NT Indigenous Women head to Canberra

Four Northern Territory representatives will travel to Canberra this week to attend the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women’s Gathering (NATSIWG) to discuss key issues relating to women and their communities.

Women’s Policy Minister, Malarndirri McCarthy today said that this forum provides an important channel for Indigenous women to air their opinions and concerns.

“This is an annual gathering and it is vital for our women to have their voices heard in order to tackle issues relating to women’s equal standing in society,” Ms McCarthy said.

“The Northern Territory will be represented by Ms Ngaree Ah Kit, Ms Susan Murray, Ms Joy Cardona and Ms Moogie Patu.

“These four women recently attended forums in Darwin and Alice Springs which identified issues such as safety and wellbeing, child protection and safe places, and they will take these issues to this national meeting.

“Other issues to be discussed in Canberra include human rights, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation, and housing and homelessness, and 2011 being the 100th anniversary of International Women’s Day.

“The NATSIWG will determine national priorities and will make recommendations to the Commonwealth, States, Territories and New Zealand Ministers’ Conference on the status of women.”

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