



NATSIEC
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Education Corporation

MEDIA RELEASE

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NATSIEC welcomes new CEO to drive evidence and community-informed education reforms that will improve outcomes

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Corporation (NATSIEC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Sharon Davis, a proud Bardi and Kija person, as the inaugural Chief Executive Officer, effective 5 September 2024. Davis brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to better and fairer Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education in Australia.

“NATSIEC plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of education for our people,” said Davis. “I am honoured to lead Australia’s peak Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education body and continue the vital work of advocating for the education that our communities and families want and deserve. Education is the key to our future, and it must be grounded in our cultural knowledge, history, and identity.”

NATSIEC Co-Chairs, Professor Peter Buckskin, PSM FACE, a Narungga man from the Yorke Peninsula in South Australia, and Aunty Geraldine Atkinson, a proud Bangerang/Wiradjuri woman from Northeastern Victoria, welcomed Davis to the role. They expressed confidence that Davis's vision, leadership, and unwavering dedication to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education would drive NATSIEC’s mission forward and ensure that communities have the opportunities they deserve.

Under Davis’s leadership, NATSIEC is poised to further its commitment to creating transformative change in the education sector. This includes developing robust partnerships with government, educators, and communities, advocating for policies that support the educational aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, and ensuring that their voices are at the forefront of national education discourse.

As NATSIEC enters this new chapter, the organisation remains steadfast in its mission to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, educators, and communities through education that honours and respects their cultural heritage.

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About NATSIEC

NATSIEC is the national expert advisory and advocacy agency in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education. NATSIEC's vision is to ensure that all Indigenous students have access to an education that is fair, just, and informed by the voices of their communities. NATSIEC calls on all educators, education administrators, and community leaders to re-commit to community-informed decision-making, improved program co-design and delivery, and shared accountability to achieve these longstanding goals.

More about Sharon Davis, CEO NATSIEC

Sharon Davis has dedicated the past decade to improving educational outcomes for Indigenous students across Australia, leading in the space of First Nations education at both state and national levels. Their appointment marks a significant milestone for NATSIEC, as the organisation continues to strengthen its impact on education policy and practice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students nationwide.

Davis holds a Master's degree from the University of Oxford and a Bachelor of Education from the University of Notre Dame, Broome. As a Roberta Sykes Scholar, Davis has demonstrated academic excellence and a profound understanding of the unique challenges facing Indigenous communities in education.

In their previous roles, Davis has led initiatives to strengthen the cultural responsiveness of Australian teachers, developed a range of tools and resources to support culturally safe learning environments, and has been a strong advocate for centering Indigenous knowledge and voices in Australian literature and education. As a board director for Reconciliation Australia, the Aurora Education Foundation, the Stronger Smarter Institute, and Magabala Books, Davis has championed the importance of anti-racism, cultural safety and truth-telling in the broader educational landscape.

For further information or to arrange an interview with Sharon Davis, please contact:

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