

To whom it may concern,

RE: NIAA Indigenous Digital Inclusion Plan

As the CEO of the Community Media Training Organisation, I am writing in support of First Nations Media Australia's (FNMA) submission in response to the NIAA Indigenous Digital Inclusion Plan.

The Community Media Training Organisation (CMTO) is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO ID 91800), delivering accredited and pathways training in media skills around Australia. The CMTO's mission statement is 'Media Skills for All'. The CMTO is committed to delivering high quality and innovative training using the latest education tools both online and face to face.

FNMA is a major stakeholder of the CMTO and we work closely with them to deliver highly tailored training to their member stations across Australia. The CMTO supports the FNMA's focus on communications as an important part of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

The CMTO trains around 2000 individuals annually and has firsthand experience of the barrier that low digital access and literacy poses to education, work and involvement in community activities.

As a workplace trainer for the Creative and Media industries, the CMTO spends a large amount of time and resources on ensuring all our course participants are able to access technology and the internet in order to participate fully in our courses. We ship laptops and internet dongles all over the country on a weekly basis, as all too often our students do not have access to these items within their community. We also provide one-on-one student support to ensure students are able to connect and use the technology, as we see low digital literacy skills across the spectrum of urban, regional and remote cohorts.

We support FNMA's focus on Digital Ability in their submission and believe the CMTO is uniquely placed to be able to deliver training around digital literacy to Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples around the country, if resourced to do so.

Our training is available to First Nations people in urban, regional and remote areas. The CMTO employs industry professionals across the country with experience across the creative industries, these industry professionals make up our trainer pool and work both digitally and in person to deliver training. 117 individuals make up our trainer pool, a large percentage of which are accredited trainers and 15% are First Nations peoples.

Recently we collaborated FNMA's InDigiMOB on a pilot a Leadership training program for emerging First Nations leaders, delivered entirely online due to the impacts of Covid-19. As part of the training, InDigiMOB and CMTO trained the participants in basic digital literacy & accessing learning online. This allowed all participants to access the course access the course on equal footing.

If resourced, The CMTO could develop a tailored accredited training plan to deliver train-the-trainer support for Digital Access Workers within communities, potentially creating ongoing avenues for employment in the future.

Currently, the CMTO has several units on scope that could be delivered to formalise and consolidate the skills of potential Digital Access Workers, including:

- ICTICT214 - Operate application software packages
- ICTICT312 - Use advanced features of applications
- ICTSAS441 - Support ICT system software
- ICTTEN417 - Install, configure and test a router
- ICTWEB306 - Develop web presence using social media

The implicit technology foundation skills within these units provide a solid framework for ensuring a national skill standard of potential Digital Access Workers in communities across Australia.

Furthermore, the CMTO could work with our partner RTOs to develop and add to scope the Foundation Skills Training Package, which includes highly appropriate training modules that would be tailored to beginner cohorts, including:

- FSKDIG001 Use digital technology for short and basic workplace tasks
- FSKDIG002 Use digital technology for routine and simple workplace tasks
- FSKDIG003 Use digital technology for non-routine workplace tasks

These units and qualifications are designed to ensure basic digital literacy skills are developed that allow individuals to access further education and work in environments where digital skills are required.

As a national RTO the CMTO has access to state funding to deliver subsidised accredited training across a range of skills areas, including digital literacy. These subsidies may allow individuals to access training that is crucial to their professional development. However further resources would be required to develop culturally appropriate training programs and materials tailored to the diverse cohorts across Australia.

In the meantime the CMTO will continue to support and partner with InDigiMOB and FNMA to deliver these initiatives.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

Sincerely,



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