



WCCT News

EDITION 010 Apr-June 2018

From the Executive Officer; Geoffrey Fahey.



Dear Readers,

The WCCT Administration Building is coming along well now that the wet season is over. The project has experienced significant delays due to wet weather and unfortunately this has set the completion date back. It looks like the building will not be completed until August 2018. This is regrettable but is part of the issues with building things on the Cape. However there is no doubt that this is an impressive building and will be the most striking building on the Cape. It will also be a place for Traditional Owners and something of which all can be proud.

A very pleasing aspect of the build is that we have managed to provide employment for Local Aboriginal People. To date of the total 18227 man hours on site there has been 4538 hours worked by Local Aboriginal People. In addition

some staff have started on the project and proved their worth and their work readiness and have gained jobs with other organisations including Rio Tinto. Those staff that have been on the site at critical periods or throughout most of the construction will gain various accreditations for building activities from Laurie Lindner Constructions. These accreditations will assist them in gaining further employment after the Administration Centre is completed.

Plans are underway for the development of the Cultural Precinct at Achimbun. This will comprise a new Cultural Centre, food outlet, Aboriginal Arts centre, retail store and a stage for holding Cultural events. A concept plan for the precinct is being developed and will be presented to the WCCT Board in coming months with a view to start construction as soon as possible. We hope to have the development all completed when the Peninsula Development Road from Cairns to Weipa is sealed in 2021 or 2022 as this will lead to a massive increase in visitors to Weipa.

The Trust has recently purchased the

squash and tennis courts in Weipa near the Post Office. The Trust is planning a new commercial development on the 1 hectare plus site. Again we are developing concept plans for the site that will include professional offices and a commercial shopping area. This is part of the Investment Strategy of the Main Trust. This is an exciting development and will make Traditional Owners a significant commercial force in Weipa. So watch this space as we reveal more about what the developments will be.

The Trust has finalised and printed a new Investment Strategy from 2018 to 2025. This focuses on the attainment of financial independence and development of Investments that will provide income to continue work in communities and for charitable purposes long after mining has ceased. In this way future generations will benefit from the mining activities that have occurred on the Western Cape in perpetuity. The Investment Strategy is available at the WCCT office and can be viewed on the WCCT Website.

Best wishes

Election Update

We are now in the period for the bi-annual WCCCA elections to elect the new Members of the Coordinating Committee and the three Sub-Regional Trusts. For the first time we have now developed a set of election rules which is available from the WCCT Office and also on the WCCT Website. The Australian Election Commission (AEC) will be posting nomination and voting materials to all shareholders of the Sub-Regional Trusts in coming days. We have attached the election timetable for your information which outlines important election dates and the places and times that the AEC will be in communities to allow shareholders to vote. Postal voting is also available and this is also detailed in the attachment.

This is your chance to be involved with the workings of the WCCCA and the Trusts and to have your say on who represents you as Traditional Owners. I encourage as many shareholders as possible to nominate and to vote. Voting will be undertaken in July with the results of the elections available in August. The newly elected Boards of the Trust and members of the WCCCA Coordinating Committee will commence their terms in the fourth quarter meetings this year.

For any information on the elections please contact David Stuart or Ray Sambo at the AEC on 07 3834 3431.

Did you know.....

Last WCCT News I wrote about the benefits that shareholders and communities receive from the Sub-Regional Trusts. In this edition I will outline the Investment Strategy of the Main Trust and also the regulatory environment in which we operate as Charitable Trusts.

Royalties from Rio Tinto and the State of Queensland along with returns on the Main Trust investments come to the Main Trust. Each year under a formula in the Agreement a set proportion of this money is then distributed to the Sub-Regional Trusts to provide funds for the Community Development, Community Support and Charitable purposes funding for Traditional Owners that I outlined in the last newsletter. The remaining money is used for the Administration costs of the Trust including the Coordinating Committee and the Sub-Committees of the Coordinating Committee. The remaining funds are allocated to investments that the Trusts holds.

The objective of the Trust Investment Strategy is to build a pool of assets that will be large enough so that when mining finishes there will be sufficient income to continue the Administration of the Trusts and to provide funds for the Sub-Regional Trusts. In this way the Sub-Regional Trusts will be able to fund Community Development, Community Support and Charitable purposes activities for Traditional Owners. What a wonderful and visionary plan that future generations of Traditional Owners will benefit from mining on their land long after mining has ceased. There are very few Aboriginal Trusts that have the goal of financial independence and long term sustainability for Traditional Owners.

As the attainment of this financial independence is so vitally important the Trust has established an Investment Committee to oversee the attainment of this objective. The committee has recently developed a revised Investment Strategy 2018 to 2025 that outlines the full workings of the Committee and the investments that the Trust is undertaking. This revised strategy has been adopted by the Main Trust and copies are available from the Trust Administration Office and also on the WCCT Website.

The Main and Sub-Regional Trusts are all Charitable Trusts and operate under the Australian Charities and not for Profit Commission (ACNC), the Australian Tax Office (ATO) and the Australian Corporations Act. To qualify and maintain the Charitable Status by law only activities that are approved by the ACNC and ATO can be undertaken and funded. Importantly each Trust has a Trust Deed which sets out what the Trust must do and cannot

do. The Directors of the Trusts must administer the Trusts and distribute monies as per the Trust Deed for that Trust. If Directors do not do this and the Trusts are found to be in contravention of the Trust Deed or the ACNC and ATO rules or the requirements of the Corporations Act then Directors are personally responsible and can be prosecuted and if found guilty can result in fines and or imprisonment. This is very serious.

The Trust Deeds outline that monies received by the Trusts must be used for Community Development, Community Support and for Charitable purposes for Aboriginal People in need. The areas that the Trusts can fund that have been set as Charitable purposes. Are:

Relief of Poverty, old age and sickness.

Under this category the Sub-Regional Trusts fund whitegoods and household goods, medical equipment etc. To qualify for this funding recipients must prove their need either by low income in the case of whitegoods and household goods and sickness for medical equipment.

Advancement of Education.

Under this category Educational Bursaries are funded from Prep to Tertiary and all shareholders are able to receive this assistance as it is not dependent on the level of income received. The level of funding available is set by the Boards in consideration of the amount of money they have allocated to this area.

Advancement of Religion and Culture

Funding for sorry business, tombstones, funerals and house openings are funding under this area along with community Church activities and cultural events.

What the Trusts cannot do is to provide money that is for individual benefit or for people who are not in need. These can be funded by other Trusts such as discretionary Trusts such as the Ely Trust but again in accordance with their Trust Deed.

I hope this information is useful for shareholders. Directors and the Trust Administration Team do not enjoy saying **NO** to requests for assistance but must operate as per the Laws and as per the Trust Deed that they as Trustee Directors must comply with.

Geoff Fahey

Executive Officer

Admin Section

Liz Foster, Office Manager



Welcome to the second quarter of 2018. The Admin Team have been scheduling and attending to the final logistics for the quarterly meetings, which commence in May.

Our Community visits start in June, dates and places are listed in the Newsletter. We encourage you all to join us for a sausage sizzle lunch and to ensure that your contact details are up to date.

The Cultural Centre has reopened for the 2018 dry season. The Centre opens Monday to Friday (except public holidays) 10am—2pm, drop in for a coffee and say hi to Kerry who is happy to welcome you into the Centre.

The Western Cape Centre has recently had renovations done to the training and conference rooms, bringing the

Centre up to a modern standard. The Admin Team have also been busy taking new hire venue bookings for the Western Cape Centre's training and conference rooms.

Please contact our office on 07 4069 7945 or email reception@westerncape.com.au to up date your contact details.

Don't forget to check out our website which lists all upcoming events and where Application Forms can be downloaded www.westerncape.com.au.

Remember to also like us on Facebook



to get all updates for the Trust.

See you in Community!



Finance Section

Kristiana Carroll, Finance Manager

It's a Fact...

That the Finance Grants Team processed nearly **250** applications in preparation for the last round of Board meetings!

Whitegoods and Household Goods

Whitegoods and Household Goods funding is available to enhance the quality of life to the Traditional Owners of the Western Cape Communities. This funding can be used to purchase essential items such as refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, dryers, beds, mattresses, linen, small bedside tables, dining tables and chairs, kitchen appliances and air conditioners.

Applications are considered on a case by case basis, and applicants must provide proof of being the Head Tenant (e.g. Tenancy Agreement) and proof of low income (Centrelink statement or current Centrelink issued concession card) at the time of application. The funding level and term between applications varies between Sub-Trusts, so please refer to the 2018 Grant Funding Guidelines, the website, or contact our office for further information.

Northern Sub-Regional Trust funding in this category is fully expended, so applications are being prioritised by the Board based on individual circumstances.

Grant Applications

Applications for the August round of Sub-Regional Trust meetings must be received by 10th July 2017. Due to the increasing number of applications, we will be enforcing this closing date. To ensure that applications are included in the next available meeting, please ensure that forms are completed in full and that all required supporting documentation has been submitted at the time of lodgement.

Would you like to apply for funding?
The next round of Grant Funding applications close on
Tuesday 10 July 2018.

**2018
Forms and
Guidelines
Available
Now**

Implementation Section

Lisa Stamm, Implementation Officer



Work Experience Pilot Program

There will be an additional Pilot Work Experience Program available to all of our Year 10/11/12 Bursary recipients base in either Weipa or Cairns provided in partnership with the Queensland State Government.

The purpose of this program is to provide an opportunity for bursary recipients to be exposed to what employment pathways there are in Queensland Government Departments.

It is proposed that this Pilot Program be conducted in the first week of the July School Holidays. (Monday 2 July to Friday 6 July) ***This program is voluntary, and placements are only available in the students place of residence.***

Eligible Bursary recipients will need to meet the following criteria to be considered for the program;

- Verified LAP status/Bursary recipient
- Active participation and engagement in school
- Positive learning behaviours
- Aspirations to learn about a particular field.
- Be enrolled in Year 10/11/12.
- Parental consent to participate
- School consent to participate

If you are interested in finding out more about this opportunity. Contact the Implementation Officer on 07 40697945

Community News

Lisa Stamm, Implementation Officer



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Upcoming Community Visits

Napranum	Tuesday 12 June	9.30am-2.00pm
	Shire Council Conference Room	
Mapoon	Wednesday 13 June	10.00am-2.00pm
	Outside the Council Building	
Aurukun	Tuesday 19 June	10.00am - 2.00pm
	Outside the Council Building	
New Mapoon	Monday 25 June	4.00pm-7.00pm
	New Mapoon Community Hall	
Hopevale	Tuesday 28 August	9.00am—1.00pm
	Council Training Room	

Come along and join us for a sausage sizzle, or light refreshment.



Key Election Dates

Your Vote Counts

Close of Roll	Monday 30 April
Nominations Open	Tuesday 1 May
Nominations Close	Thursday 31 May @ 12pm
Voting Commences	Monday 2 July
Voting Closes	Tuesday 31 July @ 10.00am
Results of Voting	Tuesday 14 August

To assist with ensuring you have all the information you need for the elections, please contact the office to ensure your contact details are up to date

Cultural Centre Tour

From the bauxite of the Western Cape to the tropical oceans of the Torres Strait Islands and down to the dry, red plains of Outback Central Australia went 10 of our team members on the Queensland Cultural Centre Tour.

The team of Tourists were made up of 6 Meeting Directors, 1 Honorary Elder and 3 WCCT Staff Members including the EO, Geoffrey Fahey, who were on a journey to visit and experience the many fascinating and unique structures of some of Queensland's finest visiting centre's. With plans to rebuild our Cultural Centre here in Weipa, this trip was a very well visualised, educational and captivating experience for all.

The 7 day trip took place earlier this year in March and began at the Gab Titui Cultural Centre on Thursday Island. From T.I we then journeyed down to Longreach where we visited the Stockman's Hall Of Fame and the Qantas Museum. We finished our trip in Rockhampton, visiting the Dreamtime Cultural Centre.

Head on over to our website to see more pictures of the trip.



(Above) 10 members with the lovely staff from the Indigenous Radio Station in Rockhampton.

Zoey, Geoffrey and Kerry (WCCT Staff), Ernest Madua Jnr, Loyla Chevathen, Kathy Owokran, Florence Charger, Beatrice Gordon, Michelle Kosteci and Corine Matasia.

Incorporating : Western Cape Communities Trust ABN 47 223 656 890
Northern Sub-Regional Trust ABN 03 549 473 409
Central Sub-Regional Trust ABN 54 737 842 050
Southern Sub-Regional Trust ABN 57 687 965 776
Western Cape Communities Coordinating Committee and its Sub-Committees

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