

## Voice Secretariat

By email: [Co-designVoice@niaa.gov.au](mailto:Co-designVoice@niaa.gov.au)



**Australian  
Breastfeeding  
Association**

**Dear Committee Members,**

The Australian Breastfeeding Association welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the *Interim Report to the Australian Government: Indigenous Voice Co-Design Process*.

### **About the Australian Breastfeeding Association**

The Australian Breastfeeding Association (ABA, [breastfeeding.asn.au](http://breastfeeding.asn.au)) is a not-for-profit organisation that supports, educates and advocates for a breastfeeding-inclusive society, where breastfeeding is culturally normal and recognised as important by all Australians.

The Australian Breastfeeding Association is recognised as Australia's peak information and support service that:

- provides mothers with practical mother-to-mother support and evidence-based information, to enable them to make informed decisions on their breastfeeding journey,
- provides high quality and accessible training, education and resources to ABA volunteers, health professionals and the wider community to ensure skilled, knowledgeable and practical breastfeeding support for mothers, and
- advocates to influence policymakers to ensure that the importance of breastfeeding is understood and incorporated into policies, action plans and strategies.

### **ABA's position**

In the spirit of mother-to-mother support, we make this statement to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mothers' ability to breastfeed and mother her child(ren) in culturally appropriate ways is protected. Furthermore, we support the empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people so their *children will flourish*, as called for in the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

ABA strongly supports the recommendations made by the From the Heart campaign in response to the *Interim Report to the Australian Government: Indigenous Voice Co-Design Process* and is preparing an organisational response that is currently under review.

We will provide an addendum to this submission at our earliest convenience.

Thank you for the opportunity.

Yours Sincerely

Margaret Grove  
President, Australian Breastfeeding Association