



A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR



Welcome back to our Directors and Members. I hope you all enjoyed the holiday season and spent quality time with your family and friends.

We are now fast approaching a very significant time of the year where our Members will again have the right to elect new Members and Directors for our trusts and committees. I want to urge each and every one of you to participate in the elections and to nominate people who you feel will represent your family groups 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 our A Class Shareholders (Traditional Owners) to be involved with the workings of the WCCCA and the Trusts.

During my time as Chairperson of the Main Trust, I've learnt that all the work involving the Members and Directors is critical to the future for our people, our children, our grandchildren and generations to come.

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 process. If you have any questions, please call our staff at the WCCCA office (07) 4069 7945 or the AEC 1800 224 420 who will be available to answer all your questions.

*Marie Pitt
Chairperson, Main Trust*

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**Q2 2024 FUNDING APPLICATION CLOSING DATE:
FRIDAY 12TH APRIL 2024**



WCCT CHRISTMAS PARTY



After a tremendous effort put in by our Directors and Members for 2023, the team celebrated alongside the WCCT staff with a night full of joy, laughter and good food at the 2023 WCCT Christmas Party.



Our current elected Directors and Members were also recognised for their hard work and dedication throughout the year during the night.

We would like to thank all that attended and look forward to another great year ahead!





PCYC NAPRANUM

School Holiday Program & Club & Culture Program

As part of the School Holiday program, the youth at PCYC Napranum made weekly visits to the Aged Care Facility at Weipa Hospital, spending some wonderful time with our Elders. The youth and Elders sat together beautifully while completing puzzles.

Giving back is an important part of youth development and the youth and Elders have been giving so much joy to each other.



The PCYC Napranum Club and Culture Program allows us to take our youth out of Club and into Community for fun activities. Two afternoons a week a small group of youth get to experience fishing, a well-loved activity. Last week Tyler caught the catch of the day....a beautiful Trevally (white fish).

CLONTARF FOUNDATION



The Clontarf Foundation in Weipa has had a cracker start to 2024. The team have welcome back many members to Western Cape College in 2024. The year 5 boys have certainly brought a new wave of energy to the Academy!

The boys are looking forward to upcoming Driving lessons to obtain their Learners Permits, Camps, Wild workouts, Healthy Habits, Trivia Lunches, BBQ'S, Morning Teas and Celebration Assembly's just to name a few!



RIO TINTO UPDATE

Rio Tinto Weipa LAPS Statistics

(As of 31st December 2023)

LAP Participation
17.6%

Number of LAP
Employees
247



The Indigenous Employment & Development team are very proud and excited to share that 12 graduates recently commenced in the Local Aboriginal Persons (LAP) School Leavers Program. The program runs for 3 months immediately commencing after year 12 graduation. Participants are employed through Embley Contracting and hosted at Rio Tinto Weipa. Placement areas and roles include, Land & Rehabilitation, Diesel Fitting, Mechanic, Administration and Early Childhood. Through this program, participants can look forward to learning more about our operations, gain exposure within areas or pathways of interest, build work readiness & transferable skills as they kick-start their careers.

Congratulations to all and a huge thankyou to the teams on site for your ongoing support, mentorship and imparting your knowledge onto our young people. Thank you to the team from the Western Cape Communities Trust (WCCCA) for attending our morning tea celebration.

NoWN Marine Research Update

In working with the Mapoon rangers and the University of the Sunshine Coast a 10 day campaign in Port Musgrave was safely completed in Q4 2023. This campaign targeted the adult Speartooth Sharks. Successfully captured and tagged a good number of sharks, including Great Hammerhead, Tiger Shark, Bull Sharks and Winghead Sharks.

The Winghead Shark is believed to be the first to have been internally tagged anywhere in the world!

Unfortunately no adult Speartooth were captured this year and their movement and behavior remains an important knowledge gap that is trying to be filled.





Elections

YOUR VOICE * YOUR VOTE * YOUR FUTURE

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Elections are held every two years to appoint the members of the WCCCA Co-ordinating Committee and the 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 in the Co-ordinating Committee & the Sub-Regional Trusts. The successful nominees that are voted in during this election will 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, Land Relinquishment, East Weipa Mine, and Andoom Mine Closure Sub-Committees. 22 positions in total for the Co-ordinating Committee, for the Sub-Regional Trusts, 5 for Central, 10 for Northern and 5 for Southern.

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 **15th April 2024**. So, please 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 yourself or someone else.

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 14th of March 2024.
2. You must hold a Directors ID number

If you are not an A Class Shareholder then you are not able to nominate or vote in this election.

3. As the role of the Coordinating 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 – NPA Area
- 4895 – Hopevale
- 4870 – Cairns
- 4878, 4879, 4865, 4868, 4869 – Cairns Surrounds

**Want to check if you are eligible? Please contact the WCCT on
(07) 4069 7945 or via email at reception@westerncape.com.au**



Elections

YOUR VOICE * YOUR VOTE * YOUR FUTURE

SUB-REGIONAL TRUSTS

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

CENTRAL

- 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

- 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 Warranggu People
- Two (2) Directors appointed by the Yupungathi People

SOUTHERN

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

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

You will be asked to nominate & 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) Warranggu Representatives
- Two (2) Wathayn Representatives
- Two (2) Wik & Wik-Waya Representatives
- Two (2) Yupungathi Representatives



For any questions in relation to voting please contact the

**AEC Helpline:
1800 224 420**



2024 UPDATE ON VOTING

This year you will find local polling booths in your community for voting. The dates for these polling dates are yet to be confirmed.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for up to date information on our 2024 Elections, including the dates, times and locations for the polling booths.





Election Timeline

Monday 15th April 2024	Election Notice, Information Kit & Nomination form Mail out to be lodged with Australia Post
	Keep an eye out and check your mail: You will need to read the information provided to you and start spreading the word if you want to be nominated.
Wednesday 1st May 2024	Nominations open at 9am
	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 two eligible A Class Shareholders 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. Remember: you only have ONE month to post or email these nominations back so please do that as soon as they are completed!
Friday 31st May 2024	Nominations close at 12pm
	Nominations are now closed. 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 13th of June 2022.
Friday 7th June 2024	Ballot Paper Approval
Thursday 13th June 2024	Ballot Paper Mail Out
	Please check your local post office this week as you will be receiving your ballot papers. You will receive the following: - one ballot paper, - a Reply Paid envelope - you should use this to post your ballot paper back to us without having to pay, - And the Declaration Envelope (this goes inside the Reply Paid envelope to be posted back to us). Remember: you must complete the declaration for your vote to be accepted
Monday 1st July 2024	9am - Postal Ballots open
	You will be able to post your completed ballot papers and you only have one month to do so. Please make sure your votes are clear and correctly marked. You only have ONE MONTH to get everyone voting and also get your own votes in as well!
Tuesday 30th July 2024	10am - Postal Ballots close
Thursday 1st August 2024	10am – Count of Ballot Papers, followed by Declaration of Results

Please ensure you keep up to date on our website and our facebook page for the results



Q2 2024 Meeting Dates

Q2 GRANT FUNDING APPLICATIONS CLOSING DATE	FRIDAY 12 TH APRIL
EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING	TUESDAY 7 TH MAY 2024
ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE	WEDNESDAY 8 TH MAY 2024
EAST WEIPA MINE CLOSURE	THURSDAY 9 TH MAY 2024
ANDOOM MINE CLOSURE	FRIDAY 10 TH MAY 2024
INVESTMENT COMMITTEE	TUESDAY 14 TH MAY 2024
CENTRAL SUB-REGIONAL TRUST	MONDAY 20 TH MAY 2024
NORTHERN SUB-REGIONAL TRUST	TUESDAY 21 ST MAY 2024
SOUTHERN SUB-REGIONAL TRUST	WEDNESDAY 22 ND MAY 2024
WESTERN CAPE CENTRE LIMITED	THURSDAY 23 RD MAY 2024
INDIGENOUS DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS	TUESDAY 4 TH JUNE 2024
COORDINATING COMMITTEE	WEDNESDAY 5 TH JUNE 2024
MAIN TRUST	THURSDAY 6 TH JUNE 2024



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

www.westerncape.com.au

Our website contains all there is to know about the Western Cape Communities Trust (WCCT) and the Western Cape Communities Coordinating Committee (WCCCC). Important upcoming dates and application forms can also be found on this platform.

