



# Press release: Supplier Diversity September

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## Celebrating supplier diversity in September

Supplier Diversity September is month-long celebration Supply Nation holds annually to promote the benefits of supplier diversity and showcase the range of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses in Australia.

Laura Berry, Chief Executive Officer of Supply Nation, said that Supplier Diversity September encourages a sector-wide conversation around the benefits of supplier diversity, and how organisations are engaging to build a prosperous, vibrant and sustainable Indigenous business sector.

“Although we do this all year round, Supplier Diversity September is a focused way to promote and showcase achievements in supplier diversity and the Indigenous business sector.

We recognise there’s still plenty of work to do to close the economic gap, however supplier diversity is a success story in this sector. The Federal Government earlier this year announced that their IPP has driven \$2 billion of spend with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses since 2015; and the Business Council of Australia recently announced its new ‘Raising the Bar’ program, which will drive a further \$3 billion in spend over the next five years.” Ms Berry said.

This year, Supplier Diversity September will be marked by a range of initiatives. One Indigenous business will be showcased each day, from Sunday to Friday, on Supply Nation’s social media channels. A series of weekly newsletters will share success stories between Indigenous businesses and our members, including articles discussing the benefits of supplier diversity, and how to optimise Supply Nation tools to drive greater engagement between our members and suppliers. At the end of the month, Supplier Diversity September closes with the launch of the 2019 Supplier Diversity Awards.

Ms Berry continued “There are plenty of ways to get involved in Supplier Diversity September including holding a meet-the-buyer event and connecting with new Indigenous businesses. “

Supplier diversity is a global movement and Supply Nation is proud to be Australia’s leading supplier diversity organisation, providing opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses to connect with our corporate and government members.

Supply Nation now has more than 440 corporate, government and non-for-profit members committed to supplier diversity in Australia, and over 2,000 verified Indigenous businesses on Australia’s largest national directory, Indigenous Business Direct.