



WCCCA

NEWSLETTER

Q4 2021

AN END OF THE YEAR MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRS

Welcome all readers to our last newsletter for the year. This year was exceptionally productive for the WCCT starting off with our Q1 sub-regional trust meetings and followed by our big Achimbun Grand Opening. I would like to thank all the businesses that helped us on the day and also extend a special thanks to the Building Opening Steering Committee that was created to help plan the event. I think I speak for everyone who attended when I say it was an unforgettable day. I believe a congratulations is in order to our Finance Team for getting 100% compliance on our audit report this year, well done ladies. Now that it is holiday time I'd like to remind our shareholders that the next closing date for funding applications is the 7th of January 2022. So please make sure you get your applications in before our staff return to the office on the 10th of January. With 2021 coming to an end I'd like to express my gratitude and many thanks to our Elders- past and present, who we wouldn't be here without, our lovely WCCT Staff working hard in the background and all our Directors & Members for your continued support. Hope you all have a safe Christmas and happy New Year.

Marie Pitt
Chairperson, Main Trust

As Chairperson of the Coordinating Committee, I have to say, we have had a very busy 2021. With the creation of our first book celebrating 20 years since the signing of the WCCCA and the Grand Opening of the Achimbun Administration Building in June, it was definitely full steam ahead as soon as our staff were back to work in January. Our Coordinating Committee has also been hard at work with its creation of the East Weipa Mine Closure Sub-Committee, ensuring our Traditional Owners have a clear pathway for consultation in regards to the closure of East Weipa mine. The Employment & Training Sub-Committee has been working hard on implementing the 2020-2022 LAP Employment & Training Strategy. Our Environment & Heritage Sub-Committee are now focused on reviewing the current Communities, Heritage & Environment (CHE) strategy with the aim to renew in the new year. The CHE strategy will create a stronger foundation for us to build stronger relationships with Rio Tinto and gain a broader insight and understanding for effective environment and heritage management. I'd like to wish you all a safe and joyous festive season and I am looking forward to seeing you all in the new year at our next community visits in March 2022.

Florence Charger
Chairperson, Coordinating Committee

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A SNAPSHOT OF THE YEAR 2021 FOR THE WCCT

The year 2021 has been a big year for the Western Cape Communities Trust. During the first quarter of the year the Implementation Team was busy working with the guys at Millstream Productions and Geoff Wharton on a documentary and commemorative book celebrating 20 years since the signing of the Western Cape Communities Co-existence Agreement. Our Office Team also had their hands full during the first two quarters of the year with the organising of the Grand Opening of the Achimbun Administration Building. As the COVID restrictions were easing we finally had the opportunity to open the Achimbun Administration Building on the 15th of June and also showcase both the DVD and the book. This was an event to remember with Traditional Owners coming from far and wide to celebrate this event with us. We want to thank all those who were involved for all their efforts on the day. Leading up to the Grand Opening a special member of our team had welcomed a baby girl to the world, congratulations to our receptionist Chelsie on her new beautiful addition to the family!



Warrangu Elder, Lily York, conducting her interview for our documentary with the guys from Millstream Productions. Thank you Aunty Lily for sharing your story with us.

The dancers from NPA were one of the many highlights from the Grand Opening of the Achimbun Administration Building.



Introducing Kinley Rose-Lyn Gill-Mene born 2nd of June 2021. Congratulations to mum and dad for making this beautiful baby girl. That has to be the cutest smile we ever did see!

Members of the Environment & Heritage and East Weipa Mine Closure Sub-Committee meet with Rio Tinto for the PRCP Workshop.



While the Office & Implementation Teams were full steam ahead at the beginning of the year, the Finance Team was also as busy as ever preparing for the Sub-Regional Trust meetings as well the upcoming annual audit. We are pleased to announce that we got 100% compliance on our audit report! Well done to the Finance Team! At the beginning of the year the Coordinating Committee created a new sub-committee to focus on the process moving forward for mine closure at East Weipa. The East Weipa Mine Closure Sub-Committee will be the foundation for consultation between Rio Tinto, WCCCA and the Alngith, Anathangayth, Peppan and Wathayn clan groups. We look forward to supporting all the families throughout these discussions. Rio Tinto had also facilitated a workshop for the Environment & Heritage Sub-Committee members to cover all aspects of the Progressive Rehabilitation and Closure Plan (PRCP). The PRCP is a new process introduced under the Environmental Protection Act (1994) and is mandatory for Rio Tinto to introduce and implement. Members raised concerns over understanding the complicated process therefore Rio Tinto conducted the workshop to help them better understand and raise any questions or issues with the new plan. We want to thank the team at Rio Tinto- Janine Schleich, Glenn Anderson, Lachy Johnson, Anna Horwood, Duane Fewquandie and Gemma Spencer for their efforts in conducting this workshop to help our Members make better and informed decisions.



A SNAPSHOT OF THE YEAR 2021 FOR THE WCCT

WESTERN CAPE CULTURAL CENTRE

"Hello readers, we had a great six months once we reopened the Cultural Centre in June after being closed due to COVID. This was an exciting time for us to open as the tourists were rolling in like a wildfire! People from all over Australia had come in to learn about our culture and history. They drove tour buses, caravans, camper trailers and even little 2WD vehicles; all doing the 4WD track up to Weipa heading to the Tip. While we had so many visitors, our staff kept the business COVID safe during these unknown times with QR code procedures and face masks to be worn. It was great to see all comply with these new rules. In these last few months we have seen our Cultural Awareness Training attendees come through seeking more information on our rich culture. We have had several "Welcome to Country" ceremonies conducted by the WCCL for Rio Tinto employees. We also had a special day when the year 4-6 students from St Joseph's Primary school came for a visit to learn all about our culture for NAIDOC week. In recent news, we just hosted 80 young men from the Clontarf Academies based in Cairns and Townsville visit and learn about our culture and country. All these visitors went away with knowledge and information that that they never had before. Like sponges they soaked up all the information that that was presented to them. That was very special for me to see happen in front of my eyes.

Our gallery has also been bombarded with art-loving visitors buying all types of our local arts and crafts out for sale. Luckily for us the season is coming to a close and that will give us time to replenish the gallery with more beautiful art made from our local artists within our surrounding communities. So watch this space!

All in all, this year has been a crazy but a good one for us. We want to extend a big thank you to all who have visited the centre. We hope to see you all in the New Year!" – Moira Hart, Co-ordinator, WCCL



Young men from the Townsville & Cairns Clontarf Academy came in for a cultural tour of the centre and learnt a lot about the history of the Western Cape.

Thanikwithi Elder Richard Barkley conducting Welcome to Country at the centre.



Year 4-6 students from St Joseph's Primary School visited the centre for NAIDOC Week celebrations.

RED GOSHAWK AT AMRUN

The Endangered and Threatened Species team at Rio Tinto have been conducting some amazing work this year looking after a wide range of animals in the Western Cape area including Northern Quolls, Speartooth Sharks and Palm Cockatoos just to name a few. This year the team have seen a breakthrough in one of their research projects on Australia's rarest bird of prey-the Red Goshawk. These birds were first spotted in 2015 on the lease north of Weipa and there is little known about them. Recently an active Red Goshawk nest was discovered at Amrun during pre-clear surveys. The team at Rio Tinto then decided to create a 2km radial wildlife buffer around the nest to protect the breeding pair from disturbance. This demonstrates that even threatened wildlife can have harmonious co-existence with mining operations, alike to the relationship between our communities and Rio Tinto. Incredible work being done in this space, we can't wait to hear more about this breeding pair in the future.





WHAT'S ON OUR RADAR

Q1 2022 MEETING DATES

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING – TUESDAY 2ND FEBRUARY
ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE – WEDNESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY
LAND RELINQUISHMENT & TRANSFER – THURSDAY 4TH FEBRUARY
EAST WEIPA MINE CLOSURE – THURSDAY 4TH FEBRUARY
INVESTMENT COMMITTEE – FRIDAY 5TH FEBRUARY
CENTRAL SUB-REGIONAL TRUST – MONDAY 22ND FEBRUARY
NORTHERN SUB-REGIONAL TRUST – TUESDAY 23RD FEBRUARY
SOUTHERN SUB-REGIONAL TRUST – WEDNESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY
WESTERN CAPE CENTRE LTD – THURSDAY 25TH FEBRUARY
INDIGENOUS DIRECTORS & MEMBERS – TUESDAY 9TH MARCH
COORDINATING COMMITTEE – WEDNESDAY 10TH MARCH
MAIN TRUST – THURSDAY 11TH MARCH



WCCCA OFFICE CHRISTMAS CLOSING HOURS

Monday 20th December – 8am – 5pm
Tuesday 21st December – 8am – 5pm
Wednesday 22nd December – 8am – 5pm
Thursday 23rd December – 8am – 5pm
Friday 24th December – 8am to 12pm

Closed from the 24th of December 2021 to
7th January 2021

WCCT Office will open for the New Year
from the Monday 10th January – 8am to
5pm

Open as per normal operations, closed during public
holidays.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!



Keep up to date with the latest news and events
happening in our surrounding communities by heading
over to our Facebook page.

FB.COM/WESTERNSCAPECOMMUNITIESTRUST

XMAS MESSAGE FROM THE WCCCA OFFICE

We would like to wish
everybody a Merry
Christmas and a Happy New
Year! Our last day of work
for the year is on the 24th of
December and we reopen
for the New Year on the 10th
of January 2022.

We look forward to seeing
you all there!