



1-8 JULY 2012

SPIRIT OF THE  
**TENT EMBASSY:**  
40 YEARS ON

#### Venue:

Grand Ballroom,  
The Sebel Cairns,  
17 Abbott Street,  
Cairns

#### Time:

6:45 - 7:15am  
(Registration)

7:20 - 8:50am  
(Breakfast)

9:00 - 10:30am  
(Panel of speakers and  
questions)

#### Cost:

**\$45**

per person OR

**\$320**

for table of 8

**Proud Partners**

# CAIRNS NAIDOC WEEK

The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs  
(DASTIMA) in collaboration with the Cairns NAIDOC Committee presents:

## NAIDOC Corporate Breakfast

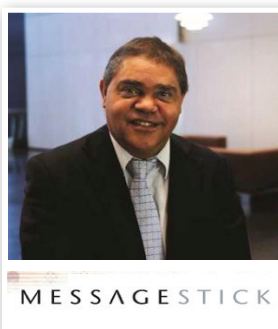
**Tuesday 3 July 2012 @ The Sebel Cairns Hotel**

7.00am - 8:50am (Speakers & breakfast)

9.00am - 10:30am (Q&A panel with speakers)

Guest speakers include:

**Mr Michael McLeod** - CEO of Message Stick and  
**Mrs Lani Blanco-Francis** - CEO of LBF Consulting



#### Michael McLeod:

Michael McLeod has been described by a senior Federal politician as one of Australia's most valuable sons. Michael and his family are part of Australia's stolen generations. At the age of two, Michael and his siblings were taken from their parents – never to be reunited as a family. Michael grew up on his own in State ward homes and foster homes. He first met his mother at his father's funeral. By his mid twenties, he was a chronic alcoholic and heroin addict. By his early thirties Michael was homeless and living on the streets of Sydney. A successful rehabilitation program has seen Michael clean and sober for ten years – in fact he celebrates his tenth year this year. Michael didn't want to be the typical Aboriginal man, dependent on Government social handouts or welfare. He refused employment benefits and Aboriginal housing benefits and chose to do it the hard way – he started his own niche telecommunications business. Today Message Stick is a growing multimillion dollar business, highly profitable and has no debt. The business paid back the initial start up capital in its third year.



#### Lani Blanco-Francis:

LBF Consulting Pty Ltd is a Sydney based, Indigenous owned and operated company, founded by Lani Blanco-Francis in September 2008. As CEO, Lani provides the business strategy for the company including the overall financial, marketing and product development direction. With 15 years experience in the field of Human Resources, and specialising in Indigenous employment and training, Lani has established strategic partnerships and networks with Federal, State and Local government agencies, businesses, trade unions, and community organisations - especially those relating to Indigenous Program initiatives.



**ACCOR**

**CommonwealthBank**



**Queensland Government**

**Register your interest:**

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Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs