



Building brighter Indigenous futures through sport

The contribution of sport to Indigenous wellbeing and mentoring will be discussed by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs in Sydney on Wednesday 21 November.

The Committee will hear from a range of people including academics, major sporting codes and Indigenous sporting academies to discuss how participation rates for Indigenous Australians can be increased in a broad range of sporting activities. The inquiry will investigate the way in which sport can be utilised as a vehicle to improve outcomes for Indigenous people.

Professor Colin Tatz has many publications on this topic and his research suggests that sport has the capacity to alleviate and deflect (not stop) suicidal behaviour and juvenile delinquency. The hearings will be held at the National Centre for Indigenous Excellence (NCIE) and the CEO, Jason Glanville will talk to the Committee about the valuable work that the NCIE does in hosting camps and conferences for Indigenous Australians throughout Australia. The NCIE has a sport and recreation centre on site, including a pool and sporting fields.

The Committee Chair, Mr Shayne Neumann MP said, “This is the first public hearing for the Committee’s inquiry into the contribution of sport to Indigenous wellbeing and mentoring. The Committee will examine how sporting bodies can increase opportunities for Indigenous participation, including increasing opportunities in for Indigenous women. Sport has great potential to bring Indigenous communities together. The Committee looks forward to discussing how to improve current initiatives in this area.”

Wednesday, 21 November 2012, 9:00am – 1:00pm

Venue: National Centre for Indigenous Excellence, 180 George St, Redfern

Time	Witnesses
9.00am - 9.45am	Professor Colin Tatz
9.45am - 10.15am	Australian Rugby League Commission
10.15am - 10.45am	National Centre for Indigenous Excellence
10.45am - 11.00am	<i>Break</i>
11.00am - 11.30am	Basketball Australia
11.30am - 12 noon	Clontarf Foundation
12 noon - 12.30pm	National Aboriginal Sporting Chance Academy (NASCA)
12.30pm - 1.00pm	Australian Rugby Union

The hearing will be audio broadcast live at <http://www.aph.gov.au/live>. For more information, see the Committee’s website at www.aph.gov.au/sport or contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4559.

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair Mr Shayne Neumann on (07) 3201 5300. **For background information**, contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 62774559 or atsia.reps@aph.gov.au