

# National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference

22 - 24 MAY 2024 | nipaluna country (Hobart, Tasmania)

*Our Vision in Action*

*Sponsorship Prospectus*

*#NATSIEHC24*



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Artwork elements designed by Casey & Matty Atkinson, [Little Rocket](#)

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Published by Indigenous Eye Health Unit, November 2023

**Smoking Ceremony at Welcome Reception. NATSIEHC23 Dharug Country, NSW, 2023**

## Acknowledgment of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands, skies, and waterways throughout Australia. We acknowledge the continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to the land and affirm that sovereignty was never ceded.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present. We extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, particularly those who have lived experience of and have made and/or continue to make, contributions to the work to close the gap for vision and end avoidable vision loss and blindness in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.



## Walk with us as we work together to see our Vision in Action!

For the first time this year, we, The First Nations Eye Health Alliance Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation will co-host and provide leadership to the 2024 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference – *Our Vision in Action*. What an incredible year it is to be part of seeing First Nations people's vision for eye health being brought to life.

In its eighth year, this national conference has been a mainstay of commitment and work by dedicated individuals and organisations in this space impassioned to seeing an end to the disparities in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health and vision care. These meetings have generated significant work and key relationships that are strengthening and innovating the way we work in eye health, but there is still so much more work to do. A foundational step to strengthening the next step sector approaches has been the way in which we connect with, and support, First Nations visions and actions.

This year's theme: *Our Vision in Action* is a wonderful invitation to all agencies to continue to work together, to play their part in supporting and strengthening eye health and vision care aspirations for First Nations communities. We not only want to see the elimination of preventable vision problems and blindness in First Nation communities, but also the increase of the health, wellbeing and future capability of First Nations people and their communities. To do this we need your help.

Sponsorship is part of the critical infrastructure for the ongoing viability of the conference to continue to grow and affect change. If you partner with us through sponsorship, you are supporting continued innovations in First Nations eye care, changing the material fabric of how our agencies work together, you are supporting the strengthening of interagency partnerships, you will be supporting First Nations businesses and talent, and helping to build tangible steps that close the gap in eye health and vision care for our communities.

There is an opportunity to be a part of a legacy that is being built through this collective work that will see healthy futures for First Nations people, led by First Nation's people with strong support for and with assistance by, our allies working together in a coordinated sector approach.

We invite you to walk with us, as individuals and businesses, to contribute together to seeing the aspirations of First Nations people realised.

Join us, as we work together to see Our Vision in Action!

Lose Fonua  
Interim Chief Executive Officer  
**First Nations Eye Health Alliance**



Lose Fonua



## Let's all help put the vision for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health into action

I am excited to invite my colleagues, stakeholders, partners, and all organisations working in eye health to consider sponsoring NATSIEHC24.

We want you all to join us as we head to niraluna, lutruwita in May next year for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference 2024 (NATSIEHC24) and we would like to see the sector invest in the event beyond conference attendance and beyond conference presentations to include tangible resources that will allow the event to run and prosper in 2024 and beyond.

NATSIEHC24 will be the eighth national Conference of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health sector. This year we are excited to celebrate the incorporation of the [First Nations Eye Health Alliance \(FNEHA\)](#) and their acceptance to co-host and provide conference leadership for NATSIEHC24. This change is in lieu of the National Experts Group in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health (NEGATSIEH) who formerly provided conference leadership and have now integrated their functional activities into FNEHA. Over 240 of us enjoyed an amazing and wonderful national Conference in 2023 on Dharug Country (Parramatta, Sydney, NSW) organised by NEGATSIEH and we look forward to the delivery of something even better and bigger next year!

For the first time in 2023, NEGATSIEH requested sponsorship for the Conference and also offered bursaries to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to attend the event. Our sponsorship success was limited (a special thank you to [The Fred Hollows Foundation](#) and [RANZCO](#) who were able to respond) but the demand from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people working in the sector for bursary support to attend the Conference was overwhelming. Over 40 applications were received and through NATSIEHC23 sponsorship and we are aware that the sector supported some 30 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to attend the Conference in 2023.

We are all conscious of the significant changes occurring in the sector around leadership and power and the importance of eye health organisations and individuals to create some space and adopt roles as allies supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander determination. The [Indigenous Eye Health Unit \(IEHU\)](#) is keen to encourage organisations that participate in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye care to sponsor the national Conference so that future Conferences may be delivered more independently by an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander agency. FNEHA are positioning themselves to take on more and my view is the sector needs to find ways to support this.

You may also note that this sponsorship prospectus contains more options for sponsorship than in 2023 and we will be seeking to engage a broader group of stakeholders for support in 2024 – this seems critical for the Conference to survive and thrive.

We know there is significant value and benefit in attending and being involved in NATSIEHC24, for our organisations and our staff, and IEHU has enjoyed strong support of our partners assisting the events of the past. Actively supporting the emerging First Nations self-determination and leadership in eye care is one way our organisations can adopt the role as effective allies. Please get around the 2024 event by contributing through the sponsorship packages outlined.

If you would like to find out more or have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at [manjou@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:manjou@unimelb.edu.au) or on 0433 673 452. The IEHU office can also be contacted on 03 8344 0322.

A/Prof Mitchell Anjou AM

Director  
**Indigenous Eye Health Unit**



Mitchell Anjou





# Introduction

## Conference History

National conferences for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health sector have been held each year since 2017, making 2024 the eighth event. The annual conference provides a unique and wonderful opportunity for the sector to come together, and the wide variety of voices presented supports discussion and sharing of success stories, learnings, and challenges in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health from across Australia.

The annual Conference advances the collective work of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health sector towards the shared goal of improving eye health access and outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

Leading the development and delivery of the conference in 2022 and 2023 was the National Experts Group for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health (NEGATSIEH) in collaboration with the Indigenous Eye Health Unit (IEHU) at The University of Melbourne. NEGATSIEH had functioned to be a group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health leaders and experts working to provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership for the conference program and key activities. NEGATSIEH has also provided guidance on cultural safety and engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. IEHU provides technical and organisational advice and support for the delivery of the conference.

## 2024 Conference Organisational Structure

In 2024, the First Nations Eye Health Alliance (FNEHA) will co-host the conference and provide leadership of NATSIEHC24. FNEHA and NEGATSIEH will function as a group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and experts working to provide First Nations leadership for the conference program and key activities. FNEHA and NEGATSIEH will also provide guidance on cultural safety and engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. IEHU provides technical and organisational advice and support for the delivery of the conference.

FNEHA has been established to stop preventable vision loss and blindness in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities and was incorporated in July 2023.

"We are excited for the opportunity to co-host and provide leadership to, the next National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference (NATSIEHC24), held on nipaluna, lutruwita country in May 2024.

This conference is an essential activity for the eye health and vision care sector to come together and not only celebrate the current successes, but also review and recast future focussed areas of need and activities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health and vision care.

We are excited to continue strengthening the future of this work where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices are leading the changes needed for our communities and our allies are empowered to walk alongside us".

FNEHA Chair, Shaun Tatipata

Continuing this year will be the technical support provided by the IEHU Conference Management Group, including FNEHA representatives and IEHU staff, supports the practical development of the Conference in accordance with the FNEHA guidance and vision.

### NATSIEHC24 organisational structure

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Conference Leadership Group (CLG)</b> | A task group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders led by FNEHA that provide leadership and guidance on themes, topics, and program elements, and provide oversight to the Conference as a whole |   |
| <b>Conference Co-host (FNEHA)</b>        | FNEHA will provide Conference leadership and guidance on themes, topics, and program elements, and provide oversight to the Conference as a whole   |   |
| <b>Conference Convenors (IEHU)</b>       | <b>Conference Management Group (CMG)</b>  | <b>Conference Coordination Group (CCG)</b>  |
|  | CMG includes representatives from FNEHA and IEHU staff and manages the delivery of the Conference   | IEHU staff support the operational, technical and administrative elements of the Conference |



## Conference Outcomes

The 2024 Conference will build on the wonderful outcomes achieved from the 2023 Conference where over 240 delegates gathered on Dharug land for 3 days in May.

The Conference included three immersive and rich days with 20 concurrent and poster presentations, 14 Tabletop presentations, 6 workshops, 4 keynote presentations, 3 panel discussions, opening and closing sessions, a special Sorry Day presentation and a welcome reception, gala dinner and awards night. Knowledge was exchanged, connections were made, and delegates reported on deeply meaningful personal experiences facilitated by the exchanges at the Conference.

The Conference's annual evaluation survey shows just how highly the Conference is regarded across the sector. In 2023, 98% of survey participants marked being either "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the Conference overall.

82% indicated that the Conference met their expectations "quite a lot" or "a great deal"; 65% indicated that they feel "quite a lot" or "a great deal" better equipped to support their efforts to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health. The opportunity to network and connect with colleagues was particularly valued by delegates (95% satisfied or very satisfied).

"The knowledge expanded from Indigenous students all the way through to Fellowed doctors. It was expansive and collaborative. It wasn't all eyeballs for the entire conference and touched where required on cultural identity, project collaboration and Aboriginal led program design".

"It was powerful to have the conference led by First Nations voices. As a non-Indigenous person who works to be an ally, it was soul-enriching to hear from the direct perspective of my colleagues".

"Open, honest, smiling faces that were willing to ask questions about Health and Eye Care, ask who I was... they were bubbling with energy and foresight to be part of the next cycle of how we can improve Health and Eye care for our people.

The Conference team absolutely drilled the whole schedule, everyone was just so good, that made this one the most valuable conference I have attended. Let's now follow up and get to work on the 2024 Conference".

Selected quotes from the 2023 Conference Feedback Survey



# 2024 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference

## Date & Location

The 2024 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference (NATSIEHC24) will be held on nipaluna country (Hobart, Tasmania) from Wednesday 22 to Friday 24 May 2024.

## Venue



The venue for the 2024 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference is the:

**Hotel Grand Chancellor Hobart**  
**Ground Floor, 1 Davey Street**  
**Hobart, TAS 7000**

Overlooking Hobart Harbour. The hotel is a 12-minute walk from the Salamanca Market and 15km from kunanyi (Mount Wellington).

Amenities include: a restaurant, lounge, indoor pool and fitness centre.

## Welcome Reception

The Welcome Reception will be held the afternoon of day one of the Conference

**Wednesday 22 May**  
**Parliament Lawns**  
**1 Salamanca Place**  
**Hobart TAS 7000**

## Gala Dinner & Awards

The Gala Dinner and awards will be held on the evening of day two of the Conference

**Thursday 23 May**  
**Hobart Function and Conference Centre**  
**1 Elizabeth Street Pier**  
**Hobart TAS 7000**

[Hobart Function and Conference Centre, site of NEGATSIEHC24 Gala Dinner and Awards Night](#)





# Conference Program

Below is a preliminary/ indicative program outline that is subject to change. The program can be viewed on the IEHU NATSIEHC24 website.

## Day 1 - Wednesday 22 May 2024

### First Nations Delegates Only

|               |                                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 9.00 - 10.00  | FNEHA Board Meeting               |
| 9.30 - 10.00  | Conference Registration           |
| 10.00 - 10.30 | Morning Tea                       |
| 10.30 - 11.30 | FNEHA Meeting                     |
| 12.00 - 1.00  | Welcome Reception (all delegates) |
| 1.00 - 2.00   | Lunch (all delegates)             |
| 2.00 - 3.30   | First Nations Workshop            |
| 3.30 - 4.00   | Afternoon Tea (all delegates)     |
| 4.00 - 5.00   | First Nations Workshop continued  |

## Day 1 - Wednesday 22 May 2024

### Non-First Nations Delegates

|               |                                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 10.30 - 11.30 | Conference Registration           |
| 12.00 - 1.00  | Welcome Reception (all delegates) |
| 1.00 - 2.00   | Lunch (all delegates)             |
| 2.00 - 3.30   | Workshop                          |
| 3.30 - 4.00   | Afternoon Tea (all delegates)     |
| 4.00 - 5.00   | Workshop continued                |

## Day 2 - Thursday 23 May 2024

|               |                               |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 8.15 - 8.45   | Conference Registration       |
| 9.00 - 10.00  | Conference Opening Day 2      |
| 10.00 - 10.30 | Morning Tea                   |
| 10.30 - 11.30 | Plenary Session               |
| 11.30 - 12.00 | Keynote Presentation          |
| 12.00 - 1.00  | Lunch                         |
| 1.00 - 1.30   | Keynote Presentation          |
| 1.30 - 3.00   | Tabletop Presentations        |
| 3.00 - 3.30   | Afternoon Tea                 |
| 3.30 - 4.00   | Keynote Presentation          |
| 4.00 - 5.00   | Concurrent Oral Presentations |
| 6.15 - 10.00  | Conference Dinner and Awards  |

## Day 3 - Friday 24 May 2024

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 8.45 - 9.00   | Conference Registration                 |
| 9.00 - 9.30   | Conference Opening Day 3                |
| 9.30 - 9.45   | Group Photo                             |
| 9.45 - 10.15  | Morning Tea                             |
| 10.15 - 11.00 | Plenary Session                         |
| 11.00 - 12.30 | Workshops                               |
| 12.30 - 1.30  | Lunch                                   |
| 1.30 - 2.00   | Keynote Presentation                    |
| 2.00 - 3.00   | Oral Presentations and Panel Discussion |
| 3.00 - 3.30   | Afternoon Tea                           |
| 3.30 - 4.00   | Closing Session                         |

NATSIEHC23 delegates enjoying the Welcome Reception. Dharug Country, NSW, 2023





## Delegates and Organisations that attend

The key focus for the Conference is all those who work in and work for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health sector is represented through staff of Aboriginal Community-Controlled Health Organisations and other health settings providing primary health care services. State affiliates of NACCHO also attend the Conference. Aboriginal Health Workers and Practitioners are key delegates. The eye care sector is represented through the peak organisations in optometry, ophthalmology, and orthoptics and optical dispensing, including state including state-based organisations plus many practitioners involved and/or interested in providing eye care services. Other delegates and organisations regularly attending the annual Conferences include peak eye care organisations, outreach service providers, non-governmental organisations, jurisdictional fundholders, Primary Health Networks (PHN), and academic and research organisations.

The 2023 Conference drew over 240 delegates from over 110 different organisations, covering all States and Territories of Australia, with even some international delegates attending. Over 40% of delegates identified as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin, which was the highest attendance rate of First Nations members at the national Conference to date.

"How interactive and inclusive it was, in that a platform was given to so many people from so many different workplaces to share what they are doing, their successes and challenges".

"Being exposed to people from all areas of the eco-system. Love that we have a conference privileging First Nations worldview. Fantastic that NEGATSIEH and now the formation of the Alliance is providing specific First Nations leadership in the Indigenous Eye Health space".

- Delegate feedback. NATSIEHC23 Dharug Country, NSW, 2023

NATSIEHC23 Conference attendees. Dharug Country, NSW, 2023



"Really well organised and facilitated. I'm grateful for everyone who presented, especially those who shared experience that were difficult, sharing those stories helped me better understand the history (that I was never told) and further instil the need for me to not only be an ally, but an accomplice in change".

- Delegate feedback. NATSIEHC23 Dharug Country, NSW, 2023



# Key Reasons for Becoming a Sponsor

As a sponsor you can help support exchanges and collaboration that is focussed on increasing accessibility and improving the outcomes of eye health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to end avoidable vision loss and blindness. Your formal association with the Conference will provide opportunity for national recognition as well as valuable exposure underlying your commitment to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-determination and leadership of eye health.



See all the highlights from NATSIEHC23

## Your Opportunity to Support

The Indigenous Eye Health Unit has provided support, including financial underwriting, since the inaugural national Conference in 2017.

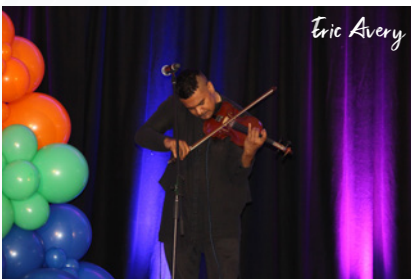
The Conference is continuing to move to an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander controlled event and sponsorship support is necessary to provide for future events.

We hope our partners appreciate the value and benefit of being involved in this important annual gathering and accept invitation to contribute through the sponsorship packages outlined over the page. We welcome the opportunity to discuss your objectives and any further ideas you may have on individual sponsorship.

Hear from Courtney Hammond, one of our NATSIEHC23 Bursary Recipients



### NATSIEHC23 Gala Dinner and Awards Night Performers



### NATSIEHC23 Sponsors Receiving Certificates





# Sponsorship Packages

## Platinum \$50,000 (1 x \$50,000 package on offer)

- Five complimentary Conference registrations
- Five additional complimentary Gala Dinner tickets
- One complimentary trade table
- Organisation acknowledgement as major sponsor throughout Conference
- Opportunity to speak at the NATSIEHC24 Welcome Reception
- Presenter rights for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Awards at the Gala Dinner
- Organisation name, logo and sponsorship status displayed in NATSIEHC24 e-communications
- Named printing sponsor of the official NATSIEHC24 program
- Organisation name and logo printed on the NATSIEHC24 lanyard
- Organisation name and logo on home page of NATSIEHC24 website
- Feature inclusion in the official Conference video for NATSIEHC24
- Organisation pull-up banner displayed on Plenary stage, at Welcome Reception and Gala Dinner
- Full page advertisement in NATSIEHC24 program
- Certificate of appreciation awarded to your organisation at the Gala Dinner
- Photo opportunity with up to 5 bursary recipients

## Gold \$30,000 (1x \$30,000 package on offer)

- Three complimentary Conference registrations
- Three additional complimentary Gala Dinner tickets
- One complimentary trade table
- Organisation acknowledgement during the Gala Dinner
- Organisation name, logo and sponsorship status displayed in NATSIEHC24 e-communications Organisation name and logo on home page of NATSIEHC24 website
- Inclusion in the official Conference video for NATSIEHC24
- Organisation pull-up banner displayed at Welcome Reception and Gala Dinner
- Full page advertisement in NATSIEHC24 program
- Certificate of appreciation awarded to your organisation at the Gala Dinner
- Photo opportunity with up to 3 bursary recipients

## Silver \$20,000 (2 x \$20,000 packages on offer)

- Two complimentary Conference registrations
- Two complimentary Gala Dinner tickets
- One complimentary trade table
- Organisation name, logo and sponsorship status displayed in NATSIEHC24 e-communications
- Organisation name and logo on home page of NATSIEHC24 website
- Organisation pull-up banner displayed at Welcome Reception
- Half page advertisement in NATSIEHC24 program
- Certificate of appreciation awarded to your organisation at the Gala Dinner
- Photo opportunity with 1 bursary recipient

**Bronze \$10,000**  
(5 x \$10,000 packages on offer)

- One complimentary Conference registration
- One additional complimentary Gala Dinner ticket
- Organisation name, logo and sponsorship status displayed in NATSIEHC24 e-communications
- Organisation name and logo on home page of NATSIEHC24 website
- Organisation pull-up banner displayed at Welcome Reception
- Half page advertisement in NATSIEHC24 program
- Certificate of appreciation awarded to your organisation at the Gala Dinner
- Photo opportunity with 1 bursary recipient

**Trade Table \$5,000**  
(8 x \$5,000 packages on offer)

- Investment will allow your organisation to have one trade table on the mezzanine level of the Hotel Grand Chancellor, located outside the plenary and breakout room areas
- One complimentary Conference registration

**Bursaries \$5,000**  
(15 x \$5,000 packages on offer)

- Investment will provide travel and accommodation for one Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person to attend the Conference who would not be able to attend otherwise and does not have a bursary from another organisation

"A great conference. Something for everybody. Anyone remotely operating in Indigenous eye health can be involved, they don't have to be a subject matter expert".

"The conference made me want to improve my knowledge so I can improve the outcomes for my community in eye care".

- Delegate feedback. NATSIEHC23 Dharug Country, NSW, 2023

KEBI KUB performing at the Gala Dinner and the Eye Health Award recipients. NATSIEHC23 Dharug Country, NSW, 2023



# Expression of Interest Form

Expression of interest for this Sponsorship Prospectus are by invitation only. Please complete the form below and return to IEHU via email [Indigenous-EyeHealth@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:Indigenous-EyeHealth@unimelb.edu.au) by Wednesday 31 January 2024. We encourage early submission of your sponsorship EOI as sponsorship will generally be allocated on a first come-first served basis.

Please note that by purchasing a sponsorship package you are giving IEHU the right to use your organisations name and logo on printed branding, materials and online/socials media, recording/video production and other forms of collateral produced for the NATSIEH Conferences. You will be required to provide IEHU with a high resolution file of your logo after sponsorship confirmation.

## Sponsor Information

Organisation Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

## Sponsorship Package

### Package QTY

Platinum \$50,000

Gold \$30,000

Silver \$20,000

Bronze \$10,000

Trade Table \$5,000

Bursary \$5,000

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

## For more information contact

### Indigenous Eye Health Unit

Onemda: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Wellbeing | Melbourne School of Population and Global Health | The University of Melbourne, Level 5, 207 Bouverie Street, Carlton VIC 3010

Email: [Indigenous-EyeHealth@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:Indigenous-EyeHealth@unimelb.edu.au)

## For more information about the First Nations Eye Health Alliance

email: [heyyoumob@fneha.com.au](mailto:heyyoumob@fneha.com.au)

website: [www.fneha.com.au](http://www.fneha.com.au)

