QTIC INDIGENOUS CHAMPIONS NETWORK
proudly supported by The Star Entertainment Group

THE ✦ STAR
ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

Capability Statement

The Queensland Tourism Industry Council's Indigenous Champions Network

(The Champions Network) is a group of 30 volunteer organisations and individuals working to support and enhance Indigenous employment across the tourism industry and supporting the growth of new tourism businesses.

The Champions Network is the only one of its kind in Australia. The Champions Network draws on the skills, experience and knowledge of its members to deliver <u>advice, support and resources</u> to the broader tourism industry and business owners.

The Champions Network offers considerable value to those involved directly and to those that leverage off the resources and knowledge by strengthening Indigenous engagement across the tourism industry and working towards two common goals: **2,020 new Indigenous faces in tourism by 2020** *(previous goal 1,000 reached in 2017)* and **20 new businesses by 2020.**

QTIC's Champions Network is the "Voice for Indigenous people in the Tourism Industry".

The QTIC network has provided me personally with so much knowledge and contacts that has helped our business grow and access the funding required. The networking opportunity has led to more opportunities due to the introductions made by Rhonda. I have been involved in the network for about 5 years and its wonderful to have seen it grow to where it is today. Rather than talking about breaking down preconceptions for employers, we are now talking about attracting the best Indigenous Talent and being an Employer of Choice. This is awesome and a testament to the expertise and passion Rhonda has bought to the network. It can't be an easy role at times and my experience is that it is always done with care and a high level of professionalism. What a fabulous network it has become for new Indigenous business. QTIC should be very proud.

Kim Dorward, Voyagers & Mossman Gorge.

Why Indigenous Tourism Matters:

12%
OF ALL INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PARTICIPATED IN AN INDIGENOUS EXPERIENCE

1 in 6
EMPLOYED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE ARE IN TOURISM

TOURISM IS A **$25.5B** INDUSTRY FOR QUEENSLAND. ABORIGINAL EXPERIENCES CONTRIBUTE **$6.4B** p/a

QUEENSLAND TOURISM INDUSTRY COUNCIL
The Voice of Tourism

The QTIC Indigenous Champions Network, supported by The Star Entertainment Group is committed to achieving the goals of:

- 2000 new Indigenous faces by 2020 (previous goal of 1000 was reached in 2017
- 20 new Indigenous Businesses by 2020

THE STAR
ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

QUEENSLAND TOURISM INDUSTRY COUNCIL
The Voice of Tourism

The Champions' Network is working towards its goal by assisting businesses to understand cultural protocol and practices, providing businesses with mentoring and resources to assist in the recruitment, employment and retention of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island staff in the tourism industry.

Indigenous Tourism & Employment Resources

QTIC offers a range of resources to assist businesses in recruitment, management and retention of Indigenous employees, including the following publications on qtic.com.au/indigenous

> Employment guide
> Newsletter
  > Cultural Protocol
    > QTIC Indigenous Employee Retention Strategy: A Guide to Building Your Business Through Mentoring
      > Case-studies of models for Indigenous Employment/engagement
        > Indigenous Employment Network's Acknowledgement to Country

"For Indigenous business I would say the challenges of promotion and running the business when starting up with sometimes limited funds. For employment, it's knowing the right people to connect with to make it work for your business. This is why this QTIC network is so valuable."

Rhonda Appo, QTIC's Indigenous Program Manager has extensive experience in education, training and tourism. Rhonda is skilled in coaching, government relations, Indigenous issues, and event management. She has strong program and project management skills and is committed to engaging with businesses throughout Queensland ensuring Indigenous employment opportunities are realised and connecting businesses with knowledge and mentors to ensure success in the tourism industry.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

To find out how the Champions Network can support you or your business please get in touch with us via 07 3236 1445 or email champions@qtic.com.au.