



**POCHE**  
INDIGENOUS HEALTH NETWORK

## KEY THINKERS FORUM

Friday 24 August 2018, 12 – 3pm  
Flinders Victoria Square, Adelaide

# 'OUTING' UNCONSCIOUS BIAS

## *Strategies to reconfigure harmful response modes in Indigenous health care*

Evidence of the damaging physiological, as well as psychological, health impacts of overtly racist and discriminatory practices are slowly forcing change in Indigenous health policy and health professional training. Less-discernible and, unsurprisingly, less-addressed are the range of ways in which 'business as usual' in healthcare translates into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians receiving fewer interventions in hospital than their presenting diagnoses call for: just one aspect of 'institutional' or 'structural racism'.

Of all such issues that require a rethink of health care practice and health practitioner education, a particular 'sleeping' issue is the harm arising from 'unconscious', or 'implicit', bias. Stereotypical beliefs can override good clinical decision-making, with resultant poor treatment outcomes, avoidable injury, even death. Yet, how do you change practices that clinicians may not even be fully aware of? And how do you assist students to work through material that can profoundly challenge them?

This Poche Key Thinkers Forum will feature a panel of three, noted, Pan-Indigenous scholars working in this area: Dr Barry Lavalley (University of Manitoba, Canada), Dr Ricci Harris (University of Otago and University of Auckland, Aotearoa/New Zealand), and Dr Chelsea Bond (University of Queensland). Professor Tom Calma, Chancellor of the University of Canberra and Patron of the Poche Indigenous Health Network, will moderate.



Hosted by The Poche Centres for Indigenous  
Health and Well-Being, Flinders University





**Dr Ricci Harris**  
**Senior Research Fellow**  
**University of Auckland and**  
**the University of Otago**



Dr Ricci Harris (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāi Tahu) is a public health physician and senior research fellow. She holds academic positions at the University of Auckland and the University of Otago. Her research focuses on broad determinants of Māori health and ethnic inequities, particularly the role of racism as a fundamental driver of ethnic health inequities. This includes research on the health impacts of experiences of racism on the health and well-being of adults and children, the links between multiple experiences of discrimination and health, and racial/ethnic bias among health professionals.



**Dr Chelsea Bond**  
**Senior Research Fellow**  
**UQ Poche**  
**Centre for**  
**Indigenous**  
**Health**



Dr Chelsea Bond is a Munanjali and South Sea Islander Australian and a Senior Research Fellow within the UQ Poche Centre for Indigenous Health. Dr Bond has worked as an Aboriginal Health Worker and researcher in communities across South East Queensland over the past 20 years and has a strong interest in both Indigenous health and Indigenous studies.

Much of Dr Bond's work, across both areas of teaching and research, has focused on interpreting and privileging Indigenous knowledges in relation to health, race, culture and identity. Dr Bond was recently awarded an ARC DECRA to advance a race-critical public health research agenda to support the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan's vision of a 'health system free of racism'. Dr Bond is a regular contributor to critical race conversations via her articles in *The Conversation* and *IndigenousX* and as co-host of 'Wild Black Women' on Brisbane's 98.9FM.

An Aboriginal elder of the Kungarakan tribal group, Professor Tom Calma has dedicated his life to improving the lives of all Australians and particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, championing advocacy for human rights and social justice.

Former Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner and Race Discrimination Commissioner, Professor Calma also served as a senior Australian diplomat in India and Vietnam. His landmark 2005 report calling for the life expectancy gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to be closed within a generation, laid the groundwork for the Close the Gap campaign and COAG's Closing the Gap response.



**Professor Tom Calma AO**  
**Patron of the Poche Network**  
**Chancellor of the**  
**University of Canberra**

Dr Barry Lavallee is a member of the First Nation and Metis communities of Manitoba. His ancestral territories are located at St. Laurent, Duck Bay and Lake Manitoba First Nation and he is a member of the Bear Clan. Dr Lavallee is a past president of the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada. He is currently senior physician with Ongomiizwin-Education and leads the Indigenous health longitudinal course in undergraduate medicine at the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Manitoba. He serves as medical advisor to the Diabetes Integration Project of the First Nation Health Services and Social Secretariat of Manitoba, Nanaandawewigamig.

The continuing impact of racism, oppression and colonisation on the health and healing of Indigenous communities and their relationship to chronic diseases centres in Dr Lavallee's work with Diabetes and Chronic Kidney disease.



**Dr Barry Lavallee**  
**Senior Physician**  
**UGME Curriculum Lead**  
**Centre for Aboriginal**  
**Health Education**



**UNIVERSITY**  
**OF MANITOBA**



# POCHE

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## About the Poche Centres for Indigenous Health

Poche Centres for Indigenous Health are an example of the power of partnership in achieving real change to contribute to closing the gap in life expectancy. Established and funded by philanthropists Greg Poche AO and Kay Van Norton Poche, Poche Centres seek to leverage the expertise within Universities, often in collaboration with external stakeholders, to seek solutions that address complex health issues faced by Aboriginal people. The Poches have gifted more than \$50 million dollars to Aboriginal health over the past six years.

## What is a Key Thinkers Forum?

The Key Thinkers Forum (KTF) is an event run through the [Poche Indigenous Health Network](#). The KTF format is a conversational style panel facilitated by Poche Patron and Chair, Professor Tom Calma AO. The panel includes several guest speakers, each presenting their own reflections and promoting discussion and engagement with the audience. We have arranged an insightful panel of experts in the field to share the discussion with and we look forward to hearing your thoughts and contributions to the conversation.



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<http://www.limenetwork.net.au/resources-lime-publications/slice-of-lime-seminars/>

