



Participant information sheet.

Inquiry into Truth and Justice Commission Bill 2024.

Mental Health Lived Experience Peak Queensland (MHLEPQ) Submission

The purpose: Why?

The MHLEPQ is drafting a submission to [the Inquiry into Truth and Justice Commission Bill 2024 \(the Inquiry\)](#). The MHLEPQ submission will provide First Nations Peoples' lived experience about why the Inquiry into historical and enduring injustices is relevant to the social and emotional health of First Nations' Australians.

The Peak is committed to working in partnership as allies with First Nations members to ensure their direct experiences and expertise are heard in all matters crucial to their wellbeing and self-determination.

Our approach: How?

The MHLEPQ is planning to facilitate two (2) x 2-hour online focus groups in August with First Nations (Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples) members to talk about historical and ongoing injustices, and the social and emotional health of First Nations' Australians.

The first focus group will focus on relationship-building and knowledge-sharing and introduce four (4) to five (5) 'big picture' questions to begin the submission process. The second focus group will dive more deeply into the insights of the participants. Staff will draft the submission and provide it to participants for their review before submitting it to the Committee.

The focus groups will be facilitated by Bec, MHLEPQ Policy Director, a non-First Nations person and recorded, with consent

Participants will be paid for their time in line with the [MHLEPQ Paid Participation Policy](#).

Due Date: 6 September 2024.

Background

The Bill is intended to establish a Commission to inquire into and make recommendations to Parliament on matters relating to historic and ongoing injustices against First Peoples in Australia and the impacts of these injustices on First Peoples.

[Truth and Justice Commission Bill 2024 – Parliament of Australia \(aph.gov.au\)](#) provides the Terms of Reference and more detailed information.

Link to Mental Health: First Nations Peoples in Australia are disproportionately impacted by mental ill-health and suicide and their sociocultural determinants. Their deep connection to Land and Culture is a protected human right and plays a significant role in their self-determination, and personal and community identities.

Confidentiality and Consent

You can withdraw yourself, and any information you have shared, at any stage of the focus group.

All notes taken from the focus groups will be deidentified and no names or identifying details will be included in the MHLEPQ submission.

Access to focus group recordings is limited and owned by MHLEPQ staff.

Following the completion of the summary reports, the recordings will be destroyed.

Data Used in the Submission

Data from the focus groups or surveys will be de-identified. The reports will contain overall themes that were drawn from the focus groups and surveys (such

as key suggestions) and direct quotes (which will be de-identified and will remove any information that could identify someone).

Communication and Feedback

The MHLEPQ will provide a draft copy of their findings to participants for feedback and confirmation that the submission accurately reflects the focus group discussions before being finalised.

Registering your involvement

Please complete the [online form](#) to register your involvement in one of the focus groups.

You can contact the MHLEPQ directly via email at: engagement@mhlepq.org.au.