WCCCA NEWSLETTER

Q4 2023

END OF YEAR MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRS

Welcome all readers to the Quarter 4 Newsletter for 2023. I would like start by expressing my gratitude and many thanks to our Elders past, present and emerging – who we wouldn't be here without. I am pleased to report that the Main Trust has had an extremely productive year and continues to support our shareholders and local community groups. I would like to remind all of our shareholders that the next closing date for funding applications is Friday 12th January 2024. Please make sure you get your applications in before this date. The New Year will also see the Elections of new Directors and Members for the WCCT, please keep an eye out for the Election notices to be sent out. I would like to say a special thank you to our Directors and Members for their ongoing support and the WCCCA Administration for their ongoing hard work behind the scenes. I wish you all a safe Christmas and a happy New Year.
Marie Pitt
Chairperson, Main Trust

The Coordinating Committee has had an extremely productive 2023 and are already beginning preparations for a busy 2024! The past year has seen a thorough review of our practices and processes in regards to the WCCCA and has seen many great workshops put together between the Coordinating Committee, WCCT Administration Team and Rio Tinto Weipa. This year we have been working hard on establishing the new 3 year strategies for both the Employment and Training Sub Committee and Environment and Heritage Sub Committee. These strategies hold a vision where both our Traditional Owners and Rio Tinto Weipa can work collaboratively on achieving our goals. The New Year will see Elections for the next term of Coordinating Committee Members and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for having me as your dedicated Chairperson. I would like to wish you all a safe and joyous festive season and am looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year at our next Community Visits scheduled for March 2024.
Florence Charger,
Chairperson, Coordinating Committee

Q1 2024 FUNDING APPLICATION CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY 2024

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Employment & Training Strategy Workshop

Ben Laidlaw from Beneath the Surface Consulting facilitated a workshop on Friday 6th October 2023 to develop the Employment and Training Strategy for 2024-2026. This workshop was a process of consultation whereby RTA Weipa and the Western Cape Communities Trust Coordinating Committee took a collaborative approach in developing and implementing employment and training programs for local Aboriginal people. The workshop brought together RTA Weipa personnel, members of the Employment and Training sub-committee and the WCCT Implementation team to develop a strategy for the next 3 years. The strategy includes the key activities and engagement processes that describe how RTA Weipa and Traditional Owners will work together, to implement the requirements of the Agreement in the following areas: School to Work Pathways, Pre-Work Development, Work Readiness, Direct Employment, Retention and Development, and Contracts.

We also had a lovely afternoon tea celebrating Loyla Chevathen's birthday!

MRAEL Spotlight

The WCCT are currently hosting 3 MRAEL Trainees in our Administration, Finance and Implementation Departments. Our wonderful Team includes; Swatishka Lifu, Shaniqua Tamwoy and Courtney Woosup. Our trainees are studying Cert III and Cert IV in Business Administration.

We wish them all the best with their studies!

SCARRED TREE AUDIT
AMRUN, EAST WEIPA, ANDOOM & EAST ANDOOM

Our Trainees were given a great opportunity in October to participate in a Scarred Tree Audit with the Rio Tinto Cultural Heritage Team and Traditional Owners across the 3 sites of East Weipa, Andoom and Amrun. Each Trainee participated in a day of survey work and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

WCCT Trainee, Swatishka Lifu had an extremely busy and hot day participating in the Scarred Tree audit at the Amrun mine site. This was done alongside Rio Tinto, Cultural Heritage specialists and our very own Coordinating Committee member Ms. Loyla Chevathen. It was a long day with a 4:30am start and temperatures reaching 36 degrees, however the team were still successful in auditing over a dozen Scarred Trees. The team were able to finish off the day with a sightseeing visit to the head of Norman dam and to Boyd's Bay Beach.

WCCT Trainee, Shaniqua Tamwoy had the opportunity to participate in a Scarred Tree Audit at Andoom. She was accompanied by Traditional Owner Steve Hall and Senior Heritage Advisor Dr Justin Shiner. Shaniqua enjoyed the experience and is looking forward to doing it again.

WCCT Trainee, Courtney Woosup participated in a Scarred Tree Audit with Rio Tinto, Traditional Owners and Cultural Heritage specialists on the East Weipa and Eastern Andoom mine sites. The audit covered many areas of the East Weipa Mine and parts of the East Andoom Mine area and was a great learning opportunity for our Trainee in relation to Cultural Heritage

PCYC Napranum

PCYC has had a packed Term 4 which included a Naidoc Ball in Aurukun, Colour Run, Naidoc Celebrations in Napranum, Wolverton trips, Australia Zoo Visit, Youth Disco, Fishing, Mapoon Touch Competition, Paanja Touch Comp, Hula with Lita and much more!

Well done to PCYC as they were awarded the Napranum Naidoc Awards 2023 Business of the Year!

CLONTARF FOUNDATION

The Clontarf Foundation have welcomed Term 4 with open arms with a jam packed activity program!

The definite highlight for the team has been the commencement of the "Wedgetails Barbershop". An initiative that is teaching the boys the finer points of being a barber!

There have been many other programs running this term, including; School swimming carnival, Grad and Alumni catch up dinner, Dogit Day Celebrations, Sleepovers, 2023 Clontarf Awards night, Health checks, Driving lessons, Wolverton Trips and a visit to Aurukun learning about the strong Wik culture at the Koolkan Aurukun School which included participating in a fun afternoon at the PCYC.

RIO TINTO

IED Presentation Night

Thank you to the Rio Tinto Indigenous Employment and Development Team for extending an invitation to our Employment and Training Sub Committee Members to attend their Trainees Celebration night on Friday 20th October. Our Chairperson, Ms. Patricia Mark spoke strong words to the trainees in attendance, and expressed great pride in their current and future successes. A great night was had by all.

Congratulations to Kyezaya Namai-Sabatino who has been awarded TAFE QLD Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Trade Student of the year 2023 and was also crowned the 2023 Queensland Training Awards State Winner in the School Based Apprentice and Trainee of the year category! Kyezaya attended the National Awards In Tasmania on Friday 17th November 2023 and won the 2023 School Based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year award!

Rio Tinto LAPS

LAP Employment with Rio Tinto is at a high of 17.84%, with 258 local aboriginal people currently employed across the Weipa operations.

Aurukun Community Commute

Aurukun Community Commute commenced on the 6th July and allows employees to go home after a shift. The service is being provided by local business RESET!

North of Weipa North Ecological Studies Update

Throughout June and July, contractor Ecotone conducted their post wet survey in the North of Weipa North and surrounds. Below are just a few of the critters they encountered during their four week survey!

PCYC Aurukun

The Theme for this year's NAIDOC ball was "For the Elders". The Elders walked the red carpet into the ball accompanied by their grandchildren, nieces and nephews – our Future Leaders! The highlights of the night included taking photos, cultural dancing, dining together, awards, red carpet walk, dressing up and dancing to DJ Maxy Waxy!

How beautiful does everyone look?

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

CLOSED FROM – 12pm 22nd December 2023

RE-OPENING – 8am 8th January 2024

The WCCCT Team would like to wish you a Safe and Happy Christmas and we are looking forward to a great 2024!

Q1 2024 MEETING DATES

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING	MONDAY 5TH FEBRUARY
ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE	TUESDAY 6TH FEBRUARY
EAST WEIPA MINE CLOSURE	WEDNESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY
ANDOOM MINE CLOSURE	THURSDAY 8TH FEBRUARY
INVESTMENT COMMITTEE	TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY
CENTRAL SUB-REGIONAL TRUST	MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY
NORTHERN SUB-REGIONAL TRUST	TUESDAY 20TH FEBRUARY
SOUTHERN SUB-REGIONAL TRUST	WEDNESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY
WESTERN CAPE CENTRE LIMITED	THURSDAY 22ND FEBRUARY
INDIGENOUS DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS	TUESDAY 5TH MARCH
COORDINATING COMMITTEE	WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH
MAIN TRUST	THURSDAY 7TH MARCH

GET IN TOUCH WITH THE WCCT

Fb.com/WesternCapeCommunitiesTrust

Keep up to date on events and vacant jobs in your community by liking our Facebook page!

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.