

ED HUSIC MP MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY AND SCIENCE

MEDIA RELEASE

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PROFESSOR ALEX BROWN APPOINTED TO CSIRO BOARD

22 March 2023

The Government has appointed Professor Alex Brown as a part-time member of the CSIRO Board for five years commencing from 16 March.

Professor Brown is the first Indigenous scientist appointed to the CSIRO Board.

Minister for Industry and Science Ed Husic said Professor Brown's appointment puts First Nations representation at the heart of Australia's national science agency.

Professor Brown is an internationally recognised clinician and researcher who has worked in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health for his entire career.

Professor Brown is the Professor of Indigenous Genomics at the Telethon Kids Institute and the Australian National University. He is a proud member of the Yuin nation.

Minister Husic said Professor Brown's appointment would bring a wealth of experience to CSIRO and signals generational change on the Board.

"Professor Brown has dedicated his research career to understanding and overcoming health inequalities experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, particularly the burden of chronic conditions," Minister Husic said.

"While he is the first Indigenous scientist appointed to the CSIRO board, I know he won't be the last."

The CSIRO Board is responsible to the Australian Government for the overall strategy, governance and performance of CSIRO.

"His experience in working with Aboriginal communities and bridging connections across science ecosystems will strengthen the CSIRO's leadership," Minister Husic said.

"The appointment of Professor Alex Brown will help address skills gaps identified by the Board, facilitate greater collaboration between research agencies and universities, and ensure CSIRO's future direction benefits from being more inclusive."

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