

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

Friday 8 July 2022

## National Nutrition Policy and food security in remote communities

The importance of access to healthy, affordable food for rural and remote communities was a topic of conversation today when Senator Malarndirri McCarthy joined Dietitians Australia for a NAIDOC Week webinar.

The Assistant Minister for Indigenous Australians and Indigenous Health was the first of several health portfolio Ministerial appointments from the newly elected Albanese government to meet with the organisation.

President of Dietitians Australia, Tara Diversi congratulated the Senator on her passion and dedication to preventive measures that support the health and wellbeing of First Nations peoples.

"The Senator presented us with a list of actions that the government is taking to support a healthier nation, and it was truly inspiring," Tara said.

"She shared how a National Nutrition Policy framework would take a multi-sector whole-ofgovernment approach to identify, prioritise, drive and monitor healthy eating in Australia. In particular, the Policy would help First Nations peoples through prioritising a reliable supply of essential food to remote communities."

Chief Executive Officer of Dietitians Australia, Robert Hunt congratulated the Albanese government for their high levels of engagement in seeking ways to elevate the nation's health.

"This was the first in a series of meetings we have planned with the new government, and we're impressed by their responsiveness in tackling the nation's health issues," Robert said.

"Senator McCarthy's passionate presentation today was just one of many indications that the Albanese government wants Australia's health to be better. We're so grateful for all the work that she and her team are doing to 'Get up! Stand up! Show up!"

**Note to Editors**: Dietitians Australia (DA) is the leading voice of nutrition in Australia, representing dietitians nationally and advocating for healthier communities. Accredited Practising Dietitian (APD) is the only national credential recognised by the Australian Government as the quality standard for nutrition and dietetics services in Australia. For more information, including DA's media releases and position on topical nutrition issues, visit <u>www.dietitiansaustralia.org.au.</u>