

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SEMINAR SERIES

THE EVIDENCE BASE FOR INTERVENTIONS INTO INDIGENOUS
PUBLIC HEALTH

Mr Tom Calma

Wednesday, 12 September 2007, 4 – 5pm

Finkel Lecture Theatre, Garran Road ANU

Please arrive early as parking is limited. 'Pay and Display' visitors carparks are available at the South Oval on Ward Road, on Fellows Road near the Menzies Library, and on the corner of Liversidge Street and McCoy Circuit. Action Bus 34 from Woden stops in Garran Road near the corner of Mills Road. Action Bus routes 35, 40, 116, 243 and 300 series all go past the corner of Barry Drive and Marcus Clarke Street.

RSVP before 5 September 2007 to E: NCEPH.Reception@anu.edu.au or T: 6125 2378

THE LECTURE

Mr Calma will speak to the many factors affecting the health of the Indigenous population and the data available that should serve as the foundation and evidence base of interventions made in the interest of Indigenous public health. In that light, he will examine the Australian Government intervention currently underway in many Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory. He will also speak of the human right to health and its application to the health inequality experienced by Indigenous peoples in Australia relative to the general population. He will discuss the rights based campaign for Indigenous health equality within a generation set out in his Social Justice Report 2005.

THE LECTURER



Mr Calma is Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner and acting Race Discrimination Commissioner. He is an Aboriginal elder from the Kungarakan tribal group and the Iwaidja tribal group whose traditional lands are south west of Darwin and on the Coburg Peninsula in Northern Territory, respectively. He has been involved in Indigenous affairs at a local, community, state, national and international level and worked in the public sector for over 30 years. Mr Calma has broad experience in public administration, particularly in Indigenous education programs and in developing employment and training programs for Indigenous people from both a national policy and program perspective. He served three terms as a Director of Aboriginal Hostels Ltd and as a Company Director for a private tourism and hospitality venture in the Northern Territory. Until his appointment in 2004 as Commissioner,

Mr Calma managed the Community Development and Education Branch at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services where he worked with remote Indigenous communities to implement community-based and driven empowerment and participation programs. In 2003, he was Senior Adviser Indigenous Affairs to the Minister of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs. From 1995-2002, he worked as a senior Australian diplomat in India and Vietnam representing Australia's interests in education and training. In the early 1990s he held various positions, including that of Executive Director to the Secretary and Senior Executive of the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs. Mr Calma has also been appointed as acting Race Discrimination Commissioner for a one-year term. Commissioner Calma was a White Ribbon Day Ambassador for 2005 and 2006. White Ribbon Day is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Commissioner Calma is also a national patron of Wakakirri National Story Festival.

ENQUIRIES E: lorrae.vankerkhoff@anu.edu.au T: 02 6125 5616

The views expressed in this lecture are those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of The Australian National University.