



Australian Government
Indigenous Business Australia

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MEDIA RELEASE

Indigenous owners invest in Scarborough House future

Indigenous owners from as far away as Groote Eylandt and the Kimberley will join the Federal Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, Kevin Andrews, and the Chief Minister of the ACT, Jon Stanhope on September 5 to celebrate the re-opening of Scarborough House in Canberra.

The previously vacant 15-storey building, in the Woden town complex, was recently renovated at a cost of more than \$32 million to provide A-grade office accommodation for the Federal Department of Health and Ageing.

The upgrade is part of a deliberate move by Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) to encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in remote areas to improve their economic circumstances by direct strategic investment in centres with high potential growth.

In the ACT suburb of Woden to celebrate the occasion will be representatives of the Wunan Foundation from Western Australia, the Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation from Jabiru in the Northern Territory, the Yarnteen Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation in NSW, and the Groote Eylandt and Bickerton Island Enterprises Aboriginal Corporation also from the Top End.

All four groups are strategic partners with IBA in the Scarborough House Trust. The chairman of IBA, Mr Joseph Elu, will host more than 80 guests including the Secretary of the Department of Health and Ageing, Ms Jane Halton, whose staff are due to take occupancy of the premises in the near future. The futuristic new Scarborough House will contain a ground floor auditorium, a coffee shop and an art gallery.

The ceremony starts at 9.30 am with a traditional Indigenous welcome.

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