



# Our Languages Matter

2-9 JULY 2017



2017's National NAIDOC Theme – **Our Languages Matter** - aims to emphasise and celebrate the unique and essential role that Indigenous languages play in cultural identity, linking people to their land and water and in the transmission of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, spirituality and rites, through story and song. Today only around 120 of those languages are still spoken and many are at risk of being lost as Elders pass on. Aboriginal and Torres Strait languages are not just a means of communication, they express knowledge about everything: law, geography, history, family and human relationships, philosophy, religion, anatomy, childcare, health, caring for country, astronomy, biology and food. Each language is associated with an area of land and has a deep spiritual significance and it is through their own languages, that Indigenous nations maintain their connection with their ancestors, land and law.

## NAIDOC COMMUNITY AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

### YOUR NOMINEE'S DETAILS:

NAME			
ADDRESS			
GENDER		AGE	
ABORIGINAL	Y/N	TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER	Y/N

### PLEASE WRITE A SHORT EXPLANATION WHY YOU FEEL THIS PERSON DESERVES TO BE RECOGNISED AS A COMMUNITY AWARD WINNER:

MISS NAIDOC  MR NAIDOC  NAIDOC ELDER  COMMUNITY PERSON  SPORTS JUNIOR  SPORTS SENIOR

### YOUR DETAILS:

NAME			
ADDRESS			
ORGANISATION		TELEPHONE NO.	
SIGNATURE			