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***The Redfern all Blacks team up with Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service to tackle Indigenous Chronic disease.***

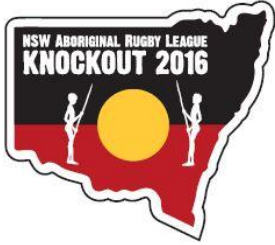
The Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout returns to Sydney for the first time in 10 years and Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service will be a major partner to promote key health messages including Tackling Indigenous Smoking Program, organ and tissue donation and health screening.

The Knockout is described as a 'modern day Corroboree' and draws teams and supporters from Ballina to Bega along the coast and west to Bourke; it's a four-day carnival of fiercely contested, tough, world class Rugby League, where victory is cited as a lifetime highlight for players and communities. But it's far more than a sporting event. The Knockout is a four-day celebration where families gather, reunite as a community and barrack for their hometown and mob, relive past glories and remember those who have passed on.

Hosts of the 2016 Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout carnival, the Redfern all Blacks, said 'The 2016 Knockout will attract thousands of Aboriginal players and tens of thousands of spectators to historic Leichhardt Oval'. RAB President Lisa Williams said, 'RAB look forward to hosting a hugely successful Knockout carnival that showcases the best of our men, women and junior rugby league players and promotes tackling smoking and healthy lifestyles'.

'Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service (WACHS) is proud to partner with one of the founding clubs in the 46 year of the Knockout carnival,' said Chief Executive Officer, Darren Ah See.

"The Knockout is a unique occasion to communicate important and opportunistic health messages to our community from all over NSW and demonstrate how healthy lifestyle choices can lead to a better life for our people," he said.



“WACHS will have a strong presence at the knockout with health screenings, Tackling Smoking questionnaires and other activities. Our Tackling Indigenous Smoking team will be on hand to provide information and provide advice to quitting or reducing smoking. WACHS will also be actively promoting the importance of having conversations with our families and communities about organ and tissue donation in support of DonateLife,” Mr Ah See said.

“WACHS is extremely proud to be involved in the Knockout again this year, and we look forward to working with RAB and the recently convened Knockout Health Committee chaired by George Long to provide appropriate health and wellbeing activities throughout the 4 day carnival.

Picture: Lisa Williams, Chairperson Redfern All Blacks, Darren Ah See, Chief Executive Officer, Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service and RAB committee member, Dr. Heidi Norman.

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