

# INDIGENOUS FORUM

21 August 2012

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## What does recovering citizenship mean to indigenous Australians?

The Gimuy Walubara Yidinji people invite you onto Country to hear the voices of the unheard, to see through our eyes and to feel the strength of spirit within our people as they recover their citizenship through the recovery of Spirit, Soul and Self. Within culturally safe spaces of yarning circles, and enjoying vibrant art and dance you will have the opportunity to be immersed in our culture. Diverse speakers and activities will showcase our world of multiple meaning and layers that form our connections to the struggles and triumphs of recovering our citizenship as the original custodians. Discover and explore with us the notion of “Recovering Citizenship” from our perspective. Reflect on the big picture issues impeding our national capacity to develop and spear head our human right based approach to effectively address mental health inequalities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, their families and communities. All indigenous peoples, as well as all interested people are invited to come. Rejoice with our mob on their recovery, be inspired by their resiliency, support their empowerment – come sit down let’s yarn!!

## PROGRAM

Cairns Convention Centre, Mezzanine level, Room 8

- 9.00am **Welcome to Country**  
By Elder Henrietta Marrie; smoking ceremony Greg Fourmile; Tamara Pearson & Cultural Dancers
- 9.30am MC Trevor Tim welcomes everyone  
**Yarning Circle: “Measure a Nation” Panel**  
Chair: Tom Brideson.  
Panellists: Chireen Morris, Gracelyn Smallwood, George Bell
- 10.30am Morning tea in Hall 2
- 11.00am **Yarning Circles**  
1. Reducing stigma in Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities, and Mental Health Literacy - Sandi Taylor, Michael Drahm, ernard David  
2. The non-indigenous experience of recovering citizenship  
- Michael Oates & Professor Doug Hunt
- 12.00pm 3. Uncle & Aunties Program – Michael Drahm & Fiona Gibson  
Din Din Workshop – Cultural Art Expression + Apunipima Health Checks
- 1.00pm Lunch in Hall 2
- 2.00pm 4. Mental Health Support Circle – John Brown, Greg Reid, Peter Sevallos, Joshua Nona



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5. Youth MH Perspectives – George Bell

Din Din Workshop – Cultural Art Expression + Apunipima Health Checks

3.00pm Afternoon tea in Hall 2

3.30pm **TheMHS Participant Feedback** – “what moved me”

Men’s Yarning - Thomas Jia, Michael Drahm & Women’s Yarning - Toni Sevallos, Fiona Gibson

4.30pm Closing Cultural Ceremony

5.00pm Finish

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## Insatiable Moon

*Film commences immediately after the Forum at 5pm in Room 1 on mezzanine level, close to the room for this forum.*

The Insatiable Moon is a delightful journey through the urban environment of Arthur, self-proclaimed second son of God. Classified as mad, Arthur is undaunted and keen to get on with his mission in the world - accompanied by a wonderful group of misfits and outcasts. A remarkable film going to the heart of what constitutes madness. Winner of Best Actor (Rawiri Paratene) and Best Supporting Actor in the NZ Film Awards 2011. The Director of the film, Mike Riddell, has made this film available at no cost to TheMHS Conference delegates.