



QUEENSLAND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER FOUNDATION (QATSIF) CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF ADVICE

Background

- ▶ Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation (QATSIF) is a perpetual charitable trust established on 25 November 2008.
- ▶ The Public Trustee of Queensland is the Trustee for QATSIF.
- ▶ The Foundation was established to:
 - provide a secure, independent and perpetual funding source for the public benefit to advance the education and life opportunities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people in Queensland through the provision and promotion of scholarships;
 - apply the income to increase community awareness of the need to advance the education of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people in Queensland;
 - ensure engagement by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community with the Trust; and
 - ensure the income is perpetual and to garner additional financial support from the community for the Trust or towards the delivery of its charitable objects.
- ▶ The funds contributed for the establishment of the Foundation represent the toil of previous generations of Indigenous Queenslanders who laboured under now-repealed control laws and policies. It was drawn from two sources:
 - \$10.8 Million from the former Aborigines Welfare Fund; and
 - \$15.0 Million from the remaining unspent funds from the Indigenous Wages and Savings Reparations Scheme.
- ▶ Current total funds under management is approx. \$45 Million
- ▶ The profile of QATSIF continues to grow throughout Queensland due to the positive impact on the schooling outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Queensland, which in turn contributes to the Government's Closing the Gap initiatives.
 - QATSIF is currently supporting 3600 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people across Years 11 and 12 and has supported over 12,400 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people across its first 12 years.
 - Besides providing scholarships, QATSIF also supports schools across all education systems by sharing educational resources and opportunities for staff

and students; encouraging Cultural pride through activities, opportunities and events such as the QATSIF Creative Arts Competition, Yarning With Our Elders program, QATSIF Young Indigenous Leader Awards and Graduations.

Board of Advice

- ▶ The Public Trustee is guided by a Board of Advice, which must be constituted of at least five members.
- ▶ The Board of Advice makes recommendations on the allocation of funds to achieve QATSIF's objectives.
- ▶ The Board of Advice provides the Trustee with guidance regarding the Investment Strategy, the functions and expenditure of the Secretariat and on the strategic direction of the Foundation.
- ▶ The Board of Advice meets formerly at least quarterly to discuss Foundation matters, strategy and donation opportunities, and assess grant applications.

Board of Advice Chair

Principal Duties and role of the Chair of the Board of Advice

- ▶ The Chair is responsible for leadership of the Board including:
 - Facilitating proper information flow to the Board.
 - Facilitating the effective functioning of the Board including managing the conduct, frequency and length of Board meetings.
 - Communicating the views of the Board to the Trustee, stakeholders, relevant Queensland Government agencies and to the public.
 - The Chair has no direct reports, however the Chair works in collaboration with the QATSIF Secretariat Director to ensure the smooth running of the QATSIF Secretariat, events and the Board.
 - Setting the agenda for the matters to be considered by the Board.
 - Seeking to ensure that the information provided to the Board is relevant, accurate, timely and sufficient to keep the Board appropriately informed of the performance, finances, affairs, opportunities and challenges of the Trust and of any developments that may have a material impact on it.
 - Seeking to ensure that communications with the Trustee and stakeholders are timely accurate and relevant.
 - Facilitating open and constructive communications amongst Board members and encouraging their contribution to Board deliberations.
 - Provide guidance to the Trustee and oversee and facilitate Board reviews and succession planning.

- Liaising and interfacing with the Trustee and relevant Government agencies with regard to the strategic direction of the Trust.
- Promote and raise awareness of the Trust and build and nurture ongoing relationships with stakeholders, Elders, Education bodies, and Government and non-Government agencies.
- Identify potential fundraising and donation opportunities and develop and maintain corporate partnerships with external sponsors in order to ensure that the Foundation's long term strategic goals are met.
- Representing and speaking on behalf of the QATSIF Board at QATSIF events, government and non-government functions, events and meetings.
- The Chair shall be remunerated for his/her service in accordance with the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Remuneration Procedures for Part-Time Chairs and Members of the Queensland Government Bodies.

Characteristics and qualifications of the Chair of the Board of Advice

The Chair should be a respected member of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, have strong Queensland community ties and a substantial knowledge of the history, Cultures and issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The Chair will be acutely aware of the sensitivities regarding the origin of the QATSIF funds and the obligation of the Trust and the Board of Advice to most effectively fulfill the objects of the Trust.

The Chair should be committed to driving the Foundation's work in supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people achieve their full potential.

The Chair should possess a wide range of skills, knowledge and experience in a number of relevant areas which could include education, finance, governance law, marketing, fundraising etc.

The Chair will have the ability and desire to champion for the Trust and be confident in his/her ability to communicate and negotiate with senior Government officials, in particular the Director-General and Minister if required.

The Chair will play a leading role with regard to fundraising and identifying potential grants and corporate sponsors. The Chair will develop and maintain strong relationships with stakeholders, key corporate and Government agencies and community leaders to support the Foundation's long term strategic goals.

The Chair should possess strong leadership skills and high level strategic planning skills.

It is the role of the Chair to lead the Board with regard to the most effective application of available Trust funds in an increasingly challenging economic environment.