



ACT
Government

**Canberra Health
Services**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Consumer Reference Group partnered with CHS to develop this statement to deliver on our vision of 'Creating exceptional health care together'.

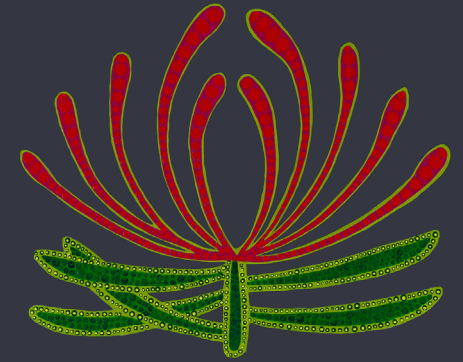
Natalie Bateman *Monga Waratah* 2021 acrylic on canvas 100 x 145cm

Artwork creation supported by community generosity through canberrahospitalfoundation.org.au

Collection: Canberra Health Services 2021



Achieving this vision requires our **commitment** to undertaking an ongoing journey of recognising and respecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of working and approaches to holistic health and wellbeing. This includes transforming the way we work in genuine **partnership** with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the ACT and surrounding region.



We will demonstrate our commitment through **action**, including by:

- Undertaking an ongoing and action orientated journey of **cultural safety** and responsiveness, responding to the needs and aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, families, and the community in a strengths-based and culturally informed way.
- Strengthening **relationships** by working with and being open, transparent, and accountable to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.
- Investing in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander **leadership**, at all levels, to drive and embed transformational and positive **change** across our services.

About the artist

Natalie Bateman is a proud Walbanja-Yuin artist on the NSW South Coast. Her cultural heritage, kinship and connection to the land and sea are at the heart of her very successful practice as an artist.

A message from Natalie Bateman

“We walk together in partnership, with shared values towards reconciliation. This design features the pathways that bring us to Canberra Health Services. The colours of the region’s vibrant native flowers welcome and enhance positivity, leading the way to healing and rehabilitation. We hope this work will be a marker on the journey to build trust with the community and help realise the Canberra Health Services’ vision to create exceptional health care together.

In the centre are the four kidney shapes representing the staff and the diverse communities of Canberra and the surrounding region. The centre circle is Canberra Health Services (and a sun which represents fire). Here we all gather, as if around a campfire, bringing respect, as we have been taught by our ancestors.

I chose the Monga Waratah because it comes from around the Braidwood/ Mongarlowe area. The four Monga Waratahs are a reminder of how we share the core values of Canberra Health Services; to be kind, respectful, progressive, and reliable.”

Supporting our vision

Natalie Bateman’s painting is part of a larger project called ‘Together, Forward’. It marks our commitment to undertaking an ongoing journey of recognising and respecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of working and approaches to holistic health and wellbeing. It will support us in our role to be a health service that is trusted by our community and help us live up to our shared values. We hope that it will welcome and support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as both consumers and team members of Canberra Health Services.

CHS in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Consumer Reference Group developed this document.



Accessibility
Ph (02) 5124 0000 | Ph 131 450



Interpreter



Acknowledgement of Country

Canberra Health Services acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Ngunnawal people. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and contribution to the life of this city and region.