**Mike Harrison**

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**How does the work you are doing relate to *governance*?**

Governance sits at the centre of effective approaches to culturally competent workforce planning and development.

A research proposal and philanthropic proposal are in progress

A key priority identified in the Draft TIWI Community Action Plan and Workforce Development Strategy is the development of capacity of Tiwi Organisations to build and sustain Tiwi Workforces. Funding to work in this space is awaiting Federal Government endorsement of the draft.

The key issue is building approaches that empower Traditional authority structures to make sense of and function in the dominant culture that are placed based.

This can apply at an Organisational and Regional level

**What interesting or different insight have you gained about *governance* in your recent research?**

These approaches will be essential to ensure full Aboriginal participation in decision making around Northern Development

In terms of corporate governance, I use the Tricker Model, widely used by corporate governance specialists, including the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Action based learning based on a two ways approach to explore this approach and traditional approaches to governance.

In terms of Regional Governance, looking at reforms to Local Government in the NT, its relationship to the NT land rights act, and the current role of Land Trusts

**What theoretical or practical problem to do with *governance* are you engaging with at the moment?**

I am keen to engage Northern institute researchers in a forum to further develop the Cultural competence and Workforce planning and development domains

Where you think the Northern Institute could be taking our research into governance policy, practice and research

Building on the framework of empowering traditional structures to understand and work in the dominant culture focus on

Regional, in terms of Local Government reform, and effective structures to fully participate in the Northern development agenda

Organisational, in terms of building sustainable Indigenous workforces