

**A Message from the  
Australian Defence Force  
Senior Indigenous Recruitment Officer  
Warrant Officer Class One Colin Watego**

*'Success bases our worth on a comparison with others.  
Excellence gauges our value by measuring us against our own  
potential.'*

**John Johnson**

Dear Indigenous Pre-Recruitment Course Member,

Welcome as a participant in the Australian Defence Force (ADF) Indigenous Pre-Recruitment Course (IPRC) and congratulations on your decision to position yourself as a successful Candidate during the Defence Force Recruitment process.

During this eight week course you will have the opportunity to participate in one of the most unique and challenging programs available to Indigenous men and women who are seeking a rewarding career in the Australian Navy, Army or Air Force.

I have been an Indigenous member of the ADF for over 35 years and I have had the opportunity to observe and experience many military changes resulting in 'state-of-the-art' equipment, technology and training. Throughout my journey in the ADF certain aspects of Defence life have remained constant - and they are our Defence **values and traditions**. It is our values and our traditions that form the foundation on which ADF personnel develop and foster respect, self-discipline, courage, initiative, teamwork, leadership, professionalism, camaraderie and esprit de corps.

Not everyone is suited to become a member of the ADF and, for those who choose not to be, we respect their choice to pursue alternative career options. However, for those who do choose the ADF, you are choosing a rewarding career and a life style which embraces the high standards, values and traditions set by forebears. The men and women who embrace this lifestyle with commitment, dedication and determination (and who are prepared to change where necessary), will receive the best available training to help them realise their potential and grow their leadership, skills and knowledge. In the process they will also establish mates and friendships that will last a lifetime.

Once again, congratulations and my sincere best wishes during the ADF IPRC as you pursue your dream to become an effective, confident, competent member of the Australian Defence Force.

**C. F. J. WATEGO**  
Warrant Officer Class One