny, Gympie, Sunshine Coast University Hospital and Tin Can Bay, with guest speakers from the Kabi Kabi (pronounced Gubbi Gubbi) and Jinibara people, the Traditional Custodians of the land. There will be flag raising, cultural talks and lunch for all to enjoy," Mr Lewis said.

A Sunshine Coast NAIDOC family fun day event will held on Saturday 13 July at Black Swan Park, Cotton Tree.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY

Join us for a NAIDOC Week ceremony at one of our facilities across the Sunshine Coast and Gympie.

Gympie Hospital: 9 July

SCUH: 11 July

Nambour General Hospital: 12 July

Caloundra Health Service: 17 July

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Maleny Soldiers Memorial Hospital: 18 July

Each ceremony commences from 11:00am to 1:00pm.

ENDS

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