

MEDIA RELEASE

ATSIMA appoints Indigenous education leader Jesse King as CEO

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mathematics Alliance (ATSIMA) has appointed Waanyi man and established leader in Indigenous education and policy, Jesse King, as its Chief Executive Officer, effective 28 September 2026.

ATSIMA is Australia's leading national Indigenous organisation that works exclusively to transform mathematics education for First Nations young people through culture, history and community knowledge.

King, who started his career as a mathematics teacher in the Northern Territory, has since become a recognised leader in Indigenous education policy, impact and data. Most recently, King held the role of Head of Impact and Data at the Aurora Education Foundation, where he led major research and impact initiatives alongside significant government and philanthropic partnerships. Before that, he was Chief of Impact at the Stronger Smarter Institute, and served as Board Chair of ATSIMA between 2024 and 2026. King succeeds ATSIMA founder Professor Chris Matthews as CEO.

Reflecting on this new role, King said: "There is nothing like ATSIMA in Australia. It bridges the knowledges, cultures and strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learners with the huge potential of mathematics education, and I am excited to be part of the organisation's next chapter.

"I am also grateful to ATSIMA's former CEO, Chris Matthews. His expertise in the how culture, community and mathematics work together has created an incredible foundation for success. I look forward to continuing his legacy and working alongside young people, communities, educators and partners."

ATSIMA's former CEO, Professor Matthews, will continue to support ATSIMA as Industry Professor, providing expert advice on culturally responsive mathematics education and leading strategic priority projects.

On King's appointment, Matthews said: "Jesse brings a strong commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education and a deep understanding of ATSIMA's work. I am pleased to welcome him into the CEO role and look forward to seeing the organisation continue to grow under his leadership."

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About ATSIMA

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mathematics Alliance (ATSIMA) works towards mathematics education that values Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and supports learners to succeed. It brings together communities, educators and organisations to strengthen the connections between mathematics, culture and teaching.

Website: atsima.com

Available on request: CEO biography, approved photograph and interview availability