# CONNECTING TO COUNTRY

Ngadju Newsletter

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# Ngadju Native Title Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC

We acknowledge the Ngadju people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which NNTAC represents as their body corporate and pay my respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Welcome to Issue 11 of the "Connecting to Country" Ngadju Newsletter. NNTAC and our Board of Directors continue to engage in important matters and decision making which have been key to delivering opportunities to the Ngadju Community and protecting and preserving Ngadju country.

We take this opportunity to formally thank Tony Noonan as Acting in the interim period as we finalised the recruitment of our new CEO.

Tony was a great addition to the team to ensure continuity of much needed operational support and will now return to his Independent Director role with the NNTAC Board.

#### What's inside:

STAFF UPDATES

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FINANCIALS

NNTAC STAFF



#### STAFF UPDATES



KIM HARMER CEO

#### CEO

OUTGOING INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: TONY NOONAN INCOMING CFO: KIM HARMER

We extend a warm welcome to our new Chief Executive Officer, Kim Harmer

Kim's motivation for joining NNTAC comes from a story we're familiar with. His maternal grandmother is a member of the stolen generation and as a result, he has a strong personal desire to work in the indigenous sector and to utilise his commercial career experience to help build capability and sustainability in a well governed PBC. He is also greatly attracted by the complexity of this role and the professional challenge that it would represent.

As a seasoned leader in high-growth industries, Kim has extensive experience in finance, governance, and strategic planning in public, private, and community-focused organisations, bringing well-honed skills and knowledge to corporate vision and strategy, overcoming complex business obstacles, and growing teams to build a high-performance, diverse, and inclusive culture.

Kim joined us for the NNTAC AGM last month in Norseman and it was a great to see Elders, Board and Staff taking the opportunity to meet and connect with Kim.



YOLA BAKKER

#### GOVERNANCE, STRATEGIC COMMS AND MEMBERSHIP MANAGER

Yola Bakker joined the NNTAC team in October 2021. Growing up in two worlds, cultural immersion was a big part of life for Yola and she brings creativity and perspective to the team. An Indonesian-Australian of Makassan and Moluccan ethnicity, every aspect of her life has and is touched by culture.

Prior to colonisation, Yola's people had a strong treaty with Aboriginal people in the north of Australia – in particular the Yolngu. Sharing medicine, recipes, spices and similarities in songlines and dance connected her ancestors to the Larrakia, Djerimanga and Wadjiginy people and to this day she loves working with communities where she feels she can bring meaningful impact to place and people through inclusive process.

# GET INVOLVED AND STAY UP-TO-DATE

#### YARNING CIRCLES ARE HERE AGAIN!

Yarning Circles are a great way for mob, staff and management to chat, learn and better understand. Whether we're talking about areas of the business, surveys, heritage, membership, native title, we would love to see you so come along at any of the below times and I look forward to meeting and knowing more of you – the NNTAC members who are the reason why we're all here.

The Yarning Circles work the best when we have lots' of mob show up.

Let us know what you would like to see at our Yarning Circles.

Show up & Share stories and dreams for the future!!

DATE	TIME	VENUE
WEDNESDAY, 8TH DECEMBER	6PM TO 7PM	GERALDTON NGALA TRAIING CENTRE
THURSDAY, 9TH DECEMBER	6PM TO 7PM	PERTH WOODBRIDGE PARK
TUESDAY, 14TH DECEMBER	5PM TO 6PM	NORSEMAN POST OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, 15TH DECEMBER	630PM TO 730PM	KALGOORLIE RAILWAY HOTEL

#### 2022 YARNING CIRCLES COMMENCING IN FEBRUARY

#### SOCIAL MEDIA!









We would love to know what our members are doing in the community so let us know so we can share this with others and celebrate with you!!

If you're not able to make it along to any of the Yarning Circle dates please make sure you follow us online. We're now more active on Facebook (open page and closed group) and we are on Instagram, LinkedIN and Twitter!

We often share training and employment opportunities from various sources so make sure you jump on and follow.

# AGM 2021

### A QUICK LOOK!

NNTAC held our Annual General Meeting on 21st November 2021. Thank you to our Elders, Board of Directors, Members and Staff who came along and contributed.



# AGM 2021 cont'















• New Director:

Barry Smith

• Thank you Independent Director:

Maryanne Kelly

• Alternate Director:

Harry Graham

- Rule Book Changes
- Business
- DBCA Presentation
- Lunch and Yarns







# GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

#### ABBOTT TRUSTEE SERVICES

A reminder to all members that NNTAC is a different organisation to Abbotts. Abbotts looks after all programs and payments to Ngadju common law holders.



#### COMMUNITY

#### A BIG CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to extend a huge shout-out to Rhakiesha Clinch-Skinner who completed her Associate Degree in 3D Animation and then continued on to do her Bachelor of 3D Modelling and Animation at SAE Qantm College.

After completing the course in December 2020 graduating students held a Graduation Ceremony on Friday 26 November 2021 at the Heath Ledger Theatre, where Rhakiesha was acknowledged as a Bachelor Graduate.

While Rhakiesha was studying she was also tutoring at Governor Stirling Senior High School at Follow The Dream and volunteered at the local primary school in the Animation Club. Her time in the Media class at Governor Stirling Senior High School helped students and staff do Animation for an east based company called Indigital. Rhakiesha is now undertaking freelance work.

We wish her all the very best on her endeavours and look forward to following her journey.



"Without the support from Ngadju with the Adult Education Scholarship it would of been a bit difficult for her to complete her studies. The funding helped her to get the equipment and software needed for the course she was doing, especially during the COVID-19 lockdowns she was able to stay at home and do online classes through ZOOM and complete all her work without having to travel or find alternative solutions to do her studies during such a difficult time in Perth."

- Rhakiesha and her family

We urge you to contact Yola on 0450 401 501 / yola.bakker@nntac.org.au for any stories that you would like to share across our community.



#### RECENT PASSING OF NGADJU FAMILY

NNTAC would like to extend our deepest condolences to the Ngadju community and to their extended family and friends.

If you are struggling or find it difficult to speak with family, you can contact the Spartan First Wellbeing hotline on 1800 370 747, which is Australia's first Indigenous suicide crisis line.

# Please remember to let us know if you move or change your phone number.



# NATIVE TITLE

# APPLICATIONS, SURVEYS, NEGOTIATIONS AND AGREEMENTS













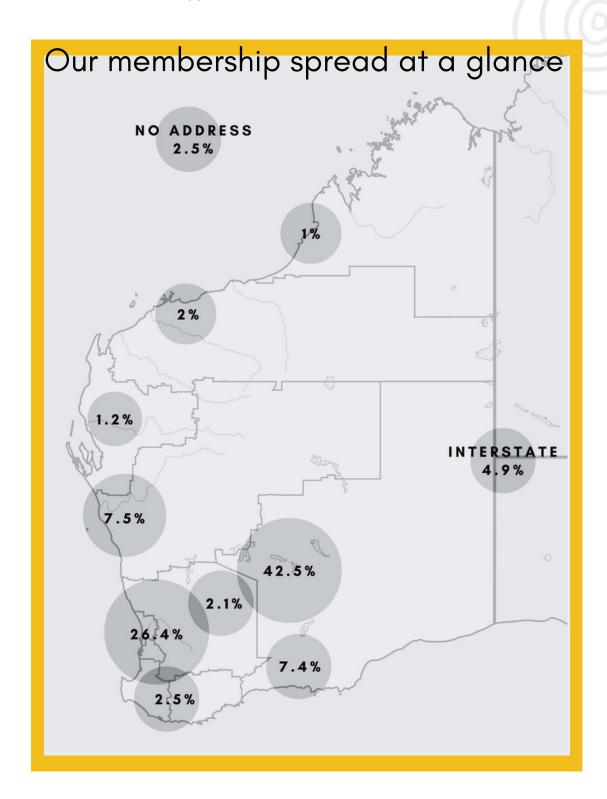
Non-Agreements due to protecting Ngadju interests



## MEMBERSHIP

NNTAC continues to receive membership applications and staff work closely to assist this process.

- 1. NNTAC receives applicant's form
- 2. Forms go to Elders Advisory Group for recommendations
- 3. Recommendations go to the Board of Directors
- 4. Approved or Declined decision made
- 5. Communication sent to the applicant of outcome



# FINANCIALS

#### THE MONEY STORY

The Corporation generated an unaudited surplus of \$239,081 for the Quarter Ended 30 September 2021. This is a positive result against a budgeted of \$54,987 defecit. The surplus has been assisted by the Corporation minimising legal and consulting costs, increased Heritage Services and a higher than budgeted Mining Agreement income.

BALANCE SH	IEET			
(STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION)				
		30-Sep-21		
		(unaudited)		
Assets				
	Current assets	1,480,693		
	Non-current			
	assets	327,130		
TOTAL ASSE	TAL ASSETS 1,807,823			
	less			
Liabilities				
	Current			
	liabilities	286,694		
	Non-current liabilities	0		
TOTAL LIABILITIES		286,694		
EQUITY		1,521,129		

INCOME STATEMENT		
(STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION)		
	30-Sep-21	30-Sep-21
	Actuals	Budget
	(Unaudited)	
Income		
PBC administration funding	400,000	437,500
Heritage services	548,108	137,138
Various Income	179,206	60,015
TOTAL INCOME	1,127,314	634,653
less		
Expenses		
Land Access and Native Title	465,049	153,250
Board Meeting and Governance	60,195	89,116
Administration & Office Expenses	362,989	447,274
TOTAL EXPENSES	888,233	689,640
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	239,081	(54,987)



# Dept. of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

#### PLAN FOR PARKS PROPOSAL AND PROPOSED MARINE PARK RESERVE

- DBCA are seeking consultation to increase the area of national and conservation reserves across Western Australia. Within Ngadju Country, they are proposing extensions to the Frank Hanz and Peak Charles National Parks.
- In parallel with the Proposed Parks Extension, DBCA are seeking to create a marine reserve under the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 (CALM Act).
- The areas DBCA are looking at extending cross over onto both Ngadju and Tjaltjraak country. DBCA are talking separately with Tjaltjraak about Tjaltjraak country.

The NNTAC Board have confirmed with DBCA that they would like to enter into a Negotiation Protocol to discuss the Proposed Parks Extension and Proposed Marine Reserve further. As part of the Proposed Parks Extension and the Proposed Marine Reserve, DBCA are seeking to negotiate an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) and Joint Management Agreement (JMA) for both of these matters.

ILUA they would seek to cover the following matters:

- Non-extinguishment of Native Title;
- Joint vesting arrangements through the CALM Act;
- Tenure;
- Joint Management Plan
- Establishment of a Joint Management Body
- Opportunities for employment Rangers, other jobs?
- Funding for potentially up to ten (10) years for the implementation of the ILUA and JMA.
- Legal decision making of Joint Management Body (JMB) to be JMB, then CEO's of NNTAC and DBCA Representative and then relevant Minister if these parties can't agree.

#### **PROS and CONS**

Benefit of increased funding for management of Country and greater protection from mining (subject to negotiation). Potential downside, particularly in relation to the Proposed Parks Extension, are diminishment in Ngadju Native Title Rights and the Ngadju People's capacity to make decisions about those areas of country. (Proposed Parks Extension would essentially convert what is currently exclusive possession native title lands and non-exclusive native title lands into National Park Reserve areas that would be jointly managed by both Ngadju and the State Government as part of an agreed ILUA and JMA.)

- The negotiation protocol currently being discussed with DBCA appoints a team of Ngadju People to undertake any negotiations to reach an agreement in principle
- Any final decision in relation to an ILUA or JMA though needs to be made by the Ngadju People more broadly.
- The draft Negotiation Protocol with DBCA, requires that DBCA pay for up to three (3) community meetings with the Ngadju People for the negotiation team to provide an update on negotiations and to seek any instructions as required
- Prior to any ILUA or JMA being signed off, the Ngadju People will need to meet to make a final decision on any agreement
- DBCA attended the NNTAC 2021 AGM to provide an initial information presentation to the Ngadju People

# Your NNTAC Team

COMMUNITY AND RELATIONSHIPS Yvonne Green Norseman Administration Katarina Bevk Office Manager Michelle Alexander Native Title and Land David Graham Financial Controller **Kate Fuller** Heritage Coordinator Yola Bakker Governance & Strategic Comms Manager Kim Harmer Chief Executive Officer **Grant Bussell** Native Title and Land Access Assistant **Shanice Dimer Anna Tait** (on Maternity Leave) Administration Officer Helen Rule Administration Officer

(on Maternity Leave)

