

Yinhawangka Community Newsletter

Issue 2 | 2020



YINHAWANGKA
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION
RNTBC | ICN7837

Chairperson's Report

Hello! At the General Meeting on 15th November, we had a ballot of the Yinhwangka people to appoint a new Advisory Group of six Traditional Owners, which in March became the Board. They are Churchill Jones, Colletta Cooke, Ronwyn James, Aaron Martin, Robyn Tommy & I, along with two Independents Frank Parriman and Daryl Smith. At our March meeting I was elected Chairperson.



• Halloway Smirke - Director and Chair

I am a Yinhawangka / Jurruru man. I have grown up for most of my childhood along the Ashburton River. I went to Onslow Primary School then later HSHS and KSHS, so I do feel passionate about education and Country.

My priority is getting a Strategic Plan in place, that the Board can work on collectively with each other, with the Yinhawangka Council and the DMC, from the Trust. We will all be focussing on the same goals, benefitting the Yinhawangka People.

This plan will be grounded in Yinhawangka Culture, Heritage and Language. We will develop Men's and Women's Circles to address the issues and the opportunities that the Yinhawangka People face.

We plan to work closely with IBN, Gumala and other Traditional Owner Groups along with Rio Tinto, other mining companies and pastoralists. We will also be collaborating with stakeholders in housing, education, training, health, youth services, and community services, within the State and Federal Governments to achieve the best outcomes for the Yinhawangka People.

News from the CEO

Thanarru. It's now the middle of the year, and a lot has happened since the Corporation was handed back to Yinhawangka. We are back to a full team on board in the office, and bedding down our processes, and concentrating on our core business – Yinhawangka Heritage, the Yinhawangka Lands, and the Yinhawangka Rangers. While each of these are separate operations, they are very closely connected, so we are all committed to working as one.

Since day one our Chair, Halloway Smirke, has put Heritage first in the Corporation. The destruction of world heritage sites belonging to our neighbours, Puutu Kunti Kurrama & Pinikura Peoples, rocked our faith in the system to protect important places. Our Heritage Committee met for the first time in June, and we have started a review on all our processes so that we can protect Yinhawangka heritage to the best of our ability. The rights of Traditional Owners in this respect are not strong, and we have agreed to support mining on Yinhawangka Country, in return for the financial contributions to the Trusts, which many people need. The Government does not place the protection of Aboriginal Heritage as a high priority. The Aboriginal Heritage Act is up for review, so it will be interesting to see if things change.

We need to find a good balance, where a site sits on an orebody, we may not be able to protect it (unless it is one of the sites specified in the Agreement with Rio). Though where a site might be in the way of infrastructure, or waste dumps, or stockpiles, then we hope to work closely with Rio to avoid the important places, while supporting their business. I have particular concern about smaller explorers that we never hear from about surveys, after we sign agreements with

them. Keeping an eye on these operations will be a focus for us.

The Yinhawangka Charitable Trust has also committed to supporting this work, by agreeing to us employing a new Lands Team Leader, and two new trainee Rangers in 20/21. If you would like to work with us in protecting Yinhawangka Country, we would love to hear from you. You can also help protect Yinhawangka Country by signing up for heritage surveys, which will be starting by the time you read this.

We are working closely with the Yinhawangka Council and the DMC on a new Strategic Plan for the next three years. If you would like to share your ideas or priorities for the future, please do not hesitate to call me on 0417 417 729. I look forward to hearing from you, or better still, seeing you in Paraburdoo.



• Grant Bussell - CEO

Wealth Creation Policy

Over half of our Yinhawangka Members have not claimed their Wealth Creation Policy payment. \$20,000 of funds are available each financial year to beneficiaries. Put money away into your superannuation for when you are older, or it can be used to buy or rent a property or to start your own business. If you need assistance with the setup of a superannuation account, we can help.

NEW 2020 policies and forms are available on our website or contact Mutual Trust.
www.yinhawangka.com.au/policies-and-forms/

MUTUAL TRUST

Yinhawangka Direct Benefits Trust
Distribution Application Form

Wealth Creation Application

BENEFICIARY INFORMATION

Application: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Suffix: ☐ Junior ☐ Senior

Full Name: _____

Street Address: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

City / Suburb: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

APPLICATION DETAILS

Total Funds Requested: \$ _____ Note: Max \$20,000 per beneficiary per year

Purpose of Funds:

- ☐ Business
- ☐ Superannuation
- ☐ Mortgage / Property Purchase
- ☐ Home Improvement / addition
- ☐ Rent

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTATION MUST BE PROVIDED:

BUSINESS (New or Existing):

- ABN or other business registration documents
- Details of business structure (Sole Trader/Partnership/Company/Trust)
- Business Plan (detailing business activity & beneficiaries role within business)

Note: A beneficiary who has received a business grant must acquit for how the funds were spent previously before any additional grants will be considered in next financial year.

MORTGAGE/PROPERTY PURCHASE

Mortgage: Bank account details of applicants home loan account; Note: home loan account must be in the name of the beneficiary making the application.

Period of Payment: _____

Month of: _____ OR _____ to _____

Property purchase:

Address of property being purchased: _____

- Offer and Acceptance form to purchase; duly completed by all parties
- Finance (if required) approval from your banking institution
- Settlement Agent details, including banking details.

Form Dated: 09/09/2019

YHW 2019 Wealth Creation Policy v2

MUTUAL TRUST

Yinhawangka Direct Benefits Trust
Distribution Application Form

Note: Payment can only be made directly to the Settlement Agent at time of settlement.

ON:

- Copy of latest superannuation member statement including BPay details to make **personal non concessional contribution**.
- If a Self-Managed Super Fund, you will need member balance statement, financial statements (professionally prepared) and bank account details.

Name of Superannuation Fund: _____

Membership Number: _____

RENT:

- Supplier bank details (Lessor/Real Estate Agent)
- Lease agreement confirming beneficiary resides at address specified
- Date from/...../..... to/...../.....

Please note we can only pre-pay 4 weeks in advance

HOME IMPROVEMENT / ADDITION:

- Supplier quote and bank details; or
- Supplier receipt and your bank statement (showing you paid for works that you are seeking reimbursement for)

benefits from any other funding source in relation to this account (e.g. rent agency).

Beneficiary Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

NOTE: Please keep a record of your receipts as Business Grant recipients will be asked to account for how these funds were spent as per the Yinhawangka Direct Benefits Trust Deed.

Please send completed forms and supporting documents to Mutual Trust by:

Fax: (08) 9230 7701 Email: perthadmin@mutualtrust.com.au

Mail: Mutual Trust, PO Box 122, NEDLANDS WA 6909

If you have any queries, please contact us on (08) 9230 7700

YHW 2019 Wealth Creation Policy v2

Payments from the Yinhawangka Trusts

To receive cash payments, you must be over 18 and a Registered Yinhawangka person. Young people should apply for membership with us as soon as they turn 18. You will also need to make an annual Personal Plan with Mutual Trust before a payment is released, which will help with financial planning and money management.

Mutual Trust will contact you about your Personal Plan - if they have not contacted you, make sure your details are up to date.

For the latest distribution fact sheet head to:
www.yinhawangka.com.au/yinhawangka-trust/



• Roma Jean Butcher

NRW2020

For National Reconciliation Week 2020, we turned to social media to promote the message of #InThisTogether2020. With limitations due to the pandemic restrictions, national events took place online, engaging people in their homes. On Friday 29th May, Yinhawangka Elders, staff, Paraburdoo residents and local organisations and businesses gathered to Acknowledge Country and were Welcomed to Country by Roma Jean Butcher. The video can be found on our Facebook page.

Meet our Implementation Officer



• Dr Anna Fagan

In March 2020 we welcomed archaeologist and anthropologist, Dr Anna Fagan to our team. Anna is passionate about Aboriginal rights, cultural heritage and working together as a community. Beginning her career studying ancient sites and temples in the Middle East, she worked to understand their societies and studied their rock art. Anna also worked in the mountainous areas of Turkey to produce the first map of rock art sites in that area.

More recently, Anna has worked with Aboriginal groups in Victoria, studying, salvaging and protecting of sites along with cultural material, and forming long lasting friendships with Aboriginal People of the area. Anna loves art, music, and dancing and has worked on many cultural events.

Anna can be contacted on 0429 919 190 or anna.fagan@yinhawangka.com.au

What's happening with Yinhawangka Heritage Surveys

Heritage Surveys recommenced in early July, in line with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions. Members will be notified by text message for upcoming surveys. For most surveys we'll need your Drug & Alcohol clearance on file before we put you on the list and you'll need a new one every three months. If you need help with booking the test contact Tracey at the office on 9189 5110.

Get the flu shot!



This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is advised to get the influenza vaccine as soon as possible. It is free to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People aged 6 months and over. See your Aboriginal Health Practitioner or Worker, GP or nurse about getting vaccinated. health.gov.au/immunisation

Health Information

In late March, an emergency was declared in Western Australia and we used our public Facebook page to highlight important information to Yinhawangka People. Most of our staff moved to working from home, and we started to work closely with our Trustee, Gumala, IBN, Banjima and Karlka Niyiparli to help our communities to isolate.

Responding to this pandemic has been new for us, learning new ways of working together and highlighted some of the vulnerabilities of our communities as well as our strengths.

Stacey Robinson, the IBN Nurse, is one of those strengths and on behalf of those of us in Tom Price, Wakathuni, Bellary Springs, and

Paraburdoo, we would like to give her our thanks.

As restrictions in Western Australia are eased, the risks of new outbreaks increase. The coronavirus is dangerous to our communities, especially our elders, and we cannot let our guard down.

It is important to remember social distancing of 1.5m, maintaining hand hygiene – washing for 20 seconds with soap and water, and if you are feeling unwell remember to stay at home and consult with your GP over the phone.

To stay up to date with the latest news, head to our Facebook page!

Rangers

The Rangers are carefully and systematically looking after Important Places on Yinhawangka Country. Our aim is to build on our technical skills and Ranger capacity with the development of an Important Places database. In conjunction with regular monitoring using drones this allows Rangers to monitor site condition over time. We are also very focussed on access to land for Yinhawangka People. Some of the recent places the Rangers have visited:

Gardagarli

In December Roy Tommy and one of our anthropologists, Phil Haydock, noticed damage to Gardagarli and nearby Ratty Springs, by stray cattle. We notified Rio about it and the Rangers revisited the site 1st May and no action had been taken and we formally complained to Rio soon after. Cattle have now been mustered at Rocklea, and the Rangers met Rocklea staff in June to consider their plans to keep cattle off Gardagarli, which is a Registered Aboriginal Site.



• *Mustering near Gardagarli*



• *Gardagarli - Ranger Kalwin Dann*



• *Piritayi*

Piritayi

All staff visited Piritayi, an Important Place on the Hardey River, as a training exercise in May. Our new archaeologist, Anna Fagan, introduced us to the basics of archaeology and field walking strategies. Many artefacts were noted and logged while on site, notes taken, and strategies developed about protection of the site.



• *Piritayi*



• *Piritayi - Anna, Melisha, Allissa and Kalwin*



• *Gundu Gundu (Minga Springs)*

Gundu Gundu

The Yinhawangka Rangers conducted a monitoring exercise where they inspected the condition of the waters, plant and animal life within and surrounding the Spring ecosystem. Also checking the impact of any flora and fauna pests upon the Spring ecosystem, and petroglyphs at this site. Drone and camera footage were taken to monitor this important site.

Part IVA at Western Range

You may know that Rio Tinto is planning major developments on Yinhawangka Country at West Angelas, around Paraburdoo and at the West Turner Syncline, north-west of Nyimili. Yinhawangka have agreed not to object to heritage and environment approvals, except in certain areas, but we can suggest ways that Rio can help to protect Yinhawangka Country better and we can work with them to do so.

We made a submission to the Environment Protection Authority in May about the Greater Paraburdoo area – about 40km of Ranges from Channar west. We said that the Hamersley Ranges are a very important area, not much is protected and there is a lot of mining going on and habitat for endangered animals like ghost bats, quolls and olive pythons is very much at risk.

We asked for ongoing consultation with Rio, not just in planning new mines, but in the ongoing operations of the mine, the rehabilitation of old mines and in the closure of mines (like Channar), and we asked for funding for an Environmental Scientist to work with the Yinhawangka Rangers. We said that all the permanent waterholes and ephemeral waters are significant for Yinhawangka People, and water is an important issue regarding mining across all Yinhawangka Country.



• *Ghost Bat*



• *Northern Quoll*

Jobs

Yinhawangka now recruiting!

Lands Team Leader (Yinhawangka only)

Corporate Services Manager

In August: Recruiting 2 Trainee Rangers (Yinhawangka only).

If you are interested, call Melisha at the office on 9189 5139.

Rio Tinto Opportunities:

There are many opportunities for TO's within Rio Tinto.

For the latest info on employment, training and apprenticeship opportunities, contact;

Brian Charlie

Indigenous Employee Support Officer

M: 0457 542 989

If you need assistance with joining the Talent Network, contact:

Kerry Lofts

Talent Advisor – Indigenous Recruitment

M: 0436 946 342

Like, follow and share the Rio Tinto Iron Ore – WA Indigenous Employment page for regular news and updates
<https://www.facebook.com/riotintoironoreindigenousemployment>

Head to our website for more:
www.yinhawangka.com.au/jobs/

Industry Scholarship Program

North Regional TAFE Scholarships are NOW OPEN for Semester 2.

With opportunities for Kimberley and Pilbara residents to progress their career aspirations in a range of eligible industry areas are open to prospective students who can demonstrate educational disadvantage and financial hardship.

Aspire Scholarship – up to \$10,100* value

Select and apply for a course from Certificate I to Diploma.

TAE40116 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment Scholarship - \$1,450* value

This qualification provides students with the opportunity to work as a lecturer, trainer, or mentor in their area of specialty.

Priority Industry Qualification Scholarship – up to \$10,100* value

This scholarship has training courses related to skilled jobs in high demand across WA. **Closing Friday 24 July 2020.**

A full list of the courses can be found here <https://www.northregionaltafe.wa.edu.au/futurestudents/scholarships>

You can contact North Regional TAFE for support before, during and after your studies.

Val Ross

Aboriginal Development Officer

val.ross@nrtafe.wa.edu.au

08 9159 6706

James Dann

Indigenous Trainee & Apprentice Support Officer

james.dann@nrtafe.wa.edu.au

08 9159 6855 | 042 727 614 (number missing)

Anne Mitchell

Aboriginal Education Support Officer

anne.mitchell@nrtafe.wa.edu.au

08 9159 6871

Daniel Roy

Aboriginal Education Support Officer

daniel.roy@nrtafe.wa.edu.au

08 9159 6779 | 0409 470 547



Contact Details:

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Email: admin@yinhawangka.com.au

