

YINHAWANGKA

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2015 - EDITION 3



Yinhawangka Aboriginal
Corporation

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News From The Directors

The first meeting of the Directors of the Corporation following the 2014 Annual General Meeting was held in Paraburdoo on 19 and 20 January.

The Directors spent some time reviewing the 2014 Annual General Meeting, focusing on measures at future Annual General Meetings to ensure a broader range of members views are expressed through the meeting.

Notable items considered at the meeting were:

1. Requests from Gumala Aboriginal Corporation for financial support:
 - b. to enable the continued operation of the Gumala Bus Service between Bellary Springs, Wakuthuni and Tom Price. Directors agreed in principle to supporting the Service and conveyed that support to the Yinhawangka Trust.
 - c. for the completion of the Health Habitat program at Bellary Springs and Wakuthuni. Directors did not support the request.
2. Request from IBN Group for financial support for the supply of skip bins to the Bellary Springs and Wakuthuni communities (Following Gumala Aboriginal Corporation's withdrawal of that service.) Directors have requested more information and discussions with other potential financial contributors.

The Directors resolved that pending the finalisation of the Corporation's Strategic Plan for 2015 and 2016 the Corporation's current priorities are:

1. Census of Yinhawangka People
2. Preparation of Business and Transition

Plan to guide the transfer of Yinhawangka heritage management responsibilities, including surveys, from YMAC to the Corporation.

3. Commitment from Yinhawangka Trust to funded anticipated future land holding costs for Bellary Springs and Westside
4. Decide on Deposit E rockshelter
5. Governance training for Directors
6. Resolution of the Corporation's role in Charitable Trust social initiatives
7. Joint strategic planning with the Yinhawangka Trust

As the term of three members of the Yinhawangka Local Implementation Committee (LIC) had expired and two positions had become vacant for other reasons the Directors made appointments to the vacant positions.

Roma Butcher and Rodney Parker were appointed for one year (to complete the remaining one year for two people unable to complete their three year term). Rhonda Parker, Sally Anne Johnson and Julie Walker were appointed for three year terms.

The Directors also considered a number of membership applications, approving some and requesting more information about others. The Corporation is currently contacting those people.

The Directors noted that some applicants for membership are not signing all three forms in the Corporation's Membership Kit, thereby delaying the acceptance of their membership application.

Applicants must sign the Membership Application Form, the Declaration Form and the Ratification Deed Form in front of a witness who must also sign each form.

Accommodation in Perth for Yinhawangka People



Yurlu Marnu (Good Camp), also known as Perth Healing Home, located in Mandurah, is a good place for Banjima, Nyiyaparli and Yinhawangka people to stay when needing to be in Perth for medical appointments.

Yurlu Marnu, operated by Lamp Lighter Ministries, provides accommodation, transport and meals.

For more information and to book call 0410 887 446 or email perthhealinghome@iinet.net.au.

What's happening with Yinhawangka Heritage Surveys

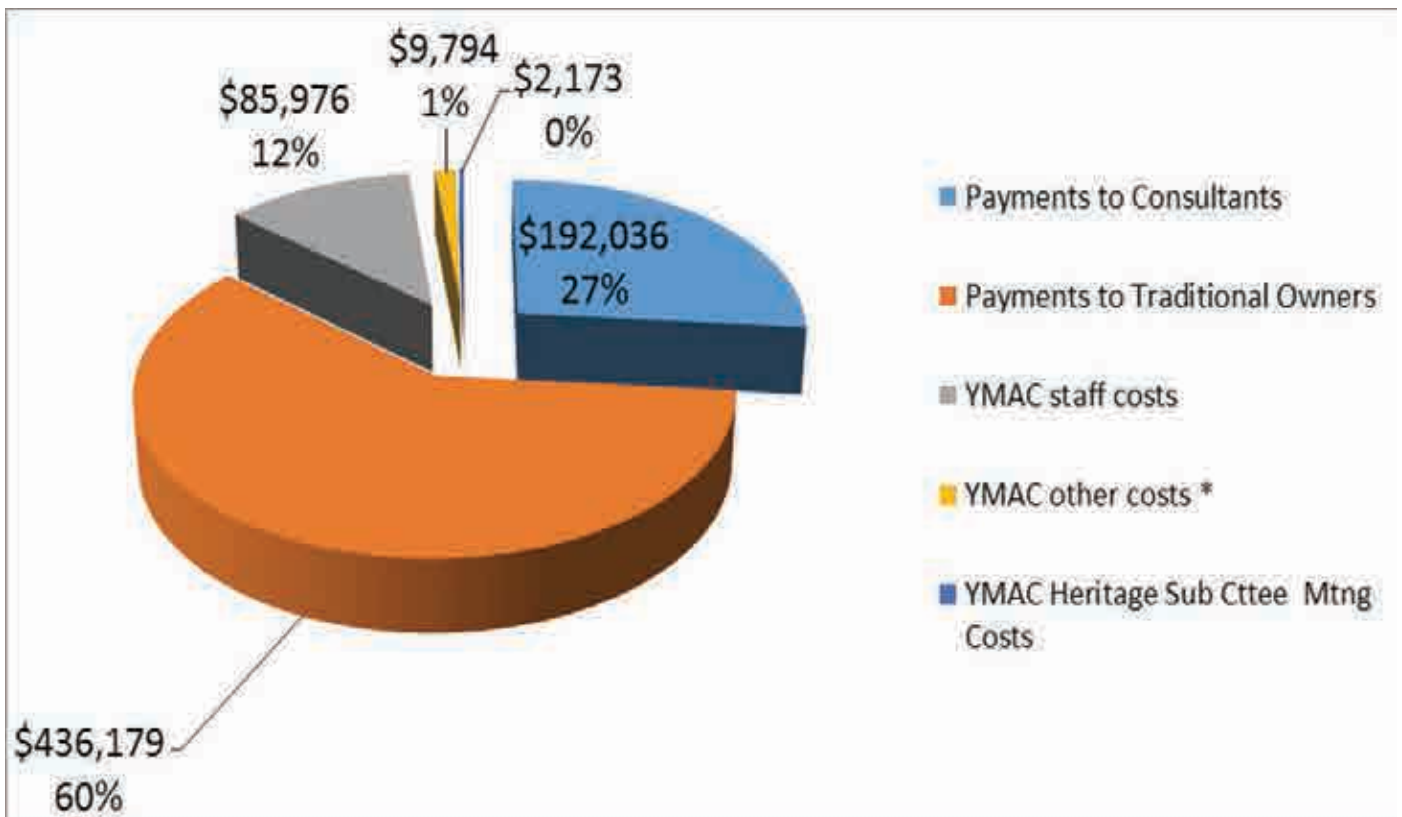
Yinhawangka heritage survey work will continue apace in 2015.

To re-cap, in 2014 Yinhawangka people participated in 34 surveys on their country, principally for RTIO but also for BHP Billiton, Fortescue Metals Group and Northern Star Resources.

In the six months from 1 July to 31 December 2014 expenditure on heritage survey work on Yinhawangka country was \$726,158. Of this amount the Yinhawangka survey participants were paid \$436,179 (60% of the total), the consultants engaged for the survey work were paid \$192,036 (27%) and Yamitji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) retained \$97,943 (13%) for their staff and office administration costs and the cost of facilitating meetings of the Heritage Sub Committee.

It is estimated therefore that in 2014 the Yinhawangka people undertaking survey work earned nearly \$900,000.

The forward schedule of heritage survey work in 2015, just for RTIO, is very busy with always two and sometimes three or four surveys planned each month from February through to November. The survey requirements of other resource companies will add to the very high requirement for Yinhawangka people to participate in survey work.



Moving to Zero Tolerance to Alcohol and Drugs

In mid-2014, following concern expressed by RTIO and YMAC about unsatisfactory behaviour during some heritage surveys, the Directors of the Corporation have been considering an appropriate response.

With the support of the members of the Heritage Sub Committee the Directors have resolved that a policy of zero tolerance to alcohol and drugs is to be introduced for all Yinhawangka people undertaking heritage survey work.

The zero tolerance policy will be

introduced following a three month warning period and the distribution of information about the potential for harm to Yinhawangka people undertaking heritage survey work when affected by alcohol and drugs.

In the coming weeks fact sheets about the harmful effects of alcohol and drugs will be distributed to those people who undertake survey work and to those known to have an interest in undertaking survey work in the future.

From the beginning of July 2015 all Yinhawangka people will be

alcohol and drug tested prior to the commencement of all surveys.

As some drugs can be detected by testing for many months after use those Yinhawangka people who currently use drugs and undertake, or wish to undertake, survey work will need to stop that use now if they wish to participate in survey work from July.

News from the Local Implementation Committee

The most recent meeting of the Local Implementation Committee was held at Paraburdoo on Thursday 13 November 2014.

The next meeting will be held at West Angelas on Wednesday 8 April in Paraburdoo.

The Yinhawangka people in attendance were Roy Tommy, Barry Condon and Tynarra Taylor as a proxy. Also in attendance were Yinhawangka Aboriginal Corporation Chief Executive Officer John Hughes and Implementation Manager Andrew Eastick. RTIO attendees were Scott Wilkinson

(General Manager, Greater Paraburdoo Operations), Sinead Kaufman (General Manager, West Angelas and Robe Valley Operations), Ben Laidlaw (Manager, Indigenous Employment and Business Development), Andrew Turner (Manager, Communities and Agriculture), Patrick Knott (Manager, Expansion Studies), Sarah Burke (Superintendent, Agreements Implementation), Hadyn James (Advisor, Agreements Implementation), Annabelle Davis (Specialist, Cultural Heritage).

Much of the reporting and

discussion at the meeting is indicated in the H2 2014 Yinhawangka LIC Report distributed with this Newsletter.

Of particular interest to the Yinhawangka attendees was the advice from RTIO that in October 2014 1,099 Aboriginal people were employed in the Iron Ore business, 14 of whom are recognised as Yinhawangka. Of those three were employed at Dampier, six at Paraburdoo, four at Tom Price and one at West Angelas.

2015 BOARD MEETING DATES

- Friday 10 April at Paraburdoo - continuation of 23-24 March Board Meeting
- Saturday 11 April @ Paraburdoo - Policy Development Day
- Monday 11 and Tuesday 12 May at Paraburdoo
- Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 July Paraburdoo
- Monday 7 and Tuesday 8 September @ Paraburdoo
- Monday 12 and Tuesday 13 October @ Paraburdoo

News from the Heritage Sub Committee



A meeting of the Heritage Sub Committee was held on Wednesday 29 October in Paraburdoo.

The members noted the significant amount of Yinhawangka heritage work undertaken in 2014.

The members also further discussed the amount of unsatisfactory behaviour that is continuing to occur during heritage surveys. The response of the Directors of the Corporation and the Heritage Sub Committee is set out on page 5 of the Newsletter.

A meeting of the Heritage Sub Committee was also held on Monday 16 March at West Angelas. That meeting included an inspection of the Deposit E rockshelter as an aid to determining the view of the Yinhawangka people about its possible destruction if the mining of iron ore in the Deposit E pit were to continue in the area adjacent to the rockshelter.



RTIO'S Annabelle Davis outlined the future plans for upgrading the Paraburdoo Airport, noting there is a large artefact scatter in the proposed work area.

Annabelle also outlined the upcoming work program for West Angelas, including a survey in April 2015 that would focus on the cultural values of water and water management.

A report was given on the recently completed 3D Scan of the Deposit E rockshelter and advice was given that an ethnographic survey would be undertaken at the site, and another nearby rockshelter at the end of November, with Robin Stevens.

This work has now been completed and a Special Meeting of Directors was held with Robin in Karratha on Thursday 11 March prior to the finalisation of his Closed Report.

The members noted the significant amount of Yinhawangka heritage work undertaken in 2014.



2014 Annual General Meeting

The 2014 Annual General Meeting of the Corporation was held in Paraburdoo on Saturday 22 November with about 50 Yinhawangka people in attendance.

A number of non-members of the Corporation attended and filled out membership application forms during the day.

The election to fill the places of the six Directors whose terms expired at the meeting followed the presentation of the Directors and Financial Reports.

Elected for a two year term were Coralie Cooke and Rodney Parker (Minatangunha); Pamela Condon and Doreen James (Jarndunha); and Nancy Tommy and Roy Tommy (Thurantajinha and Wilga).

The Directors whose terms expire at the 2015 Annual General Meeting are Nicholas Cook and Rhonda Parker (Minatangunha); Roma Butcher and Sally Anne Johnson (Jarndunha); and Stuart Ingie Snr and Mary Mills (Thurantajinha and Wilga).

Of particular note from

the Directors Report was the development of the Corporation's governance capacity since the 2013 Annual General Meeting, enabling the employment of Implementation Manger Andrew Eastick in March 2014 and Chief Executive Officer John Hughes in September 2014.

Directors were also pleased to report that following the adoption of the Corporation's logo and branding in May 2014 a set of communication tools for communicating with members was quickly established – a website, Facebook page and an eight page Newsletter. A SMS messaging system was also established.

The Directors also acknowledged the great contribution of MLCS Corporate to the development of the Corporation, noting that as a result of the achievements since the 2013 Annual General Meeting and the take up of executive, administration and basic financial functions by the Corporation's staff the role of MLCS Corporate was now progressively diminishing.



Yinhawangka man Stuart Ingie Jnr identifying a gnamma hole during a recent heritage survey.



It is estimated therefore that in 2014 the Yinhawangka people undertaking survey work earned nearly \$900,000.

News from the Chief Executive Officer



Chief Executive Officer John Hughes

Greetings from Paraburdoo in the centre of Yinhawangka country, where I have been living and working since mid-September 2014, as the first Chief Executive Officer of your Corporation. I feel particularly privileged to be with the Corporation at this early stage in its life, while members are still joining-up and while the Directors are still setting the Corporation's medium and long term priorities.

I have worked in Aboriginal organisations since the 1990s

(Aboriginal Legal Service and Northern Land Council in Darwin, Indigenous Business Australia in Canberra, Miriuwung Gajerrong Corporation in Kununurra), as a legal adviser and manager working with many different Aboriginal language groups. At the November 2014 Trust Beneficiaries meeting and the Corporation's Annual General Meeting I could see immediately that Yinhawangka people are well-versed in managing corporate and trust arrangements to achieve your aims. I expect a lot of this comes from your long experience, alongside neighbouring groups, with the Gumula and IBN structures.

Last year the Directors formulated their own rules for staff and for their work as a Board, they worked with the Yinhawangka Trustee on budgeting, and inducted the Corporation's first members of staff. At the same time the Decision-Making Committee and Yinhawangka Council have been rolling out the array of member benefits which you can read about in the Yinhawangka Trust part of the Corporation webpage. In

early March 2015 the Directors will meet with the Decision Making Committee and Council for a two day facilitated joint strategic planning session. In the meantime the Directors have directed me to give priority to a census survey of Yinhawangka People.

This survey will be like a government census, asking all kinds of questions, but only for Yinhawangka people. IBN and the Gumula Investments trustee have run similar surveys of members including Yinhawangka members in the past. The Yinhawangka Trust and the Corporation need to know as much as possible about individual Yinhawangka people, where you live, what you need, what you want from life, so we can offer well-designed services. There are about 250 Yinhawangka people, and we need quality information, so the survey will be a major project. When the time comes to participate, please find the time as this survey may govern health, housing, education, back-to-country, employment and other projects and member benefits for the next ten years.

News from the Corporation

The Yinhawangka Aboriginal Corporation's office is now located in the Deputy Principal's office in the former High School building at the Paraburdoo Primary School after relocating from the Rio Tinto (RTIO) Accommodation and Towns Management office in Paraburdoo in September 2014.

Unfortunately because of the location the office isn't able to function as a shopfront for the Corporation where members can access the Corporation's staff or obtain and submit Yinhawangka Trust forms.

The office is however a temporary arrangement whilst a more suitable location in Paraburdoo is found, which members can access and the Corporation's future roles, eg. cultural heritage management, can be accommodated.

The Corporation recently issued a Request for Quote to eight businesses identified by the Directors as having the capacity to prepare a Business and a Transition Plan to guide the transfer of Yinhawangka Heritage Body responsibilities from YMAC to the Corporation and Director's are now

assessing the submission's received.

Part of the planning for the transfer will include selecting a suitable electronic system for holding and providing easy access to all Yinhawangka cultural heritage information.

Before Christmas the Chief Executive Officer and Implementation Manager had the opportunity to visit the Kuruma Marthudunera Aboriginal Corporation's office in Karratha to look at a very effective system that Corporation was in the process of installing.

News from the Yinhawangka Trust

Annual Beneficiaries Meeting

On Friday 21 November 2014 the Myer Family Company held their annual beneficiaries meeting in Paraburdoo. Thank you to all those that came along it was great to see lots of familiar faces and to meet some new ones.

There have been some small changes to our application forms. We would like to encourage everyone to start using these forms to ensure that your applications are processed as quickly as possible. All forms are available on the Yinhawangka Aboriginal Corporation website www.yinhawangka.com.au or by contacting our office.

New Policy: Solar Power

In November the Solar Power Policy was created. This policy has been implemented to assist beneficiaries with the supply and installation of solar panels and/or solar hot water systems. Given the climate of the towns in the Pilbara we strongly encourage all beneficiaries to investigate the possibility of having these installed.

Here are some benefits of solar energy.

- Solar energy is not only sustainable, it is renewable and this means that we will never run out of it. It is about as natural a source of power as is possible to generate electricity. The electricity generated can reduce the amount of your electricity bill.
- Solar panels require little maintenance. Once the solar panels have been installed and are working at maximum efficiency there is only a small amount of maintenance required each year to ensure they are in working order.
- Solar panels are a silent producer of energy. There is absolutely no noise made from photovoltaic panels as they convert sunlight

into usable electricity.

Upcoming Workshops

The staff from the Myer Family Company will be conducting workshops in several Pilbara towns in the coming months. These workshops will be designed to assist beneficiaries with the different policies available, the requirements for each policy and the application forms.

The visits will also be used to discuss beneficiaries Expenditure Plans for 2015. These Expenditure Plans need to be completed annually as a requirement of the Sub Fund Agreements. They are designed to assist the Trustee to better understand the family dynamics and financial situation of beneficiary's and identify areas that can provide better health and wellbeing to the Yinhawangka community. The information provided by a beneficiary's is confidential and will not be passed on to other companies or institutions.

Details of the towns and dates we will be visiting will be advised soon.

Other News

As most communication is sent out to beneficiaries by the Myer Family Company is via SMS texts and emails, please ensure any changes to you mobile number or email address are immediately advised to the Myer Family Company. This can be done by phone however changes to postal addresses must be advised by letter.

Phone the Myer Family Company on 08 9230 7700 and ask for Taryn, Alice or Callum.

Email the Myer Family Company on perthadmin@mfc.com.au.

Write to the Myer Family Company at PO Box 307 Claremont WA 6910.

We look forward to working with you all in 2015!

The staff from the Myer Family Company will be conducting workshops in several Pilbara towns in the coming months



Introducing the Corporation's Administration Officer Tania Johnson



Hi, my name is Tania Johnson and my husband Shane and I have six robust boys.

I have been employed by the Yinhawangka Aboriginal Corporation since January of this year and I am enjoying the challenge of working for the Corporation and find the position very rewarding.

Our family loves Paraburdoo with it's beautiful wildflowers and we are very settled here. We also enjoy camping and are waiting for it to be a bit cooler so that we can spend some nights in our caravan.

I love to craft in my spare time and attend a local craft group every Saturday afternoon.

I look forward to meeting you all. I can be contacted on 9189 5139 or admin@yinhawangka.com.au

Want to have your say? BECOME A MEMBER

The Directors invite all Yinhawangka people to become members of the Corporation. Being a Member gives you the chance to have your say and vote at our Annual General Meetings or Special General Meetings and help develop and operate the organisation in a way that meets the needs of our people. Remember the Trust has Beneficiaries and not Members and that the Corporation has Members not Benficiaries.

If you are interested in becoming a Member of the Corporation, please contact Andrew Eastick on 0448 801 448 or implementation@yinhawangka.com.au.

The Membership Application Kit is also available to download from the Corporation's website yinhawangka.com.au.

Land Access Protocol

The RTIO and Yinhawangka People Claim Wide Participation Agreement (CWPA) refers to seven Regional Standards that RTIO and the People have agreed to cooperate and collaborate on.

They are:

- Business Development and Contracting
- Cultural Awareness Training
- Cultural Heritage Management
- Employment and Training
- Environmental Management
- Land Access
- Life of Mine Planning

An Implementation Plan, based on the Regional Standards, has been agreed between RTIO and the Yinhawangka Aboriginal Corporation and a number of actions in the Plan are or are about to be implemented.

One important Standard for Yinhawangka people is Land Access. To achieve the purpose of the Standard a start has been made on the development of a land access protocol for Yinhawangka country.

The land access protocol will identify places on RTIO managed land that Yinhawangka people have an important interest in or responsibility to visit, and sets out arrangements that enable easy and safe access to the place.

The first step in the development of the protocol is identifying the main places Yinhawangka people wish to access on their traditional lands. The Directors of the Corporation considered this at their meeting in Paraburdoo on 19 and 20 January and identified Magic Pool, Kangaroo Well, the Bellary Springs (Innawonga) Lore ground and Howies Hole.

To assist the development of the land access protocol the broader Yinhawangka people is asked to identify other important places.

If you have an important place that you would like to be considered in the protocol, or know of places that are important to members of your family please contact the Implementation Manager Andrew Eastick on 0448 801 448 or implementation@yinhawangka.com.au.



News from the Yinhawangka Working Group and Claim Group

The Yinhawangka Working Group was authorised at a Yinhawangka Native Title Claim Group meeting on 26 September 2013 and is to be re-authorised or elect Working Group members every two years.

The current members of the Working Group are Roma Butcher, Kathleen Condon, David Cox, Doreen James, Ken Injie Snr and Darren Injie (Jarndunha); Nicholas Cook, Rhonda Parker, Brendon Cook, Churchill Jones and Colletta Cooke (Minatangunha); and June Injie, Roy Tommy, Bradley Walker and G. Walker (dec) (Thurantajinha and Wilga).

The role of the Yinhawangka Working Group is to:

1. Negotiate native title and land access agreements and make recommendations to the Claim Group;
2. Provide instructions to YMAC on Future Acts (other than Future Acts covered by the RTIO Initial ILUA);
3. Provide instructions to YMAC on the progression of the Native Title Claims;
4. Nominate and elect the Yinhawangka member to the YMAC Pilbara Regional Committee;
5. Appoint the Heritage Sub-Committee (non-RTIO matters);
6. Consult with the Claim Group members and provide regular updates to their Yinhawangka family members.

Each apical ancestor group is entitled to equal representation.

The Yinhawangka Working Group meeting, held at Paraburdoo on 28 October 2014, was advised:

1. The Western Australian Government has agreed to

enter into negotiations towards a consent determination recognising that the Yinhawangka people hold non-exclusive native title rights in relation to the Yinhawangka Claim Areas A and B.

2. The Department of Lands has offered to create managed reserves over Lots 3000 & 3001 on Deposited Plan 51359 (Westside) and Lot 134 on Deposited Plan 93614 (Bellary Springs Community) with a management order giving care, control and management of the reserves to an approved body corporate. The creation of the managed reserves will require an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) between the State of Western Australia and the Yinhawangka Native Title Claimants. The Working Group supports the nomination of the Yinhawangka Aboriginal

Corporation as the Management Body. YMAC will convene a Claim Group meeting to consider the authorisation of the ILUA and appointment of a Management Body in mid-2015.

On 3 November 2014 the Working Group resolved that the transfer of cultural heritage management from YMAC to the Corporation should be considered at a workshop on this involving Heritage Sub Committee, YAC Board and Working Group members. The workshop was held at Paraburdoo on 24 February.

The Working Group also met with API on 29 October 2014, with BHP Billiton on 3 November 2014 and 25 March 2015, and the Claim Group met with API on 27 November 2014 to authorise a land access agreement for the West Pilbara Iron Ore – Hardey Project.



YMAC will convene a Claim Group meeting to consider the authorisation of the ILUA and appointment of a Management Body in mid-2015.



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