

## Tom Calma

Dr Tom Calma AO is an Aboriginal elder from the Kungarakana tribal group and a member of the Iwaidja tribal group whose traditional lands are south west of Darwin and on the Coburg Peninsula in the Northern Territory. He has been involved in Indigenous affairs at a local, community, state, national and international level and worked in the public sector for 40 years and is currently on a number of boards and committees focusing on rural and remote Australia, health, education, justice reinvestment, reconciliation and economic development. Dr Calma was Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner at the Australian Human Rights Commission 2004-2010 and Race Discrimination Commissioner 2004-2009. He was the inaugural Chair of the Close the Gap Steering Committee for Indigenous Health Equality, helped establish the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, developed the inaugural National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Strategy, and lead the way in promotion of Justice Reinvestment. Dr Calma is currently National Coordinator, Tackling Indigenous Smoking, and Chancellor of the University of Canberra (the first Indigenous male Chancellor of an Australian university). In 2012 Dr Calma was awarded an Order of Australia; Officer of the General Division (AO), and in 2013 was ACT Senior Australian of the Year; both awarded for service to the Indigenous community and as an advocate for human rights and social justice. In November 2014 Dr Calma was awarded the Indigenous Allied Health Australia Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his lifelong dedication to improving the lives of Indigenous Australians.