

## **Public Health Association of Australia 32nd Annual Conference**

**Public Health Futures  
Canberra 26 – 29 November 2000**

### **PHAA CONFERENCE RESOLUTION**

#### **The Primary Health Care Access Program (PHCAP)**

This conference recognises that the PHCAP is a landmark public health achievement in equitable, transparent, financing arrangements for the development of primary health care services in indigenous communities in Australia.

We note that the PHCAP addresses some of the major barriers to indigenous health advancements that have been previously identified in PHAA policy statements on indigenous health through the development of –

- joint planning and pooled Commonwealth/State & Territory funds
- community responsibility for primary health care
- support for indigenous health leadership and advocacy
- significant injection of new funding

We commend Minister Wooldridge and the OATSIH for their vision in establishing the PHCAP.

We also congratulate the partners to the NT Framework Agreement, the NT Government, the Aboriginal Medical Service Alliances, NT (AMSANT), the DHAC and ATSIC who have been able to overcome historical conflict and build an effective partnership based on mutual understanding as they have created the policy framework to the implementation of the program.

The PHAA urges the Commonwealth Government to fully fund the proposed Commonwealth contribution to PHCAP in the next budget. We commend the Northern Territory model to all States and Territories for consideration of its process and principles, and their relationship to equity for all population groups.

The PHAA congratulates all parties to this exciting initiative and looks forward to hearing a progress report at the PHAA 2001 Conference in Sydney

Proposed by David Legge