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[2023 National First Nations Closing the Gap Health Conference](#)  
[2023 National Indigenous Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Conference](#)  
SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2023 PULLMAN INTERNATIONAL HOTEL CAIRNS QLD  
**To register, click hyperlink and complete online form. Use 3Cov2 code to  
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For further information, visit the main website:

<https://www.icsconferences.org/>

Indigenous Conference Services (ICS) Australia is thrilled to announce our deadly line-up of national and international guest speakers for the upcoming National First Nations Closing the Gap Health Conference and 2023 National Indigenous Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Conferences in Cairns, the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef! Within few weeks of publishing the events, we've received abstract submissions from all states and territories in Australia with more than 60 % of the submitted papers are from community-based grassroots organisations. These events will bring together Indigenous leaders, policymakers, researchers, and community members to discuss strategies for closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians in health and wellbeing, suicide prevention and mental health.

Our international First Nations keynote speakers include Dr Amber Logan, a Maori Health Psychologist who has been instrumental in advancing the rights of Indigenous youth in New Zealand and beyond, and her insights on the importance of culturally responsive policies and programs will be invaluable to our attendees; Dr. Joseph Stone, Blackfeet Clinical Psychologist from the USA with extensive clinical experience working with adult prisoners, corrections and juvenile justice in both New Zealand and USA. He is affiliated with the National Centre on Trauma and Project Making Medicine – Indian Health Service Assessment and Treatment of Child Abuse at Oklahoma State University. He has presented to, and served as consultant to, the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs of Native Youth Suicide; Catherine Turner, a Metis Senior Research Coordinator and Indigenous Liaison Manager of the Can-SOLVE CKD Network and past Chairperson of the National Aboriginal Diabetes Association who has worked in health promotion and primary prevention programs with Indigenous and First Nations communities for the past three decades, and is currently working towards certification in both the International Coaching Federation training and a Trauma Informed Coach training program.

We are also excited to welcome Uncle Ara Harathunian, Managing Director at Kultchafi in Queensland; Pamela A Trotman, Director at P.T. Counselling & Consulting Pty Ltd in Northern Territory; Dr Joseph Fleming, Casual Academic – NIKERI at Deakin University in Victoria; Dr Neeraj Vyas, Oral Surgery Registrar at Nepean Centre for Oral Health, University of Sydney in NSW; Floyd Leedie, Chief Executive Officer of Goondir Health Services in QLD; Joanne O'Malley, Manager Strategic Projects at TAFE NSW; Harry Callaghan, Cultural Wellbeing Clinician NSW and Dr. Uncle Bernie Singleton, Elder Wuunta P/L, a leading voice on Indigenous issues in Australia who has worked extensively on land and resource rights, Indigenous governance, and Indigenous

knowledge systems. In addition to our keynote speakers, we have a diverse range of panelists and presenters who will share their expertise and experiences on a variety of topics related to Indigenous mental health and wellbeing and suicide prevention.

We are confident that these conferences will provide a unique opportunity for Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians alike to learn from each other, share ideas and perspectives, and collaborate on solutions to address the ongoing challenges of Closing the Gap in First Nations health. It is so pleasing to see both government and non-government sectors participating in choosing the agenda for after all, these conferences are about sharing of information on successful Indigenous programs existing and being implemented all over Australia and encouraging interagency networking either at a local, state and national levels.

We encourage anyone interested in attending the conference to register early as numbers are filling fast. We've structured the registration in such a way that will save organisation's money while at the same time providing a great forum for frank and open discussion. The year 2023 hails a new era for Indigenous Conference Services as we embark on a one-off emerging from COVID-19 campaign with a special **3-for-2 registration offer** for organisations to send three staff but pay for only two. To avail, complete the registration form online at this link [Registration Code 3Cov2](#).

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Yours sincerely,

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[www.icsconferences.org](http://www.icsconferences.org), [www.indigenoushealth.net](http://www.indigenoushealth.net)

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