

WELCOME TO THE FEBRUARY EDITION OF KMAC NEWS

2018

STAFF UPDATES

Welcome to the New Year. 2018 is already shaping up to be very significant for Kuruma Marthudunera People. Details are yet to be finalised but there are very good prospects that the State Government will agree to a settlement of Part B of the KM Native title claim perhaps as early as the first half of this year.

At the moment we are commencing the process of developing a Caring for Country Plan. This is important because it will provide a guide about how and who can access country, what can be done there, how we can protect KM cultural heritage and preserve the natural environment for the future. It will also include important aspects of water management, controlling feral animals, conservation of endangered animal species, controlling invasive weeds and how KM people might use the land.

We also know already that our survey teams are going to be very busy as mining companies plan for activities over 2018.

Finally we are hoping to recommence the Business Planning Assistance Fund to help members who are in business or who have business ideas they want to explore.

Charlotte will not be returning to KMAC in 2018 as she has successfully obtained a traineeship elsewhere. We wish her all the best with her future endeavours & thank her for being part of the KMAC office. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Jaylene for her contribution to KMAC in her role as Cultural Heritage Officer. Jaylene will continue to undertake duties at KMAC on a casual basis, however we are now looking for a fulltime female Cultural Heritage Officer to join the team.

Aoife has returned back to KMAC after having her first child. "Will and I are delighted to announce the arrival of our baby son, Davin Gaffney. He has been very busy training up his new parents who are enjoying every moment of this new experience. Thank you for your well wishes and support and I look forward to introducing Davin to you all."

FINAL GOODBYES TO DIRECTORS & WELCOMING OF NEW DIRECTORS

After 4 years, we say goodbye to three directors that have been very influential in the build of KMAC. Josie Alec, Patrick Jacobs & Deanna McGowan. Jose & Deanna had exceeded their term up in November of 2017. Josie Alec has now become a director on KML board, whilst still managing her own business. Deanna is pursuing work within the Roebourne Community. Patrick is completing his final semester of university and will start looking for employment once completed. He hopes to return to the Pilbara. We would like to thank them greatly for their hard work, commitment and passion they all brought to the board. We wish them all the best for their future endeavours.

At the AGM, two new directors have been added to the board to come under each apical line. Please welcome Elaine James and Aiden Irvine.





GOOD NEWS STORIES OF 2017



Shianne Bin Sali was crowned the Pilbara Girl winner on the Friday 13th October. After a week of intense self-determination workshops ended in a fashion catwalk at Goolarri Media.



Through the IPS program, Owen Boona has successfully signed up to undertake a Certificate 2 in construction. This will hopefully be his first step into an apprenticeship and further training in the construction industry.



Shaniece Ball graduating Year 12 at Karratha Senior High School. We would also like to congratulate the other graduating KM kids, Malik Churnside, Daniel Farmer, Tara Slater, and Andrew James Jnr.



Geraiyah Wiggan was one of 12 young WA leaders selected to fly top Hong Kong for an International Youth Exchange Program. The program gives the attendees the opportunity to develop their understanding of a different culture and make networks for their career goals.





GOOD NEWS STORIES OF 2017

KMAC presented our very own Cultural Awareness training to Rio Tinto & contractors.

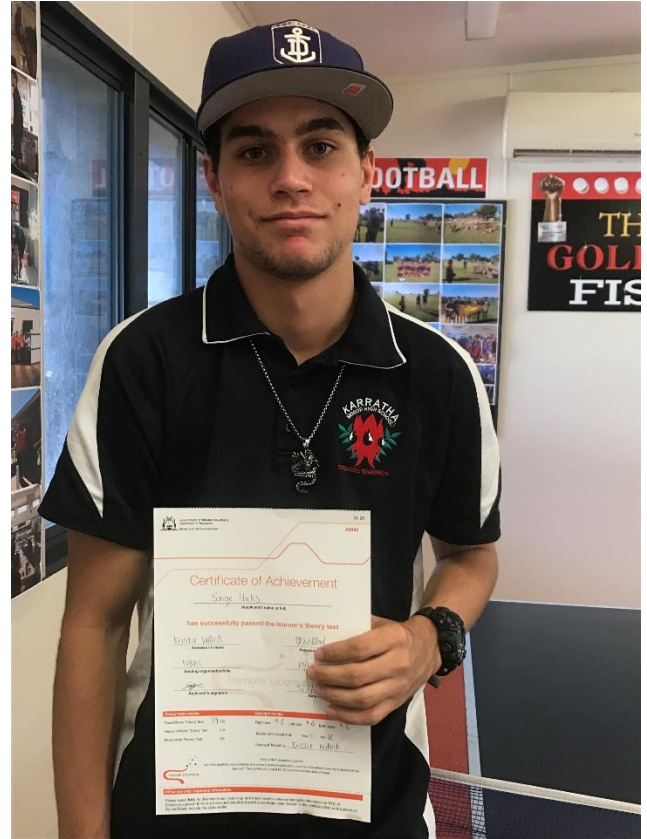


Brendon Bobby, Aiden Irvine, Arnold Bobby & Royce Evans flew to Perth and completed their Chemical Application course.



Josie Alec has had a massive year! Established her own bush medicines through Indiji Arts. She was then selected to participate in an intensive two – month Indigenous Business Accelerator program and won second place. She was then chosen to represent Australia at the Overseas Talent Entrepreneur Program in Beijing

Saige Hicks successfully obtained his Leainers permit in October.



Royce Evans and Elaine James attended the Native Title Conference in Cairns on the 5th – 7th June 2017.



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Calling all KM artists! We are looking at getting new KMAC t-shirts designed for the Part B Determination that will be coming up early this year. There will be no cash prize, however if we receive a number of submissions, there will be an opportunity for different designs to feature on our KMAC t-shirts and hats. Closing date is 2nd March.

YMAC MEETING

Notice of YMAC Community Meeting to authorise the final Robe River Kuruma consent determination offer! This is an important meeting! 2nd March at the Ibis. If you have any queries contact YMAC on (08) 9268 7000.

RIO TINTO INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT COASTAL TEAM

The Indigenous Employment coastal team celebrated an important milestone for one of its members today. Indigenous Support Officer, Tuesday Lockyer, who is a Kuruma Marthudunera traditional owner, has been recognised for her valuable contribution to the business and the community for the past ten years.

Acting Superintendent Indigenous Employment, Jillian Harris, thanked Tuesday for her involvement in the community and advocacy and leadership for Aboriginal culture.

“Tuesday plays a huge part in organising NAIDOC events every year and is spoken about wide and far across the Pilbara,” said Jill.

“Everybody wants to go Pannawonica for NAIDOC day. “ Jill also gave appreciation on behalf of the team for the nurturing side of Tuesday.

“She is the mother of team looking after everybody, making sure that everyone is well fed and watered. But if you ask me she spoils them way too much.”

The team also said goodbye to Natasha Ball, who decided it was time to take on a new career pathway.

Natasha has worked for Rio Tinto for the past 7-years and has been the Superintendent Indigenous Employment (Coast) for four years of that time.

The team held a small morning tea for Natasha this morning and thanked her for her leadership, guidance and support. She was presented with a special painting by Tuesday Lockyer.

Natasha said she has enjoyed her time at Rio Tinto.

“I feel extremely proud and privileged to have been a part of some of Rio Tinto’s achievements, particularly the highlight of meeting the 12.2% PAP target.”

Natasha will commence in her new role at the YMCA as General Manager, Pilbara in two weeks.

We wish her all the best in the next chapter of her career.

2018 EVENTS

This year looks to be an exciting and prosperous year. The Native Title Conference is being held in Broome this year. Giving the chance for staff and directors to attend because of the closeness. This year’s theme is ‘Many Laws, One Land: legal and political co-existence’. It acknowledges that any one place in Australia, different systems of law exist. The theme marks 25 years since the passing of the Native Title Act 1993 and represents the confluence of these laws as they relate to title of land and waters. The conference aims to promote public debate, foster knowledge and sharing between native title holders and other parties.

CULTURAL HERITAGE OFFICER

An opportunity has arisen to join the Kuruma Marthudunera Aboriginal Corporation (KMAC) as a full time Cultural Heritage Officer. Reporting to the Cultural Heritage Manager, the role is based in our Karratha office. Get in touch if you would like to know more!



Natasha Ball & Tuesday Lockyer

