30 October 2023

Risk Appetite Statement

VACCHO
Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation

The Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation's (VACCHO) commitment to Victoria's Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCO) and Aboriginal communities is unwavering.
At VACCHO, we understand that risk is inherent in our pursuit of positive change and to impact ACCO Member Community health and wellbeing. Our risk appetite is a testament to our dedication to our Members' futures, and we are committed to proactively managing risks while staying true to our values and strategic goals.

VACCHO's risk appetite is deeply rooted in our commitment to empower Community self-determination and uplift our Community Members, improve health and wellbeing outcomes for ommunities, and drive positive social change.

This risk appetite position statement emphasises VACCHO's commitment to our Member ACCO Community and their Culture, sustainability, transparency, and responsible stewardship, while acknowledging the need to manage risks effectively to achieve its goals. It serves as a guiding document for decision-making and risk management within VACCHO.

Underpinning Principles:

We acknowledge that managing risks is integral to our journey, and our approach to risk is characterised by the following principles:

- *Community-Centred*: VACCHO places the interests, wellbeing, and aspirations of our Community at the forefront of our decision-making. Our risk appetite is driven by a profound commitment to serving the best interests of our people.
- *Cultural Self-Determination:* VACCHO recognises the paramount importance of safeguarding and empowering our Communities as part of our commitment to self-determination. Our risk tolerance is exceptionally low when it comes to activities that may compromise our cultural identity,

values, or traditions. Cultural preservation and self-determination are non-negotiable principles guiding our risk management.

- *Sustainability:* VACCHO's long-term sustainability is essential to fulfilling our strategic direction. We are willing to accept a moderate level of risk when pursuing initiatives that enhance the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of Community.
- *Transparency and Accountability:* VACCHO is dedicated to maintaining transparency and accountability in all our actions. Our risk appetite allows us to take calculated risks while ensuring that we are answerable to Community, Members, and stakeholders.
- *Collaboration and Partnerships:* VACCHO values collaboration and partnerships with our Member ACCOs and other key stakeholders. Our risk appetite encourages us to explore partnerships that can expand our impact while aligning with our values and strategic vision.
- *Financial Stewardship:* VACCHO exercises prudent financial stewardship to protect the resources entrusted to our organisation. Our risk tolerance is low for activities that could jeopardise the financial stability of our organisation, as this stability enables us to better serve Community.
- *Continuous Learning and Adaptation:* VACCHO embraces a culture of continuous monitoring, learning, and adaptation. Our risk appetite allows us to experiment, innovate, and adapt to changing circumstances in a way that aligns with our core values and strategic vision.
- *Social Impact:* VACCHO measures success not only by financial metrics but also by our social impact within ACCO communities. Our risk appetite supports endeavours that have the potential to bring positive and sustainable change to the health and wellbeing of Community.
- *Regulatory and Legal Compliance:* VACCHO maintains strict adherence to all relevant laws and regulations. Our risk tolerance is low for actions that may put our organisation at odds with legal requirements, as compliance is integral to our ethical and responsible operations.