



## Keeping remote Indigenous communities safe

Update 7 – 23 July 2020

### Context

This is the seventh stakeholder bulletin outlining MCA and industry actions to support community-led responses to keep remote Indigenous communities safe from COVID-19.

The July bulletin outlines recent MCA actions and company contributions to pandemic responses.

### Maintaining focus

The MCA's central focus remains the safety, health and wellbeing of workers, families and communities as the COVID-19 pandemic evolves in Australia.

Key actions since the June bulletin include:

- Four MCA COVID-19 Working Group meetings were held to brief senior industry leaders on critical safety, health and wellbeing, community and other matters. Meetings are now being held as required
- The MCA updated its industry guidance to reference new Australian Government guidance and resources on remote community health responses
- The MCA is continuing to share updates with its member taskforce focused on keeping communities safe from COVID-19
- MCA CEO Tania Constable participated in an International Council on Mining and Metals webinar [‘What has the mining industry learned from COVID-19 so far and what does the future hold?’](#). The webinar covered health and safety, business continuity and support for host communities.
  - Ms Constable highlighted national and local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health sector and community leadership in driving pandemic responses to protect and support Indigenous communities when outlining the MCA's national COVID-19 approach.

### Supporting communities, health preparedness and research

The MCA is continuing to update its list of industry support for community resilience, health response and research activities. Recent additions include:

- **Northern Territory CareFlight:** MCA NT has purchased more than \$300,000 of equipment for the Top End Aeromedical Service since 2013 including flight helmets, monitoring systems, stretcher units and educational tools. Funds are raised through MCA NT's Darwin Mining Club
- **University of Queensland COVID-19 vaccine development:** [Glencore contributed \\$725,000](#) towards UQ's research to develop a vaccine for COVID-19.

### Next steps

The MCA continues to listen to feedback and advice to support and improve industry's approach to working with remote communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.