



NCAC News April 2018

NGAANYATJARRA
COUNCIL (Aboriginal Corporation) ICN: 101



NGAANYATJARRA COUNCIL NEWS

The Strategic Plan

The Ngaanyatjarra Strategic Plan (2018 – 2021) was officially approved by the Ngaanyatjarra board at the March 2018 board meeting in Warburton.

The plan contains information regarding the Ngaanyatjarra Council group, Ngaanyatjarra vision and goals, community commitments and operational outcomes.

The plan is owned by all community members and is the guide for decision-making in the provision of services, the direction of education, employment growth, community development and investment. The business areas of the NCAC, Health and Services, will develop KPIs and performance reporting arrangements for the NCAC Board that are aligned with its strategic direction.

The Ngaanyatjarra Strategic Plan is due to be reviewed every six months.

The Ngaanyatjarra Health Service

The board of the Ngaanyatjarra Health Service voted early in the year to remove the position of CEO from the organisation. The health service has instead employed a General Manager who will report directly to the Ngaanyatjarra Council CEO. This change effectively brings the Health Service back under the umbrella of the Ngaanyatjarra Council.

Clarissa (Crissy) Comerford has been appointed to the role of General Manager. Having previously held the role of Clinical

and Quality Nurse Manager, Crissy is well known on the Lands and the NHS board is looking forward to working with her.

Permits

Following Community consultations in November and clarification with the Board at the February meetings, changes to the permits have been recommended that would allow an easier faster transit permit to be approved along the Ngaanyatjarra Southern Road. This will allow visitors to go to the communities to the stores in Jameson, Blackstone, Wingellina during store opening hours.

Tjukurla Community have requested that tourists must travel the Sandy Blight Road via the community. In both cases they would like tourists to make use of the Community Store.

Tjirrkarli communities have also requested that tourists may travel via Tjirrkarli if heading out on the Heather Highway.

Other news

Welcome back also to Sian Neary who has returned to the role of CDP Program Manager. Sian is based in our Perth offices.

Phil Farmer is also returning to the lands to coordinate the Ngaanyatjarra Council Sports Program. Phil will be based in Jameson Community.



STAFF PROFILE: Cate Johnson

My name is Cate Johnson and I am the CDP Case manager in Warburton. Originally from New Zealand after training as a Chef, I relocated to Australia 16 years ago. I became fascinated with Australia's outback during a road trip and went on to get a job at a roadhouse in the Pilbara. After a short stint in Perth and some time volunteering overseas, I was drawn back to bush life.

My first post for Ngaanyatjarra Services was working at the community store in Yuendumu which taught me a lot before I was offered the CDP opportunity for Ngaanyatjarra Council.

My role in CDP requires me to get to know a wide range of community members and help them develop skills that are relatable to employment. It requires identifying barriers and helping people overcome them. This role satisfies my passion for helping people which I developed at an early age and have been fortunate to do for much of my career – from volunteering in underdeveloped countries to working with rescued Jaguars in South America.

What I find most rewarding about my job is helping people with goal setting, increasing their confidence and overcoming fear. I get fulfilment from seeing people giving things a go

and watching the self-pride that goes along with achievement. Some days are tough but there are always people in community that are supportive and give you a boost when you need it.

I have a great relationship with other agencies in Warburton as well as with my supportive co-workers who have a shared vision to identify the needs community and develop activities and programmes to get things done. It is great to be able share both frustrations and successes with them.

A lot people wonder why I choose to live in these remote places and take on these challenging roles, but life is an adventure with so many amazing places and cultures to experience. Even though I do miss the lazy Sunday brunch at my local café, I have really come to love this lifestyle and I believe life is what you make of it. There is so much good that can be done and wisdom to be shared and it is all about recognising the wins, no matter how small, and learning from the losses, to keep on improving and developing.

I see CDP as a programme that has so much positive potential and I enjoy being part of that process. We have great things to achieve out here and it is an honour to be along for the ride.

NHS: Award Nomination

Congratulations to the Ngaanyatjarra Health Service on their nomination as one of the finalists in the AGPAL Aboriginal Medical Service of the Year Award category.

The AGPAL Excellence Awards recognise and reward the commitment that general practices make to quality improvement within a health care setting.

To be selected as a finalist, Ngaanyatjarra Health Service had to submit a nomination form self-assessing against key criteria. The judging process was vigorous with a large number of nominations received.



NCRHP: Property Standards

Property standards is a big issue because with each inspection that gets done, Housing Authority will look at the inspections and if they think that the tenants are not keeping their houses clean enough, they will raise property standards actions against the tenants.

This means that the tenants will be required to sign more paperwork, for the household to join our Support and Tenancy Education Program (STEP) where the Tenancy Support Officer is then required to visit them weekly for a minimum of about three months, and secondly to sign an action plan to agree to clean their property.

The housing officer will also be required to conduct further inspections in shorter time frames and together with the STEP visits and the extra paperwork, this impacts the privacy of the tenants and their ability to live peacefully and undisturbed.

If the property standards inspections do not show any improvement in the cleanliness of the house then it may lead to breach notices and possible termination of their tenancies.

Property Standards promote healthy living. An unclean house is a haven for pests such as flies, cockroaches, mice and bacteria, which can cause illnesses, especially in the elderly and young children.

Keeping a house clean and tidy also improves mental health because it feels fresh and bright instead of dirty and dull.

Also if a house is clean and tidy, then the Housing Authority may look more favourably on any damage to the house. If the house is not well kept they are more likely to charge tenant liability because they assume that nothing is taken care of. Whereas a clean house which looks well cared for will be less likely to attract TL as they will assume accidental damage to small things like door knobs and broken lights.

If tenants would like more information on this then they can chat with our housing officers or tenancy support officers who visit their communities.



NCRHP

— NGAANYATJARRA —

COUNCIL Regional Housing Program

Better Living Better Health



Photos clockwise from top left: Betty West, Ninu, Cat sign north of Warburton, Fresh Ninu diggings.

LAND AND CULTURE: Ninu

by Hannah Hueneke and Betty West

During April the Ngaanyatjarra Rangers women's team have been monitoring ninu (bilby), looking for ninu at places they have lived in the past, and doing tracking surveys.

We are using the new Tracks App to record the information, so it can be put together with all the other Aboriginal rangers groups in Central Australia as part of a big Bilby Blitz project to learn more about how ninu are going. Some people are worried that cats, foxes, and changes in burning might make it hard for ninu.

During a survey near Ranges, Betty West told the rangers that she had never hunted ninu, but she told a story about one, and this is how it went:

"At Kanpa, I went for a walk, when I was good (healthy), I went around, seen a ninuku (bilby's) hole, big one, fresh one. The fire went in, flame, it must be that ninu (bilby). Fresh one, lovely one. Made a own hole. Like a tirnkaku (sand goanna's) hole.

I thought tirnka (sand goanna), that pirti (hole, burrow). And I had a crowbar, and I been digging, 'where this hole going? Goanna?'

I bumped into something strange. I got the shovel and dig it with the shovel and I see, no! Strange one! That's a little ninu (bilby)! Baby one! But it's shoulder, crowbar (it was injured by the crowbar in the shoulder). I (had) thought 'that's a tirnka (goanna)'

Yuwa, and I got that ninu, take him home, I took that little ninu home to Kanpa. Yuwa, I been show it to my little grandchildren.

They was looking, strange little animal, all the kids. They was saying 'mingkiri', rat. And I said, no, that's a ninu. Yuwa, then it finished, that afternoon, sundown, finished, because he had a shoulder, pika (injury). Yuwa, in Kanpa. Yuwa, sad story. Palya."



Clockwise from top left: Ronald hunt skinning the camel on the field. the camel company team (Jarrod and Dave) and WoC rangers Nathan smith, Ronald Hunt and Warwick Simm, Denise Hunt and Sherma Newberry process the meat, different cuts from butchering and mincing.

LAND AND CULTURE: Camel Hunting

by Alessandro Ramasco

On Thursday 15/2/2018 the Working on Country men's team - rangers Ronald Hunt, Warwick Simms, Nathan Smith and coordinator Alessandro Ramasco - went on a bush trip South East of Warburton – Snake Well area led by the Ngaanyatjarra Camel Company.

The Ngaanyatjarra Camel Company musters camels in the Ngaanyatjarra lands for meat export. They often work collaboratively with the Working on Country rangers to manage feral camels and shoot camels for meat. There have not been many camels around Warburton in the last year, so this was a new activity for three of the team. The Camel Company workers were in town, so a hunting and butchering activity was organised and carried out as part of the training and skills development Indigenous Protected Area work plan activity.

Feral camel management reduces environmental threats and damage. It also aims to train local indigenous people in how to take advantage of this great food resource and possible economic and trade development of the camel meat industry. To be able to hunt and butcher a camel is a great skill and the rangers are keen to work on this part of the program.

The teams left early in the morning and head off towards Snake Well. After half an hour driving, three camels were spotted and the teams decided to follow them. Then the camels joined a bigger group and the Land & Culture and Ngaanyatjarra Camel

Company vehicles were chasing a group of about 15 camels and two bulls were shot.

“This was my first time assisting camel shooting”, Warwick said. “I only shoot kangaroos all my life and emus and turkeys. There is more feeling when you shoot a camel. It is a big animal. I got hurt [sad]. But I will get used to it. It is part of my job”.

Then we started to butcher the main parts and clean the camel. We loaded the car with four massive camel legs, some nice back straps, hump fat and Alessandro also picked up the liver.

“It was fun. It is good to get back straps. We also get scraps for the dogs that are hungry and skinny and need good meat”, Mr Hunt said.

“To skin a camel is a big thing. The throat is cut, and then make a hole in the stomach. I did it with Michael Carnegie and Leroy Lawson. But first time with these blokes from the Ngaanyatjarra Camel Company”.

Nathan Smith was enthusiastic. “If there is another chance, I would do it again” he said.

After hanging in the cool room, the meat is ready for processing. Mr Hunt and the Working on Country - women's team start the second part of the job. The meat is butchered into tasty steaks, and all other sorts of good cuts including mince.



NHS: Public Health

Moana Tane is the Public Health Manager of the Ngaanyatjarra Health Service – Moana is based in Warakurna. Since coming to Warakurna in May 2017, Moana had this to say about her time with Ngaanyatjarra Health:

Since moving to the Lands last year, I have loved being here and find the work so interesting and fulfilling. I've had lots of opportunities to meet and talk with the Yarnangu in communities and schools and have learned much from local men and women, who have patiently explained important aspects of culture and lore to me. Their patience and teaching has really contributed to my feeling comfortable and welcomed, in this beautiful place. I look forward to our journey together, working and walking hand in hand.

The Public Health teams of the Ngaanyatjarra Health Service implement programs with a wellbeing focus including treatment, prevention and community-development as a way of improving the health outcomes of Yarnangu.

There are five public health programs that operate on the Ngaanyatjarra Lands:

- Alcohol and other drugs (AOD)
- Environmental Health
- Mental Health
- Personal Helpers and Mentors (PHaMS)
- Tackling Indigenous Smoking

SPORT: Irrunytju Kungka goes far



Nare Tukere-Jones is a born and bred Wingellina kungka who has been selected for the under 13s girls' softball team representing New Zealand. The competition will be held in Canada and America in August.

Nare Te Ngarua Ataahua Inyalangka Tukere-Jones was first exposed to softball in Irrunytju community when she was about two years old. She would go with her mother Hinerangi Tukere, to the Irrunytju Kungka softball team practices who was a player and a referee. Over the years, Nare would attend football and softball carnivals with Hinerangi in Pipalyatjara Community in South Australia, and when Irrunytju Kungka practised for events around the NPY Lands, Nare also attended practises, watching and learning how to play. When the Ngaanyatjarra Womens' Softball Association started, Nare and all the girls of Irrunytju attended trainings and worked on learning new skills and playing with the women. Even when not participating, Nare and the girls of Irrunytju would be right there, sitting with their team, supporting them with cheers and minding the younger children.

For Nare softball, wasn't just a sport, it was a place where she could spend time with her friends, her sisters, her cousins, her Aunties and her Nannas. Softball was also a place where she learned about family, who she belonged to and where she belonged apart from her parents. Nare is very proud to be Anangu from Irrunytju Community of the Ngaanyatjarra Lands.



Visitors

On Monday 9th April the Ngaanyatjarra team in the Perth office enjoyed a visit from a group of Warburton College staff and students.

Anjelica McLean, Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku Youth Officer, together with Nikki Byrne, Teacher from Warburton College, travelled from Warburton to Perth on the invitation of Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia (AHCWA) to attend their Annual State Sector Conference.

Anjelica and Nikki were accompanied by Laurelle, Teachers Assistant and Warburton College students Brooke and Kiarna. The students attended the AHCWA Conference to assist in identifying issues affecting youth in Warburton and to help be a part of the creating solutions.

Whilst in Perth the group certainly maximised their time. They visited Softball WA and enjoyed joining in on a training session

with the Diamonds. Additionally, they visited UWA School of Indigenous Studies which they found extremely interesting! The group were fortunate enough to also have the opportunity to attend the WA Museum's National Indigenous Artefacts, although the main facility is closed for renovations, and the Fremantle Arts centre.

We, here in the Perth office, were fortunate the group also took time in their busy schedule to visit the Ngaanyatjarra Council Perth offices for afternoon tea and found out of what type of work we do to support the Ngaanyatjarra Communities. The students enjoyed their visit to our office and getting an insight into 'office life' which they had said that they would like to perhaps work here one day.

It was a pleasure hosting our lovely visitors and wish them all the best for their promising futures.

CDP: Warburton

The CDP men have constructed Whisper Phones for the 5-6 class at the Warburton School. The phones are made out of PVC piping. CDP liaised with Miss D from the 5-6 class and came up with the design. The men cut the pipe to size and glued the angles onto the end.

The whisper Phones were then beautifully decorated by the woman in the CDP arts centre. The Whisper Phones are designed to help children read independently, they enable the kids to listen to themselves without others hearing.

A wonderfully cost effective resource for the 5-6 Class.

Big shout out to the men and women from CDP Warburton.

Clockwise from below: Nathan Smith and Leece Giles, Maxine West, Cindy Robertson and Cecily Turner, Dan Clyde-Smith, Miss D and the Warburton 5-6 Class.



MEETING CALENDAR 2018

FEBRUARY

21st Council Members

22nd Council Directors

MARCH

21st Council Members

22nd Council Directors

APRIL

MAY

16th Council Members

17th Council Directors

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

15th Council Members

16th Council Directors

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

24th Council AGM

25th Council Directors

NOVEMBER

21st Council Members

22nd Council Directors