



Central Australian
Aboriginal Congress
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION | ICN 7823

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 9 May 2013

Listen to Me: Summit to unite bush voices for change

A summit in Central Australia will bring Aboriginal people together to identify positive solutions to local problems faced in their home communities and the wider community of Alice Springs.

Around 200 delegates will travel from communities and town camps to Ross River to take part in the summit, ***Kurunna Mwarre: Making my spirit inside me good***, which is being held from 14-16 May 2013.

“The summit gives people the opportunity to talk about violence and anti-social behaviour,” explained John Liddle, Ingkintja Male Health Manager at Congress and one of the summit organisers.

“People genuinely want to see change and they want to be empowered to be part of that change.

“This summit is about taking responsibility for the past and taking local ownership to bring about and sustain positive change and healing of spirits.”

The summit is co-facilitated by health service, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress and Creating a Safe Supportive Environment Inc. and follows on from previous summits facilitated by Congress’ Ingkintja male health branch, held in 2008 and 2010, where hundreds of Aboriginal males came together to address issues of violence and hurt in Aboriginal communities.

From the initial 2008 summit came the momentous ‘Inteyerrkwe Statement’, which gave a decisive proclamation that Aboriginal males from Central Australia were committed to ensuring safe and happy community environment for their families:

We the Aboriginal males from Central Australia and our visitor brothers from around Australia gathered at Inteyerrkwe in July 2008 to develop strategies to ensure our future roles as grandfathers, fathers, uncles, nephews, brothers, grandsons, and sons in caring for our children in a safe family environment that will lead to a happier, longer life that reflects opportunities experienced by the wider community.

Now, in 2013, both males and females will gather together to put forward positive solutions to help facilitate change.

“We talk a lot about what the problems are,” Mr Liddle said. “Now we want to focus on the solutions.”

“We want our voices to be heard.”

ENDS

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The ***Kurunna mwarre: Making my spirit inside me good Summit*** will be held at Ross River from Tuesday 14 to Thursday 16 May 2013. It is for Aboriginal people only.

A Summit Open Day will be held on **Thursday 16 May** for politicians, media and stakeholders to attend and be presented with the solutions emanating from the summit. (See details below)

Media contact:

Emma Ringer, Communications Officer, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress

Ph: 0408 741 691 / 08 8958 3664

Email: emma.ringer@caac.org.au

Summit contact:

Bruce Loomes

Ph: 0439 594 724

Email: bruce_loomes@bigpond.com

Summit spokespeople:

Mr John Liddle, Ingkintja Male Health Branch Manager, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress

Ms Donna Ah Chee, CEO, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress

Kurunna Mwarre Summit Open Day:

When: Thursday 16 May, 2013

Time: 11:00am to 12:30pm

Where: Ross River Resort, via Alice Springs NT

Who: Federal and NT politicians

Federal and NT government departments

Aboriginal organisations and service providers

Indigenous and non-Indigenous leaders in Central Australia

Media and relevant stakeholders

Interested persons from Central Australia