



Indigenous Evaluation Committee

Meeting Communiqué for 25 June 2026

The Indigenous Evaluation Committee's second meeting of 2026 was held in Canberra on Thursday 25 June 2026. Mr Jason Ardler (Chair), members Dr Fiona Cram, Professor Michelle Dickson, and Mr Tony Kiessler, and ex-officio member Ms Eleanor Williams attended. Dr Simon Gordon and Ms Nattlie Smith also attended for NIAA.

Key discussions

- The Committee provided comments on future evaluation approaches and priorities for the **Remote Australia Employment Service (RAES)** and the **Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) program**.
- Introductions were made between the Committee members and Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory (APO NT) representatives to understand the partnership arrangement and evaluation related work as part of the **Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment (NTRAI)**.
- The Committee considered and gave feedback on the **Junior Rangers** Capacity Building Project Update provided by Ninti-One.
- The Committee received a briefing from the **Australian Centre for Evaluation (ACE)**, which included an update on the State of Evaluation in the Australian Government 2026 report and initiatives relating to commissioning and procurement practices.
- The Committee reviewed the latest **Indigenous Advancement Strategy Evaluation Work Plan**, including updates on Link Up, NTRAI, and the Panel for Indigenous Evaluation and Research Services (PIERS).
- The Committee also noted updates for input on priority areas for evaluation not discussed elsewhere in the agenda, including on **Food Security; Northern Territory Remote Housing; Indigenous Rangers; and the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) Impact Report**.

Next meeting

The next Indigenous Evaluation Committee meeting is proposed to be held on **12 October 2026**.

Mr Jason Ardler

