

26 May 2026

**Att: Raelene Rosas, Chief Executive Officer**  
Northern Territory Stolen Generations Aboriginal Corporation (“NTSGAC”)

**Re: Letter of Apology to the NTSGAC regarding 2024 NAIDOC week**

The purpose of this letter is to acknowledge the past concerns the Australian Association of Social Workers (“AASW”) has caused to the NTSGAC arising from actions related to NAIDOC week activities in 2024 and in particular, to the Darwin NAIDOC week march.

The then President of the Northern Territory Branch of the Association, received an invitation for AASW members to march alongside members of the Stolen Generations at the NAIDOC week march in Darwin, but due to certain AASW management protocols and practices, he was unable to share this invitation with members of the NT Branch.

Concerns were raised in relation to this failure and the AASW accepts that these were not formally acknowledged or resolved in a way which is consistent with our values or the expectations of our Members as a national representative body for Australian social workers.

The decisions that were made, or not made, which gave rise to the AASW’s failures in this matter are a product of past governance arrangements and do not reflect the understandings or practices of the present Board of Directors. To that end and in the interests of healing, the Association would like to formally apologise for AASW’s past behaviour both through our words and our actions.

Accordingly, the Board has resolved to make a \$500 contribution to the NTSGAC to support future NAIDOC week activities, and a copy of this letter, signed by the Chair of the National Board, will be published on the AASW website. Further, we have committed to publishing a feature article in *Social Work Focus* profiling the NT Stolen Generation Aboriginal Corporation.

In order to ensure that this type of failure does not happen again the CEO of the AASW has been directed to ensure that the Association appropriately resources and support State/Territory Branch-led NAIDOC Week activities in all jurisdictions in 2026 and thereafter.

The Board has also reaffirmed its commitment to meaningful engagement and partnerships with First Nations organisations by taking demonstrable action to support First Nations-led processes and cultural authority. AASW as an Association is implementing its own *Innovate* Reconciliation Action Plan, giving us a structured path forward that reflects our values and commits us to practical, measurable outcomes now and in the future.

We accept that in a context where the Association has previously failed the NTSGAC there will be much we need to do in the future to renew your trust and support. We look forward to walking together with you and other First Nations organisations on this shared journey towards reconciliation.

Kind regards

**Elizabeth (Liz) Little**  
Chair, National Board of Directors  
Australian Association of Social Workers