



AIDA

The Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association
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MEDIA RELEASE

Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association

14 February 2017

We have the solutions – The National Congress of Australia's First Peoples present the Redfern Statement to the PM

In a historically significant and moving ceremony at Parliament House today the Redfern Statement was presented to the Prime Minister in a Coolamon to be held in trust on behalf of the 45th Parliament.

The Redfern Statement is calling for a new relationship and genuine partnership with the Australian Government and for Australia's First Peoples to be equal partners in decisions made about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people; decisions that address housing, health, education, justice, disability and representation.

In an eloquent speech from Co-chair of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, Dr Jackie Huggins and through powerful community stories conveyed by Indigenous women the message was clear. "We have the solutions".

Dr Huggins said "I expect that you, Prime Minister, and most in this House will be somewhat frustrated and disappointed at the slow pace of change and the continuation of our First People's poor health and wellbeing. How could you not be given the statistics in front of you?

Respectfully, your disappointment will not compare to ours.

We have come to a time when we cannot continue with cycles of failure".

The Redfern Statement was developed on 9 June 2016 and the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) are one of the 18 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak organisations leading this statement and calling for Government action. Members of AIDA were proud to be in the Great Hall at Parliament House for this significant occasion.

AIDA looks forward to working with other Redfern Statement signatory peaks and senior State and Territory Government representatives between March and July at the Redfern Statement Workshops and participating in the National First People Summit in August/September later this year.

The full [Redfern Statement](http://nationalcongress.com.au/about-us/redfern-statement/) can be viewed at <http://nationalcongress.com.au/about-us/redfern-statement/>

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