



The Australian Journal of **INDIGENOUS EDUCATION**

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EDITORIAL

This year is very special in that it is the International Year of the World's Indigenous Peoples and the twenty-first year of publication of The Aboriginal Child at School. It is very appropriate that a letter from Lois O'Donoghue be the editorial for this issue. (Honorary Editor)

Dear Colleague

1993 is to be a very important year for Australia's indigenous people. The United Nations has declared it the International Year of the World's Indigenous People (IYWIP) with the theme "Indigenous People - A New Partnership."

The United Nations has provided us with an excellent opportunity to bring about better relations between indigenous people and the wider community.

This is particularly significant in Australia at this time as we are promoting a process of reconciliation between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and non-indigenous Australians.

In addition to the objectives established by the United Nations the Australian Government has set out a range of national objectives for the IYWIP. These include enhanced relations between indigenous and nonindigenous Australians and the identification of activities through policy and program development to improve the socio-cultural position of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Another of the national objectives is to maximise the involvement of non-government organisations and community-based individuals in achieving the goals established by the United Nations and the Government.

I therefore urge you and your organisation to become involved either in promoting and supporting existing activities or initiating and developing new activities which would support the IYWIP.

The success of the International Year is dependent on all of us becoming Involved.

Yours faithfully

Lois O'Donoghue CBE, AM.

Chairperson

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION (ATSIC)