



# WCCT NEWS



## WESTERN CAPE COMMUNITIES TRUST

**From the Executive Officer;  
Geoffrey Fahey**



**Edition 003**

**September/October  
2016**

### Dear Readers

The great news is that the Trust has finally signed the contract of sale for the land at Achimbun. The signing was held in Cairns between the Trust and North Queensland Bulk Ports. The State Treasurer Curtis Pitt attended this monumental event. It was also great that we were able to have members of the Trust Investment Committee on hand to witness the signing. There are a few administrative issues to sort out but settlement and transfer of the land to the Trust will occur in October.

The Trust has engaged Aecom and Clarke and Prince Architects in Cairns to undertake the initial project feasibility. A new building concept has been developed which was presented to the Indigenous Directors and Members (IDM) meeting in August. The new design presents a building that best suits the site and the location and one that fits with the Cultural Centre and the park. A project working group has been established and we hope to put the build out to tender before Christmas with a view to commencing the build at the end of the wet season with a target

completion date of December 2017.

The second quarter community visits were conducted in June in Napranum and New Mapoon. Unfortunately we were unable to undertake community visits in Aurukun and Mapoon due to sorry business in the community. As September, October and November are very busy months with elections etc we decided to undertake community visits in Aurukun and Mapoon in October so that all communities will have had the same number of visits. We plan to hold at least 3 community visits in all 4 WCCCA communities in 2017 and one community visit in Hopevale.

Progress has been made with progressing land relinquishment for areas identified in the agreement and also land handback for areas where mining has been completed. At the Coordinating Committee meeting in August Jan Bradley from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines addressed the Committee to update members on the progress with land relinquishment.

In addition, I have been involved in meetings involving DATSIP, RIO Tinto and the Department of Natural Re-

sources and Mines to start a conversation of establishing the end point criteria for land to be handed back to Traditional Owners. Once this process is underway we will be able to convene the Coordinating Committee working party to progress this issue.

I have asked DATSIP to request that the Queensland Agriculture Department undertake an agricultural land use survey that outlines what agricultural and other opportunities would be possible on land that is handed back. To me this is vital as some people have been giving Traditional Owners false expectations of what could be undertaken on their land once it is handed back. For instance the idea that broad-acre grain production could be undertaken in the Western Cape is simply wrong.

The Trust team is constantly looking for ways to increase the financial support that we can give to shareholders and we have identified a way to assist low income earners with whitegoods and household goods within the Charitable Status guidelines.

Best wishes and I hope to see you at our community visits.

## HELEN'S STORY

Helen Karyuka, an Aurukun local and Wik-Waya Traditional Owner, is realising her aspirations of working on country while building her career. Helen is the first Aurukun Wik-Waya Traditional Owner to commence full time work with the Amrun Project as a surveyor's assistant.

Helen's journey began with her being nominated under the Western Cape Communities Co-existence Agreement (WCCCA) to participate in cultural heritage work as part of a feasibility study.

Helen has worked in many areas whilst with the Amrun Project with it leading into more stable job qualifications.

In that time she has been fortunate enough to share her knowledge and stories to the people that she has worked with. Helen says that "the work I'm doing lets me combine a full time job with working on country, which is really important to me". Helen added "I like sharing the stories about our country passed onto me by my dad, Tony Kerindun. Connection to country is very

important to Helen allowing her to maintain her traditional knowledge, including the medicines and healing practices for the Wik-Waya people.



## ADMINISTRATION; Joanne Bartalis Office Manager

The WCCT Administration has undergone a major restructure with a whole new team on board. I would like to introduce the new administration team, consisting of myself Joanne Bartalis as the Office Manager, Vicki Heider as Administration Officer and Zoey Sagiba as Administration Officer - Receptionist. We are all settling into our new positions and it has been a pleasure meeting all the Directors and Members over the past few months. It has also been very busy and exciting time learning about all the wonderful work that the WCCCA is doing for individuals and groups in our communities.

Over the course of the last few months as we have been organising meetings we have realised how crucial it is that we have up to date contact details and addresses for the

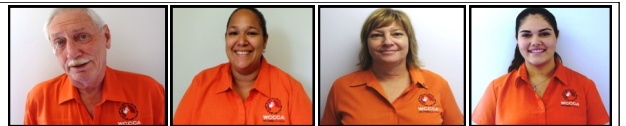
Shareholders and Members/Directors. If you change your details it is essential that you contact us on 4069 7945 or tell the WCCT staff at community visits. This will allow us to update your information to ensure that we are able to contact you when necessary. It is also apparent by the amount of return to sender mail that we receive that this is a considerable problem. This means that you will not be receiving our newsletters, yearly meeting calendars and other information on what the Main and Sub-Regional Trusts, Sub-Committees and the Coordinating Committee are doing. We have also found out that while we have correct addresses for some Shareholders that they are not checking their mail. We encourage you to remember to check your mail. Polling for the elections has commenced in

October, followed by the Annual General Meetings (AGMs) for the Trusts and then the final round of meetings for the year. This will include the Christmas party. The next few months until Christmas will be a busy time for the Administration team, getting to know everyone and organising travel arrangements. We are looking forward to welcoming new and returning Members/ Directors.

The WCCT Administration Facebook page is also up and running and we try to update this as often as possible so that Shareholders have another way to access information.

The 2017 WCCCA calendar has been ratified and is being sent out with this month's newsletter.

## FINANCE; Don Geyer Finance Manager



With elections currently underway, the newly elected Directors will assume their roles at the Annual General Meetings in late October.

The new Boards will be inducted at the meetings in November/December of this year for their two year period.

The Sub-Trusts will hold their Budget Workshops in early February which will set the scene for the two years of their tenure.

One important issue that will be addressed at the Budget Workshops is the legal requirements imposed on the Main Trust and Sub-Regional Trusts because of our Charitable Status and the fact that this Status entitles us to Tax Exempt Status.

The current legislation requires us to ensure that we comply with the relevant legislation for 100% of our grants and for 100% of the time – there can be no exceptions!

In relation to this, the Sub-Trusts held a workshop in June 2016 where our legal advisors explained in detail just what we can and cannot do when granting funds to our eligible people.

One particular area that was addressed at this legal workshop relates to whitegoods/household goods.

Funding for whitegoods/household goods can only be made under the

charitable heading of "relief of poverty". To be eligible for the receipt of whitegoods, the requirement to now has been that the person applying MUST be in receipt of income-tested public funding (Centrelink Benefit). The Trust Admin Team and the Sub-Regional Trusts have been exploring ways to assist more shareholders and in particular those shareholders that are in paid work but are on low income. The Federal Government has a Health Card system for low income earners that is issued by Centrelink. So if you are the holder of a current Health Care card the Trusts will be able to assist you and your family with whitegoods and household goods. This requirement will apply in all cases for all three Sub-Trusts. For more information on whether you and your family qualify for a Health Care card please contact Centrelink.

An area of concern for the Trusts in protecting the Charitable Status is the that, whitegoods CANNOT be sold or given away. This also means that when you are applying for new white-

goods, your old whitegoods must have completely broken down or be in such a condition that they can no longer be used – this applies to ALL whitegoods or household goods that you have received in the past.

To protect the Trust in relation to this matter, all application forms for whitegoods/household goods will now carry a requirement for the applicant to make a Statutory Declaration that any goods that they have received in the past have NOT been sold or given away and that they are totally unusable and beyond repair. This statement will also be required on the Acceptance of Conditions form that must be signed before goods can be purchased.

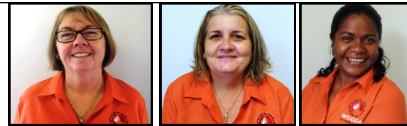
Shareholders need to know that people who abuse this requirement and goods are found to have been sold, given away or still usable, that person will not be eligible to apply for whitegoods/household goods in the future.

Trust Directors and WCCT Management are continuing to look for ways that the Trusts can supply financial support to more shareholders that are in need whilst at the same time protecting the Charitable Status of the Sub-Regional Trusts and the Western Cape Communities Trust (WCCT).

**Finance Fact**  
In 2015 the three Sub-Regional Trusts funded nearly \$1 million for Sorry Business, Funerals, and Tombstones for Shareholders and their families.

## IMPLEMENTATION;

### Margaret Barnes Deputy Executive Officer



Nominations for the 2016 WCCCA Elections have closed and the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) commenced the polling booths for various areas from Wednesday 5 October to Monday 17 October 2016. The postal ballot closes on Tuesday 18 October 2016 with the final count and declaration being provided to WCCT before COB on **Tuesday 18 October 2016**.

As a result of the 2016 Elections the new Boards and the Coordinating Committee (CC) will be established for a two year term 2016-2018. At the first meeting of the new CC on 6 December 2016 the Members will elect the representatives from the CC who will sit on the Employment & Training (E&T) Sub-Committee and the Environment & Heritage (E&H) Sub-Committee. The CC resolved on 6 September 2016 that the business for South of the Embley will be reported

to the CC via either the E&T or E&H Sub-Committees now that the project is well under construction. South of the Embley Sub-Committee held their last meeting on 10 August 2016 however the CHEMP working group will continue to deliver the voices of the Traditional Owners on their aspirations and the obligations.

The Communities Heritage & Environment (CHE) Strategy and the Employment & Training (E&T) Strategy have been endorsed to be reviewed and developed for the future. An external consultant has been engaged by Rio Tinto to facilitate the workshops on 2 and 3 November 2016. The primary objective of the workshops is to review the existing strategies and to agree on a model reflecting the key objectives and establish an overarching strategy for future implementation.

## BUSARY WORK EXPERIENCE

The WCCCA Bursary Work Experience program took place the week of the 12 – 15 September 2016. This program is for Traditional Owner students who receive WCCCA Bursary funding and attend boarding schools away from their home community. Students were selected by the WCCT to participate in the work experience program with Rio Tinto Weipa.

This year we had eight students participating in Weipa and two students in the Rio Tinto office in Brisbane. The students came from Pormpuraaw, Northern Peninsula Area, Aurukun, Mapoon and Weipa. The students participating in Weipa arrived on Sunday 11 September and stayed at the Western Cape Residential College.



On their first night, they enjoyed a welcome BBQ with the other residential college students, college staff, Rio Tinto staff, the Chairperson of the Main Trust and Coordinating Committee and the WCCT Executive Officer.

The Students had the opportunity to select which areas they would like to do their work experience in. Areas selected were administration, diesel fitting or mechanical, boiler making, childcare and health field.

Prior to undertaking the work experience the students had to complete the online induction for visitors as well as the introduction and site tour before commencing their week of work experience. Students participated in the risk assessment at OTC and had a go on the Simulator, then they were taken to their selected area of work experience.

Some of the students were able to have hands on experience in their selected field, for example sampling for testing water. One student was in the health field and met a number of people which was of value to her as she would like to be a nurse when she finishes school.

## Polling Places will be open at the following locations and times

### Wednesday 5/10/16

**Napranum**—Susie Madua Hall  
320 Wa-Tyne St. 9.00am –12.00pm

**Mapoon**—Council Chambers  
2.00pm — 4.00pm

### Thursday 6/10/16

**Aurukun**—Training Centre 507  
Kang Kang Rd 11.00am — 2.00pm

### Friday 7/10/16

**Weipa**—Western Cape Centre  
9.00 am — 1.00pm

### Wednesday 12/10/16

**Injinoo**—Conference Centre  
Injinoo Council Building 1.30pm — 3.30pm

### Thursday 13/10/2016

**New Mapoon**— Community Hall  
New Mapoon Council Building  
9.00am— 12.00pm

**Bamaga**— Conference Room  
NPARC Office Bamaga  
1.00pm—3.00pm

### Friday 14/10/16

**Hope Vale**— meeting Room  
Hope Vale Business Precinct  
1.30pm—3.30pm

### Monday 17/10/16

**Cairns**— AEC Div of Leichardt  
Level 2 Commonwealth Centre  
Grafton St Cairns City  
10.00am—3.00pm

At the end of the work experience week, feedback was provided by the students on how they thought the work experience progressed. The feedback received was that it was a great experience, that they didn't realise that the mine was so spread out and some learnt the basics of car maintenance. Overall feedback was that the work experience was a success and that the students would like to do this again in 2017.

The WCCT and Rio Tinto have been running this program now for three years and each year the program gets better and better. This program is very valuable to the Traditional Owner students and Rio Tinto for future generations to become involved in the mining industry.



## WESTERN CAPE COMMUNITIES TRUST

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### Western Cape Communities Trust

#### MISSION STATEMENT

*To manage the WCCT and the WCCCA in a manner that will achieve the best possible social, cultural, environmental and economic outcomes for the communities of the Western Cape Region.*

*To empower our Indigenous Directors and Members of the WCCT and the WCCCA by providing education, experience and knowledge to improve ability and performance in carrying out their corporate responsibilities whilst remaining true to their cultural identities.*



The Signing of the Achimburn Land Deal Agreement

## Annual General Meetings. Dates

**24 October 2016**

**CSRT AGM**

**25 October 2016**

**SSRT AGM**

**26 October 2016**

**NSRT AGM**

**27 October 2016**

**Main Trust/  
Property Trust**

## NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS

Since 2011 the Western Cape NAIDOC Steering Committee have hosted NAIDOC celebrations in Weipa, Mapoon and Napranum. The Western Cape Communities Trust is a member of this steering committee. As part of being a member of the steering committee approval has been granted for the Western Cape Communities Trust on behalf of the WCCCA Honorary Elders to host an annual Elders Luncheon and invite Elders from the Communities of Weipa, Mapoon, Aurukun, Napranum and the Northern Peninsula Area (NPA).

This year the Elders Luncheon was celebrated on 17 August 2016. The Elders attended from Napranum, Aurukun, Mapoon and Northern Peninsula Area. During the celebrations there was a MC, Music/Entertainment, Traditional Dancing and a lovely speech done by our very own WCCCA Honorary Elder, Maryann Coconut as she was soon to be on her way to Toronto to showcase her life and the community of Napranum. A farewell presentation to Gareth Manderson, General Manager, Rio Tinto (Weipa Opera-

tions) was also presented on this day.

In 2014 it was decided that the Western Cape Communities Trust will commence inducting Elders to the WCCCA Hall of Fame. Elders that are inducted into the Hall of Fame are provided with a commemorative certificate and a gift presented by the Western Cape Communities Trust and Rio Tinto at the annual NAIDOC Elders Luncheon.

This year 11 inductees were inducted from the 11 Traditional Owner Groups within the WCCCA –

Mr Robert Madua (Alngith), Ms Dorothy Gordon (Anathangayth), Mr Asai Pablo (Ankamuthi), Ms Rosie Gibley (Peppan), Mrs June Beasley (Taepadhighi), Mrs Grace John (Thanikwithi), Ms Maria Pitt (Tjungundji), Mr John Mark (Warrangu), Ms Tapitch Coconut (Wathayn), Mr Anthony Kerindun (Wik/Wik Waya) and Ms Linda Cooktown (Yupungathi).

The day ended on a very happy occasion with cutting of the NAIDOC cake by some of the Elders. All in all the day was a huge success for the Elders and the

