

Have Your Say Today - Become a Member of your Aboriginal Peak Body for Community Housing in NSW



The Aboriginal Community Housing Industry Association (ACHIA) is the new peak body for the Aboriginal housing sector.

ACHIA wants to show that it has strong support from the sector so we are asking as many ACHPs as possible to [sign up](#) to become ACHIA affiliates (members).

ACHIA affiliates (members) will then be able to **elect the ACHIA Committee**.

Since the launch of the process by our former Housing Minister Brad Hazzard on 9 December 2016 the interim committee has been working hard on getting the peak established.

In the last few months the committee has:

- developed a Charter, a work plan and strategic priorities;
- been successful with a funding proposal to seek funding for the establishment and ongoing running costs of ACHIA;
- mapped various models for the constitution and how ACHIA would be set up;
- held network meetings to consult with the wider Aboriginal community housing sector about what the peak should work on and how it should be organised and
- increased the number of Aboriginal Community Housing Providers (ACHPs) who are [CHIA NSW](#) members

Revised Election Timeline 2018-2019

October – start membership drive and publicise elections + re-open sector consultation survey

1st November – call for nominations from ACHIA affiliates to stand for election to the committee

Nominations open until 27th February

28th February - Independent committee will evaluate nominees against the skills matrix.

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4th March- elections open. Elections will be by electronic voting (email / online). A profile of all those standing for election will be circulated to all ACHIA affiliates (members) as part of the election.

Election closes 27th March

Committee announced 29th March

Committee membership

Under the ACHIA Charter it has been agreed that:

- All members of the ACHIA Committee must be Aboriginal.
- All members of the committee must be employed or engaged by an ACHP that is an affiliate (member) of ACHIA
- The committee should comprise at least 6 and no more than 9 members.
- Term of committee members will be for 2 years once elected

We will work towards the ACHIA Committee being representative of ACHPs in NSW and will contain an appropriate mix of skills to carry out its work. We therefore encourage ACHPs from different locations and of different sizes to nominate themselves for the upcoming elections.

Voting rights and membership structure

Category 1 affiliates are the only group who will have voting rights in the Committee elections. To be a Category 1 affiliate the organisation must be a current registered Aboriginal housing provider under:

- National Regulatory System for Community Housing (NRSCH) or the NSW Local Scheme, AHO PARS, the NSW Regulatory Code, NSWALC Community Benefit Scheme or AHO transitionally registered

Membership benefits and fees

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ACHIA will need to raise some income to allow it to carry out additional activities on behalf of the sector. However, in the first year we have tried to make membership as affordable as possible to encourage all ACHPs to join ACHIA.

Category 1 affiliates

Full membership benefits:

- ✓ Regular e-bulletins and e-newsletter
- ✓ Nomination and voting rights for the Board
- ✓ Fifteen percent discount on training, publications, services and fee-paying seminars
- ✓ Affiliate membership of CHIA NSW included
- ✓ Policy development, research and advocacy support
- ✓ Free access to support, information and advice through CHIA NSW's Housing Management Hotline, website and direct contact with expert staff.

Introductory fee of \$300 (this will be waived for existing members of CHIA NSW). Click [this link](#) to see if you are a CHIA NSW member.

Sign up today using this online form and please contact Chad Ritchie the ACHIA co-ordinator at chadr@communityhousing.org.au or T 02 9690 2447 M 0438 038 269 if you have any questions.