

## **The Indigenous Marathon Foundation Board Position Statement on the outcome of the Referendum**

The IMF Board supports the Uluru Statement from the Heart, including a Voice to Parliament, and accepts the invitation to walk (and run) forward side by side with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The IMF Board acknowledges the result of the referendum with enormous disappointment. This result does not change our commitment to supporting and celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, cultures, strength, and achievements through running (and walking).

We recognise how bruising the result of the referendum has been for many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including those in our IMF Family. The health and safety of our IMF Family is our highest priority, and we are here to support you. To the broader Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, we express our ongoing solidarity with you.

We have hope that the outcome of the referendum will not diminish the important work of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander advocacy and allies, and that the momentum of unifying to create a better future for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples will continue.

We see first-hand how local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and community owned, driven and delivered programs are successful and achieve greater outcomes. This is how the IMF operates, one of our core values is that “we run side by side”, and we will continue to provide opportunities to do so.

IMF will continue running towards a unified, reconciled, and healthier future for all Australians, and we thank our people, participants, and supporters on this journey.

### **IMF Board**

Robert de Castella AO MBE; Ayesha Razzaq; Stirling Sharpe; Bianca Graham; Eoghan O’Byrne; Peter Gordon; Simonetta Astolfi.

