



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**31 October 2008**

### **First Contacts Festival has the buzz in Brisbane and beyond**

First Contact's 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Anniversary Sports and Cultural Festival is "creating a bigger than ever buzz in Brisbane" as teams and the First Contact crew prepare for the biggest event in the history of the festival.

More than 20,000 people are expected to turn up to see or participate in the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual, First Contact Sports and Cultural Festival to be held from 28 -30 November, in Brisbane. Again, the event will be breaking all records by hosting national and international games of touch football for the third time in Brisbane.

CEO of First Contact, Trish Williams said 2008 has been a hard year for the First Contact Crew since the loss of our Founder and Chairperson Robbie Williams. But the spirit of the Festival lives on it us all. Robbie has put Indigenous Touch "firmly on the map" in Queensland and Australian Touch circles and we will be progressing Touch and Sports Development further into the future.

"2008 will be the second year of formal accreditation for the tournament and this will continue with First Contact strategies to open up a whole new range of sporting opportunities for Indigenous people to represent their community and country in Touch Football", said Trish.

The annual event continues to be an economic, cultural and sporting touchdown" for Touch Football.

The Festival has grown to become recognised as one of the biggest and most successful run sporting and cultural events in Australia. This year teams will be travelling from Western Australia, New South Wales, Northern Territory, North Queensland and Queensland. Player participation is expected to reach over 2000+ representing more than 130 teams.

Community and club fundraising stalls and agency and government information stalls have been "through the roof this year", and there will be lots to see for patrons via Cultural Arts, Crafts , Food Stalls and even faster and bigger rides . It is expected that the markets area will be a sea of black, yellow and red again as Aboriginal craftmakers, stallholders and small business operators market, display and sell their crafts, products artworks to local and interstate visitors.

Stay turned for a "jam packed weekend of cultural performances with old and new talent. The Official Opening Ceremony of the event will be held from Lunchtime Saturday where the main oval will become a sea of colours as team representatives in the Festival will be asked to take their place on the main field for the opening ceremony.

Brisbane is certainly the place to be on.

**Teams, please get your registrations in NOW and if there is anyone wanting to perform please contact the First Contact Crew ASAP.**

**Stay tuned for further updates.**

For further information or comments contact:

***Trish Williams CEO First Contact, Ph: 07 345204291***  
**Website: [www.firstcontact.asn.au](http://www.firstcontact.asn.au)**