



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Kutcha Edwards to feature at Gippsland PHN health awards

21 June 2022

Songman Kutcha Edwards, a proud Mutti Mutti, Yorta Yorta, Nari Nari man, will be the keynote speaker at this year's Gippsland Primary Health Network annual general meeting and the 2022 Gippsland Primary Health Awards.

Because of the impact of COVID-19, this is the first time in two years the event will be in person as well as accessible online. It is planned for 6pm on Wednesday 16 November 2022 at the Criterion Hotel in Sale.

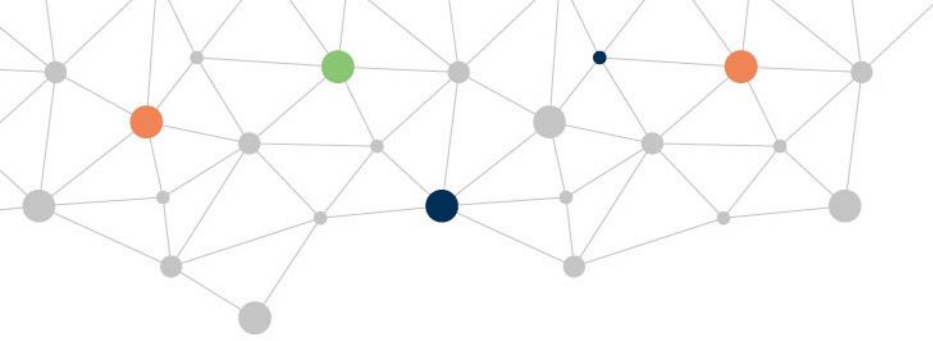
Gippsland PHN Chief Executive Officer, Amanda Proposch, said the organisation was both proud and privileged to have Kutcha as its guest and invited everyone interested in attending to "save the date".

"We are excited at the prospect of not only returning to a face-to-face event but also to have Kutcha to share his remarkable journey," Ms Proposch said.

Kutcha is a strong advocate for Aboriginal people and dedicated to the continuum of his traditional Songline. He has been prolifically combining song writing and activism since 1991, when he joined Koori group *Watbalimba* and began the journey that has taken him from the tiny Riverina town of Balranald to tours of Australia and the world.

It is his experiences as a survivor of the Stolen Generations and his proud Mutti Mutti heritage that has shaped his diverse creative output in groups like *Blackfire* and *The Black Arm Band*. At the same time, he has forged a successful solo career combining his 'Bidgee' blues with traditional songs of people and country.

Kutcha is now a multi award winning singer/songwriter and his most recent album 'Circling Time' has garnered critical acclaim. He says that music chose him and he uses music to create connections across cultures, generations, and spaces.



He draws on a profound sense of all those who have gone before him on this land, along with his own life experiences, to help others understand themselves, reconnect with their culture and promote cultural understanding.

His music touches the soul and through his humour and insights we realise that with recognition of the true Aboriginal history, there can be hope of reconciliation.

Details about the event will be released in the coming weeks.

***Caption: Songman Kutcha Edwards, a proud Mutti Mutti, Yorta Yorta, Nari Nari man, who will be the keynote speaker at this year's Gippsland Primary Health Network annual general meeting and the 2022 Gippsland Primary Health Awards.***

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