# ETHICAL SPONSORSHIP AND PHILANTHROPIC FUNDING POLICY TEMPLATE

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**1. PURPOSE**

This policy is designed to address the management of sponsorship and philanthropic funding. [ORGANISATION] seeks opportunities to gain sponsorships and philanthropic funding from external non-member organisations to achieve shared objectives.

It is vital that [ORGANISATION] maintains its independence and does not allow external partnerships to bring the name of [ORGANISATION] into disrepute nor compromise its relationship with its members.

**2. COMMITMENT TO ETHICAL PRACTICE**

2.1 [ORGANISATION] will ensure that that its sponsorship and philanthropic funding sourcing activities are only conducted with organisations that have:

* A corporate social responsibility policy or other relevant statement.
* Goals consistent with the goals of [ORGANISATION] and the work of First Nations media.
* A proven quality reputation in the Australian community or the business sector within which they operate.

2.2 [ORGANISATION] will ensure that no [ORGANISATION] staff or Board member receives gifts, money or other benefit from a potential or actual sponsor or philanthropic funder. Any attempt to offer a gift, money or benefit needs to be reported to the CEO.

**3. AVOIDANCE CRITERIA**

Partnerships with and philanthropic funds from organisations as listed here will be avoided:

* An organisation involved in or promoting hate speech or violence.
* An organisation that has conducted proven unethical business with First Nations communities.
* An organisation that would give rise to an actual or perceived conflict of interest with [ORGANISATION]’s work or with [ORGANISATION] Board or staff members or with [ORGANISATION] member organisations.
* Political lobbyists.
* Political parties.
* Pornography producers and distributors.
* Tobacco and alcohol manufacturers.
* Weapons systems manufacturers.

**4. PROCESS**

4.1 Potential sponsors and philanthropic funders will be researched, where needed, to provide an independent assessment of funders before a decision is made on sponsorship or philanthropic funding.

4.2 All sponsorships and philanthropic funding with a value of up to $50,000 may be approved by the CEO. The [ORGANISATION] Board is to be advised at the next available Board meeting.

4.3 All sponsorships and philanthropic funding with a value of $50,000 or more must be approved by the CEO and the [ORGANISATION] Board at a Board meeting.

4.3 Formal agreements are to be entered into for approved sponsorships and philanthropic funding, setting out the roles, responsibilities and services.

4.4 Formal agreements must permit [ORGANISATION] to withdraw from any partnership where new developments mean that areas of this ethical sponsorship policy become breached.

**5. RECORD KEEPING**

[ORGANISATION] will maintain a register of sponsors and philanthropic funding. The register will record the content area for the funding or in-kind provision, the value of the sponsorship or philanthropic funding, the date of CEO and/or Board approval, and the date of the formal agreement.

**6. TRANSPARENCY**

A full list of corporate sponsors and philanthropic funding providers will be maintained on the [ORGANISATION] website.

[ORGANISATION]will communicate this policy to [ORGANISATION]’s stakeholders.

**ASSOCIATED POLICIES**

* Code of Conduct

## Authorisation

<Signature of Board Chair>

<Signature of Manager>  
<Date of approval by the Board>  
<Name of Organisation>