



## **First Nations look to stars with Far North Queensland's emerging space industry**

Australia's only Indigenous-owned aerospace consultancy, Gunggandji Aerospace is a proud co-sponsor of The Far North Queensland (FNQ) Space Industry Networking Cocktail Event alongside Space Centre Australia and Illuminate FNQ tonight at Pullman Cairns International, which will celebrate the upcoming multi-use spaceport in FNQ, Australia's rich Indigenous culture, and Australia's evolving space industry.

Space industry experts, FNQ Traditional Owners, and critical political figures will come together to preserve and promote the cultural heritage of First Nations people whilst promoting the Indigenous knowledge and traditions that have contributed to Australia's scientific, technological, and environmental advancements.

Tonight's cocktail event kicks off a series of events in Cairns, including an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders' breakfast to bring together FNQ Traditional Owners, community members STEM experts, Mayor's and Deputy Mayors for the region. Then followed by an industry-first round table discussion with high-level dignitaries from National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Australian Space Agency, the American Chamber of Commerce, and other industry experts.

"We're excited to support the opportunity to combine Australia's rich First Nations culture and inclusion of First Nations People into the future of Australia's space industry over the coming days with various cultural ceremonies and networking opportunities," says Daniel Joinbee, Managing Director of Gunggandji Aerospace and proud descendant of Gunggandji People of Yarrabah.

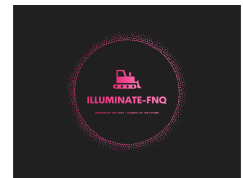
Space Centre Australia's first FNQ North Queensland Space round table aims to promote the establishment of clear career pathways for both present and future generations while simultaneously meeting Australia's potential defence requirements.

"The following days pose as a major opportunity for Australia's space industry to cement itself with First Nation STEM leaders in Far North Queensland and local industry." Says James Palmer, the CEO of Space Centre Australia.

The gathering of international aerospace and industry experts reflects the Australian space industry as a serious and legitimate player in the global space arena.

### **Media enquiries**

Olivia, 0401 550 148, [olivia@agendac.com.au](mailto:olivia@agendac.com.au)  
Ben, 0451 255 665, [ben@agendac.com.au](mailto:ben@agendac.com.au)



### **About Gunggandji Aerospace**

Gunggandji Aerospace is a 100% Indigenous and Australian defence force veteran-owned aerospace consultancy.

Gunggandji Aerospace has developed non-traditional pathways to support its vision of creating paths into aviation, space and emerging industries for First Nations Australians and people with disadvantaged backgrounds. This innovative approach to workforce development has been designed to inspire and support First Nations Australians to be active participants in aerospace and emerging industries. Non-traditional pathways offer alternative routes or methods of achieving career goals or objectives that deviate from the established or conventional way of doing things.

### **About Space Centre Australia**

Space Centre Australia is Australia's first large-scale, multi-use spaceport. As a result of our commitment to advancing the Australian and International space industries, we are designed with a strong focus on collaboration.

### **Illuminate FNQ**

Illuminate-FNQ Ltd is a not-for-profit scientific and environmental education provider in Far North Queensland, Australia.

One of our primary aims is to promote dialogue and partnerships in science and research between Australia and other countries in communities, industries, universities, and the private sector; including youth, women, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Peoples.