



STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS TO CLOSE THE GAP

COOLAMON
ADVISORS

Purpose:

This course is designed for Non-Indigenous public sector employees who play a role in policy, program design, and service delivery. It builds understanding of the Closing the Gap framework, develops skills to work effectively with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs), and embeds practices that lead to better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Objectives:

- Understand the history and commitments underpinning Closing the Gap
- Work in genuine partnerships with ACCO's through shared decision-making
- Apply practical tools for culturally safe communication, funding, and accountability
- Translate Closing the Gap priorities into day-to-day public sector practice

Program Overview:

Day 1 - Understanding Closing the Gap and Historical Context

- Colonisation, dispossession, systemic racism
- Closing the Gap targets, reforms and progress
- Role of ACCO's in achieving better outcomes

Day 2 - Building Skills to Work with ACCOs

- Principles of genuine partnerships
- Shared decision-making frameworks
- Funding models that empower ACCOs
- Relationship and communication skills



Day 3 – Delivering Outcomes for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Peoples

- Translating commitments into practice
- Accountability and transparency to communities
- Embedding cultural integrity in the public sector
- Final reflection and participant commitment statements

Delivery Approach

Methods: Yarning circles, case studies, role plays, group mapping, reflection

Facilitators: Aboriginal leaders (ACCO CEOs, Elders, Aboriginal public servants) supported by Non-Indigenous allies

Outputs:

- Commitment from each participant
- Toolkit of practical partnership and accountability tools
- Reflection journal for continued practice

Benefits:

- Strengthens staff cultural capability and confidence
- Ensures government actions align with Closing the Gap priorities
- Builds stronger, more respectful partnerships with Aboriginal communities
- Leads to more effective investment and better outcomes

PROGRAM DATES:

Tuesday 17th March – Thursday 19th March 2026

Cost: \$2000 excluding GST (Limited Places Available)

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