

5 February 2024

## MEDIA RELEASE

*Please be aware that the following text does contain mentions of a person who has passed away.*

It is with great sadness that we received the news of Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue AC CBE DSG's passing on 4 February 2024. The Board, management, and team of the National Association of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners (NAATSIHWP) wishes to express its condolences to her family, friends, loved ones as well as those whose lives have been impacted by Dr O'Donoghue.

A lifetime of pursuing better outcomes for Community, Dr O'Donoghue has been and will continue to be an inspirational leader for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. She was the first trainee Aboriginal nurse in South Australia, first Aboriginal woman to be invested as Member of the Order of Australia, and the first Aboriginal person to address the UN general assembly. During and outside of these achievements, Dr O'Donoghue has significantly benefitted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and interests across many sectors, including education, health and politics.

Dr O'Donoghue, a proud Yankunytjatjara woman, lived an extraordinary 91 years of life. With deepest respect to O'Donoghue's life, we work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, organisations and workforces to continue and build her legacy.