



# WCCCA NEWSLETTER

Q3 2020

## 2020 ELECTIONS



*Hello to all Members and Shareholders,*

*I hope this newsletter finds you and your families in good health and spirit.*

*We are now fast approaching a very significant time of the year where our Members will again have the right to elect new Members to the Coordinating Committee and new Directors to the Sub-Regional Trusts.*

*I want to urge each and every one of you to participate in the elections and to nominate people who you feel will represent you properly in these forums.*

*If you want to be involved and have your say for the better of your community, then I invite you to nominate yourself! This is an amazing opportunity for A Class Shareholders (Traditional Owners) to be involved with the workings of the WCCCA and the Trusts.*

*During my time as a Member of the Coordinating Committee for 2016, 2018 & 2019, Chairperson of the Central Trust 2018, 2019, 2020 and Chairperson of the Main Trust 2018, 2019 and 2020, I learnt that all the work involving the Members and Directors is so critical. We need people who want to work for a better future for our people, our children, our grandchildren and generations to come, to become a Member or Director.*

*Due to the current Covid-19 restrictions, we had to make some changes to how we run the elections this year. The most significant change is that voting will only be by postal ballot. We will not have physical ballot boxes in the Communities this year. It is therefore important that you keep an eye out for your election notice, information kit, nomination form and ballot paper, which will all be arriving to you in your mail via Australia Post.*

*Please read the explanation of the election process in this newsletter to make sure you are prepared for this year's elections and understand the new process that we will be using this year.*

*If you have any questions, please call our staff at the WCCCA office who will be available to answer all your questions.*

*Good luck to all,  
Marie Pitt - Chairperson, Main Trust*

### WHAT IS IN THIS ISSUE?

#### PAGE 1

*A Special Message from the Chairperson of the Main Trust – Marie Pitt*

#### PAGE 2

*Everything you need to know on the upcoming Elections.*

#### PAGE 3

*Are you eligible?  
Find out if you tick all the boxes to become a nominee/nominator.*

#### PAGE 4

*Election Timeline: make sure you meet all the deadlines to get your votes in.*



# ELECTIONS

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

### WHY?

Elections are held every two years to appoint the members of the WCCCA Co-ordinating Committee and the Directors of the Northern, Central and Southern Sub-Regional Trusts.

This process gives the community the opportunity to vote for the Traditional Owners they feel can effectively lead and represent their Traditional Owner Group on both the Co-ordinating Committee and the Sub-Regional Trusts.

### WHAT?

The successful nominees that are voted in during this election will either become:

- **Members** on the **Co-ordinating Committee** for the WCCCA, from where members may also be appointed to sit on each of the Environment and Heritage, Employment and Training and Land Relinquishment Sub-Committees

**Or**

- **Directors** on one of the three **Sub-Regional Trust Boards (Northern, Central or Southern)** from where they can be appointed to sit on the Main Trust Board, the Property Trust Board or the Western Cape Centre Ltd Board.

### WHEN?

Now is the time to be thinking of who you will be nominating or if you would like to nominate yourself. Regardless of what you decide, now is the time to get the word out and start talking to your families and clan groups to support the whole election process so that we get good candidates for the positions.

The official election notices will be sent out to you on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020. So, make sure you check your mail as it will have all the information you need to understand the entire election process and instructions on what you need to do to nominate either someone else or yourself.

Please refer to page 4 of this issue where we have highlighted the most important dates and explain what you have to do at each stage.

### WHERE?

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions on public gatherings and social distancing rules, we have had to change how we do the elections this year.

In previous years the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) came out to community with ballot boxes, this year it will be different. This year you will be receiving all correspondence through the mail.

Please make sure you check your mail during this time. You will also have to go to the post office and post your nomination forms and your voting forms using the reply paid envelope provided.

**To make it simpler and faster**, there is an email address provided within the nomination info pack where you can choose to email your nomination to instead of posting. If you choose to post, please return your nominations early in the month.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER:

1. CHECK YOUR MAIL FOR YOUR ELECTION NOTICE & PACKAGE
2. POST YOUR NOMINATION FORMS AT THE POST OFFICE OR EMAIL NOMINATIONS USING THE EMAIL PROVIDED
3. POST YOUR BALLOT PAPERS AT THE POST OFFICE



## MEMBERS & DIRECTORS

### SUB-REGIONAL TRUST

You will be asked to nominate and vote for the following Directors:

#### Central Sub-Regional Trust

- One (1) Director appointed by the Alngith People
- One (1) Director appointed by the Anathangayth People
- One (1) Director appointed by the Peppan People
- One (1) Director appointed by the Thanikwithi People
- One (1) Director appointed by the Wathayn People

#### Northern Sub-Regional Trust

- Two (2) Directors appointed by the Ankamuthi People
- Two (2) Directors appointed by the Taepadhighi People
- Two (2) Directors appointed by the Tjungundji People
- Two (2) Directors appointed by the Warrangu People
- Two (2) Directors appointed by the Yupungathi People

#### SOUTHERN TRUST

- Five (5) Directors appointed by the Wik & Wik-Waya People

### COORDINATING COMMITTEE

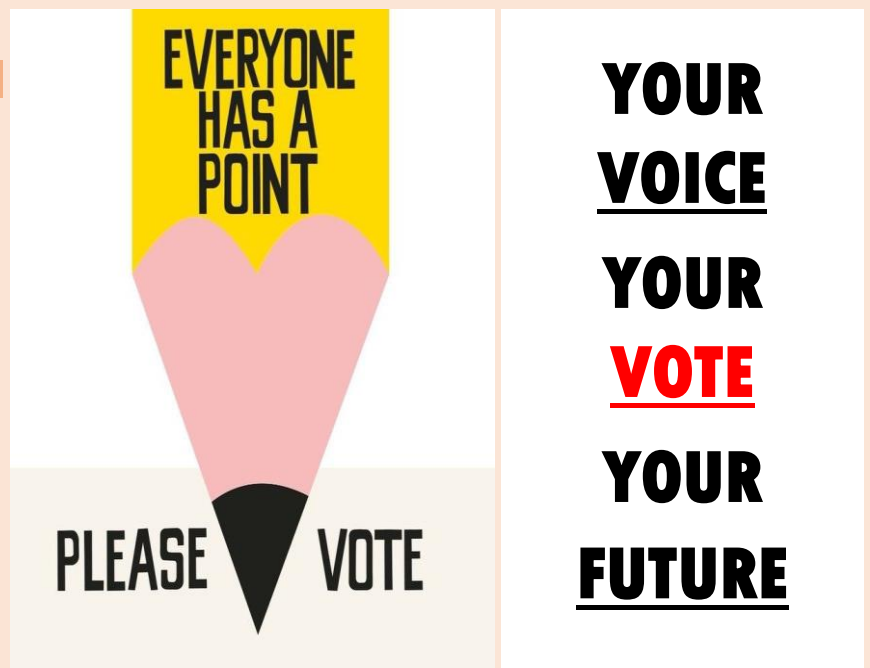
You will be asked to nominate and vote for the following Members:

- Two (2) Alngith Representatives
- Two (2) Anathangayth Representatives
- Two (2) Ankamuthi Representatives
- Two (2) Peppan Representatives
- Two (2) Taepadhighi Representatives
- Two (2) Thanikwithi Representatives
- Two (2) Tjungundji Representatives
- Two (2) Warrangu Representatives
- Two (2) Wathayn Representatives
- Two (2) Wik & Wik-Waya Representatives
- Two (2) Yupungathi Representatives

# ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

If you want to nominate yourself or someone else during this election you must comply with the following requirements:

1. You must be a registered **“A” Class Shareholder** as of the 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2020. If you are not an A Class Shareholder then you are not able to nominate or vote in this election.
2. As the roles of the Sub-Regional Trust Directors and Co-ordinating Committee Members requires close interaction with the Communities and Traditional Owners who live in these communities you must reside in the following post code areas to be eligible to stand for election:
  - 4874 – Weipa, Napranum & Mapoon
  - 4892 – Aurukun
  - 4876 – NPARC Area
  - 4895 – Hopevale
  - 4870 – Cairns
  - 4878, 4879 – Cairns – Northern Beaches
  - 4865, 4868 and 4869 – South Cairns Area





# ELECTION TIMELINE

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Monday, 15 June</b>         | <b>Election Notice, Information Kit and Nomination Form will be mailed to you via Australia Post</b>   |
|                                | Keep an eye out and check your mail.<br>You will need to read the information provided to you and start spreading the word if you want to be nominated.  |
| <b>Wednesday, 1 July</b>       | <b>Nominations are open @9:00am</b>  |
|                                | Now is an important time. You will need to make sure that you nominate a person that you believe best represents your families and Traditional Owner group. You must make sure every nomination has been signed by <u>two eligible A Class Shareholders</u> within your Traditional Owner Group. There is also an email provided to you in the nomination information package that you can email nominations through without having to post.<br><b>Remember- you only have <u>ONE</u> month to post or email these nominations back so please do that as soon as they are completed!</b> |
| <b>Friday, 31 July</b>         | <b>Nominations are closed @12:00pm</b>   |
|                                | Nominations are now closed.<br>Now is the time to wait for the Ballot Papers to be posted to you. The Ballot papers will be in the post on the 17 <sup>th</sup> of August 2020.  |
| <b>Monday, 17 August</b>       | <b>Ballot papers will be mailed out</b>  |
|                                | Please check your local post office this week as you will be receiving your ballot papers.<br>You will receive the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one or more ballot papers,</li> <li>• a Reply Paid envelope - you should use this to post your ballot paper back to us without having to pay,</li> <li>• and the Declaration Envelope - this goes inside the Reply Paid envelope to be posted back to us.</li> </ul> Remember, you must complete the declaration for your votes to be accepted.   |
| <b>Tuesday, 1 September</b>    | <b>Postal Ballots Open @ 9:00am</b>  |
|                                | You will be able to post your completed ballot papers and you only have one month to do so.<br>Please make sure your votes are clear and correctly marked.<br>You only have <b><u>ONE MONTH</u></b> to get everyone voting and also get your own votes in as well!   |
| <b>Wednesday, 30 September</b> | <b>Postal Ballots Close @ 10:00am</b>  |
|                                | The postal ballot closes at <b>10:00am on 30 September 2020</b>  |
| <b>Results</b>                 | <b>Results will be declared within 14 days of the ballot closing.</b><br>Please ensure you keep up to date on our website and our facebook page for the results.   |