

GUMALA NEWSLETTER

1 March, 2017



GUMALA
FOUNDATION
working together



Devina Ranger reading to her children Marlin and Harmony Chadd at the 3a centre at Wakuthuni

3a – Setting kids up to grow into strong adults

In 2011 Gumala Aboriginal Corporation developed a unique Early Childhood Centre and learning program at our remote community at Wakuthuni, thanks to an innovative partnership with The University of Melbourne and Tom Price Primary School.

The Abecedarian Approach Australia (3a) is a collection of teaching and learning strategies, and has been developed by world-renowned academic Professor Joseph Sparling and his associates. Since 2011, the 3a Project has expanded across the Pilbara and Gumala now has 3a Centres in many towns and remote communities in the north-west.

The 3a Project uses learning strategies which incorporate educational games, conversational reading and enriched care giving. The approach also assists parents through education on appropriate care-giving and learning activities for their children.

"0-4 years is a crucial time in a child's development," Gumala's 3a Coordinator Julie Christine said.

"Historically, children in remote communities haven't had access to quality early childhood education, but now they're getting the same support as children in larger regional towns," Julie said.

In 2016 the program moved to the centre of Karratha and began working in collaboration with the Baynton West Primary School. All Aboriginal children aged 0-4 are welcome at the centre.

With a highly experienced staff and support team in place, a real and appreciable impact is being made in the local community. Attendance numbers are up, thanks in part to the support with The Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation with bus transportation.

"We've found that parents and the community acknowledge the importance of early childhood education and fully support the 3a programme," Julie said.

"They have a great desire for their child to succeed in life and understand their roles in building the capacity of their children so they grow into strong adults."

Joint GAC Chairperson and EO Report



Steven W. Dhu (Chairperson)



Jahna Cedar (Executive Officer)

Thannarru,

Welcome to the latest edition of Gumala's Newsletter and the first for this year.

The GAC Board and Management are excited at the prospects before our Corporation in 2017. We appreciate it is a time of potential change but we remain confident that any such changes can be carried out professionally and in a manner that does not impact on our services or member programs. This includes the outcome to the expiration of GIPL's term as trustee on 27 February 2017.

The GAC board appointed Jahna Cedar, a Nyiyaparli/Yindjibarndi woman, as the Executive Officer to the Corporation in December 2016. Jahna has extensive business management and advocacy experience that will be an asset to the achievement of our strategic goals, which were confirmed by the board late last year. The appointment of Jahna marks a historic and important step towards self-determination. She is the first Gumala member EO and the first female to lead our organisation and we wish her the very best in her role.

This year we hope to revitalise the member programs on offer and look forward to the outcomes of the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) to be held by GIPL, where the notion of cash payments to members will again be tabled for consideration. Should the vote be in favour, then 40% of available income becomes available to direct member payments, with the remainder to be used on core business programs. The past arrangement of numerous member benefit categories saw the business spending \$2 for each \$1 administered to the member. This means, members were losing 50% of available income to administration costs. Cash payments will decrease the administrative burden on the income received.

GAC are also excited that 2017 marks the 20-year anniversary of the signing of the Yandi Land Use Agreement. This momentous occasion will be celebrated, in partnership with Rio Tinto, with an event in the middle of the year that also acknowledges the important role the original signatories played in the establishment of Gumala. It is also the 10-year anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Declaration of Indigenous people. The values set at this international gathering are those that we strive to uphold and embody in our business.

The Corporation also acknowledges the completion of requirements under the compliance notice issued by ORIC in 2016 and that the notice period is now complete. We reiterate that many of the actions requested by the Registrar were already completed, before the notice was issued, and therefore we are working on a review by the Administration Appeals Tribunal in March.

GAC is proud to be a platinum sponsor of the 2017 Karijini Experience, to be held on the lands of the Banyjima people from 11-15 April 2017. For more information on what to expect and activities planned for the experience, please visit www.karijiniexperience.com. Gumala is proud to sponsor this significant cultural event which has had great success in previous years.

As many of you may have seen, GAC issued an opinion piece in relation to the gift card distribution that was sensationalised by the media earlier this year. As a corporation, we invite your feedback on whether you believe GAC should tell you how to spend any future financial distribution. Feel free to send your comments through to gac@gumala.com.au and they will be tabled



L-r: Jahna Cedar GAC EO, Steven Dhu GAC Chairperson and Mel Wharton GEPL CEO at Rocklea Station

at a board meeting for consideration. It is important that we hear our members' concerns and opinions and address them accordingly.

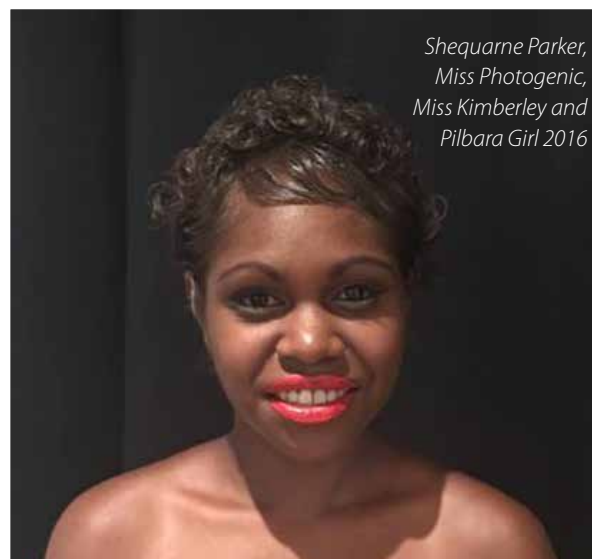
Under the YLUA, Rocklea Station and Juna Downs are available to GAC to sub lease and run on a commercial pastoral basis. As such, GAC intends to submit an EOI to proceed with this option, and we recently attended Rocklea station along with representatives of RTIO and the CEO of GEPL to carry out inspections on stock, infrastructure and water points.

The vision for our pastoral management initiative includes objectives to increase traditional owner employment; engage Yinhawangka and Banyjima to conduct clearances and heritage management plans; ensure access to each relevant language group for cultural purposes; and derive income from a source other than the trustee that can be distributed to the membership. Moving forward, should our offer be accepted by RTIO, GAC will speak directly to the Banyjima and Yinhawangka traditional owners about cultural engagement and employment opportunities.

On a final note, it is with great sadness that we confirm the passing of the GAC Health Manager Mrs. Morley. This tragic news has shocked not only staff who worked closely with her, but also those members who dealt with her during her time in member services. We send our thoughts to her family during this time.

Kind Regards,

**STEVEN W. DHU (CHAIRPERSON)
AND JAHNA CEDAR (EXECUTIVE OFFICER)**



*Shequarne Parker,
Miss Photogenic,
Miss Kimberley and
Pilbara Girl 2016*

Shequarne Parker

Gumala would like to congratulate Shequarne Parker for winning Miss Photogenic at the Miss Kimberley and Pilbara Girl 2016 competition.

Shequarne is the great granddaughter of a well-respected and influential Banyjima Elder who is not only an original signatory to the Yandi Land Use Agreement but was instrumental in the establishment and success of Youngaleena community where his children still continue to proudly live.

Program co-ordinator Tamara BinAmat said Pilbara Girl aimed to provide young Indigenous women from the region with valuable educational opportunities to instigate positive change in their personal and professional capacity, while also showcasing Indigenous culture.

"The event really promotes understanding and respect for the Indigenous culture from the wider community by representing our young people in a positive environment and aiding the overall process of reconciliation," she said.

In the weeks leading up to the heat, the girls participated in a series of self-development workshops which focused on self-esteem building, grooming and hygiene, health and communication and public speaking.

"To really apply everything that they've learnt about confidence in the workshops and come out and show their community that they've learnt how to be leaders and role models is a really wonderful accomplishment," she said.

Chairperson response to coverage of GAC's festive gift cards

The class gap is growing in Australia.

The delineation between the "haves" and the "have nots" is becoming more pronounced, particularly in Aboriginal communities, and people are genuinely suffering financially.

Christmas time can only exacerbate this issue.

In December, Gumala Aboriginal Corporation decided to make a goodwill gesture to ensure there was some festive cheer for our members, including food on the table, clothes on their backs and toys for their kids.

We distributed 882 \$200 gift vouchers to members across Australia that could be redeemed at a range of outlets.

But our generosity has been met with criticism in media reports that Coles gift cards, some individually valued at \$1500, were distributed by two unnamed Aboriginal corporations and were used to buy copious amounts of alcohol.

Police reported that the purchases had caused a flood of anti-social behaviour, with Senior Sergeant Dean Snashall claiming there had been a significant spike in the number of alcohol-related assaults in South Hedland.

But this media coverage does not tell the full story.

Let it be clear – Gumala Aboriginal Corporation does not condone or encourage alcoholism and anti-social behaviour in any form. These issues are a blight on society no matter where we live.

Contrary to police comments, the gift cards distributed by Aboriginal corporations have not created this problem.

Alcohol and drug abuse is a long-running and widespread issue fought by many Australian communities, both indigenous and non-indigenous.

We will not be held accountable for a small minority who may have used gift cards to buy alcohol.

Further, where are the cold hard facts that the release of these gift cards has contributed to this community problem? I challenge police to come good with some solid statistics that show a correlation.

Moreover, without facts or clear indicative research we should not be shamed by journalists seeking to sensationalise a sensitive issue in the Pilbara.

Any journalist worth their salt knows one of the fundamentals of reporting is balance – to get both sides

of the story. Yet, no comment was sought from the two nameless Aboriginal corporations referred to in the stories, nor from Gumala Aboriginal Corporation.

Let's not forget there are many other voices that also deserve to be heard.

What this boils down to is education – education about alcohol and drug use and abuse.

Gift cards are also about financial literacy – empowering people to make their own financial decisions.

We are not living in the "ration days" like our forefathers, lining up for food, and I do not advocate going back to those days.

Gumala has received dozens of messages and thanks from grateful members who used the gift cards to buy clothes for their children, presents for their families and food.

At the end of the day, Gumala is about self-determination, not micro-managing our members.

We cannot parent grown men and women.

We cannot be accountable for how members choose to spend their money, just like mining giants are not responsible for how its employees and executives spend their bonuses.

In the aftermath of the media coverage, we have seen keyboard warriors saturate social media with disgusting and hurtful racial remarks.

This story was a cheap shot. It was sensationalist reporting at its best and a one-sided portrayal of a serious community issue.

It's time for police to stop passing blame and for us to accept responsibility as a united community. It's time to move forward collaboratively to make a change.

If there is true community concern, I invite WA Police, government agencies and other Aboriginal corporations to meet and work collaboratively to address the multitude of issues in the Pilbara.

And now that Senior Sergeant Snashall and police have raised their concerns about the welfare of Port Hedland's Aboriginal community, we urge them to come clean about the death in custody of Miss Dhu, whose family are Gumala members, and her mistreatment in a South Hedland Police Station cell in her last days.

STEVEN DHU – GUMALA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION CHAIRPERSON

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! DO YOU THINK GAC SHOULD TELL YOU HOW TO SPEND YOUR MONEY? EMAIL US AT [GAC@GUMALA.COM.AU](mailto:gac@gumala.com.au)



GAC bus driver (Bruce Mahy) and three students from the Tom Price Follow The Dream Program: Zaykeas Carey (Yinhawangkga), Shakira Carey (Yinhawangkga) and Parys Cook (Yinhawangkga).

Follow the Dream Partnership for Success continues to support students

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) continues to support the Tom Price Follow the Dream Partnership for Success (FTDPFS) program under a five year funding agreement with The Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation that began in 2013.

Located at the Enrichment Centre known as Garnjurru Mirnumurri Ngurr – unga (Children's Learning Place) in North Road, Tom Price, the program delivers after school tutor support, career planning and resilience building activities to support the education journey of participating students, enabling them to reach their full potential. In addition to GAC, the program is supported by Rio Tinto and the Western Australian Department of Education. GAC and the other partners are represented on the local governing Steering Committee that meets quarterly to review the program.

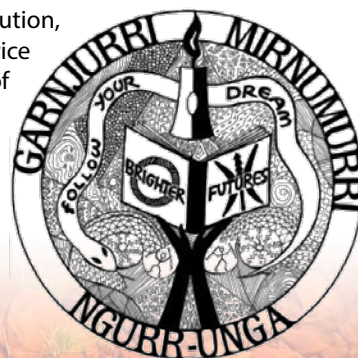
Tutors and other support are sourced from nearby Tom Price Senior High (TPSHS), with whom the program works closely. The Program Coordinator of the Tom Price FTDPFS,

Joe Manning, is also a member of the Senior Leadership Team at TPSHS.

In Term Four of 2016 there were 29 students enrolled in the program, including three from Paraburdoo and five from Wakathuni. This was 50.8% of the total of 57 Indigenous students at Tom Price Senior High School.

The average school attendance of students in the program in 2016 was 83% (compared to 67.4% for all Indigenous secondary public school students in Western Australia).

In addition to its grant contribution, the GAC bus based at Tom Price also facilitates transport of students in both the secondary program and at the Tom Price After School Learning Club at Tom Price Primary School under a cost sharing arrangement with The Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation.



20th Anniversary of the Yandi Land Use Agreement

GAC would like to acknowledge that this March marks the 20 year anniversary of the signing of the groundbreaking Yandi Land Use Agreement.

After many months of negotiations and meetings, the Yandi Land Use Agreement was ratified by a community meeting and signed in Tom Price on March 1, 1997. The first major land use agreement signed in Australia, the Agreement provided a comprehensive framework for protecting Aboriginal culture and promoting economic development.

It was a testament to the willingness of the Traditional Owners and Hamersley Iron (a subsidiary of Rio Tinto) to work together in "sharing country". Over the last 20 years, the Agreement has provided funding opportunities that have allowed GAC to pursue numerous projects aimed at improving our communities and the lives of our Members.

We will be marking the anniversary with events throughout the upcoming year. We would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the success of the Agreement and look forward to the possibilities and opportunities the future holds for our Members.

The story of the Yandi Land Use Agreement published in 2012 for the 15 anniversary



EOI

MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE 20 year celebration

GAC is seeking Expressions of Interest for a Member Representative to sit on a Yandi Land Use Agreement 20 year anniversary celebration planning committee. The committee will consist of GAC directors and RTIO representatives.

The Member Representative must be able to meet weekly via teleconference, have knowledge of the YLUA signing and Gumala history. This will be a voluntary role with no sitting fees paid.

Interested members can submit an EOI to the GAC Board detailing why they would be an asset to the committee by emailing jobs@gumala.com.au

EOI

20 year celebration T-shirt artwork competition

GAC is holding a competition for artwork that will be used for a commemorative t-shirt marking the 20 year anniversary of the Yandi Land Use Agreement. The

prize for the winning artwork selected for the design is

\$800. For more information about the competition and to submit a design, please email gac@gumala.com.au



Wakuthuni Yarning Days

Service providers and community came together to discuss community issues and collaboration in February at the Wakuthuni Yarning Day.

The program was designed and run by GAC staff member Mrs Morley (Name withheld for cultural sensitivity) and will be repeated by service providers in different communities in the future.

A big thanks to Nintirri who have had programs in this community for many years. Now with a collective collaboration from services such as Ninitirri, Mission Australia, IBN and Gumala, we can all be proud of the efforts being made to make changes towards healthier communities.

If there is a yarning day advertised in your community please come along, say hello and stay for a barbecue. It is a worthwhile event.

Country Age Fuel Card Scheme

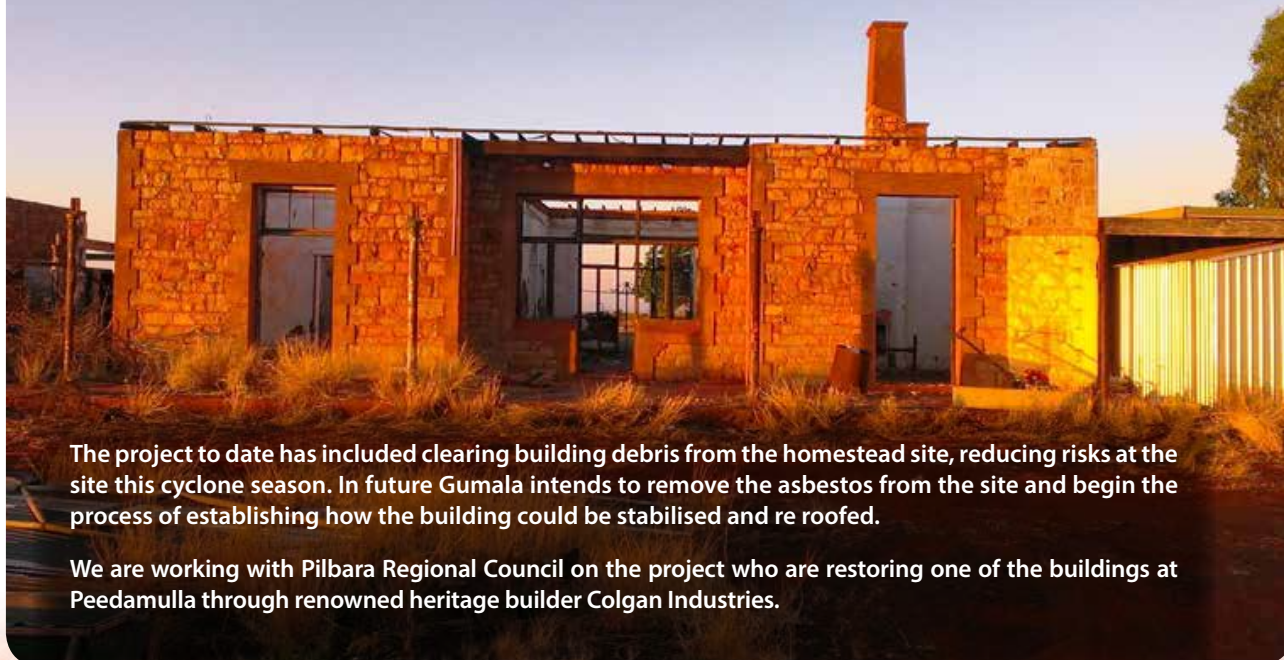
Country pensioners do not have access to metropolitan levels of public transport and often have to rely on their own means to travel to access essential services.

The Country Age Pension Fuel Card provides eligible pensioners with up to \$575 a year towards the cost of fuel and/or taxi travel from participating providers to offer more support for the transport needs of eligible pensioners living in country areas.

The Country Age Pension Fuel Card Scheme is funded by the State Government's Royalties for Regions program and administered by the Department of Transport. For more information and enquires, please phone 1300 666 609 or email enquiries@wexaustralia.com

Peedamulla Homestead Repairs

22 years after a cyclone devastated Peedamulla Homestead, the site of the Jundaru Banyjima Community, Gumala is pitching in to make the place safe for Jundaru residents.



The project to date has included clearing building debris from the homestead site, reducing risks at the site this cyclone season. In future Gumala intends to remove the asbestos from the site and begin the process of establishing how the building could be stabilised and re roofed.

We are working with Pilbara Regional Council on the project who are restoring one of the buildings at Peedamulla through renowned heritage builder Colgan Industries.

An Eventful Day in Paraburdoo

The 17th of September 2016 was an eventful day for GAC who held a consultation meeting, their annual general meeting and a cultural showcase all in one day! Everyone was looking great in their Gumala t-shirts and the kids had a wonderful day playing games and engaging in activities, while The Spinifex Express warmed up for a stellar performance that drove the crowds wild!

The consultation meeting gave rise to some important feedback from the Membership, including the following highlights with progress updates:

- A plea for dialysis within the Ashburton region so that our Elders do not have to leave their homelands for medical assistance; GAC is currently looking into partnerships and how it can make this request a reality.
- Requests for the upskilling and employment of our Membership in GAC, GIPL and GEPL; GAC has traineeship and internship programs in place that try to address this request, however are looking at more ways we can focus on upskilling and employment opportunities for Members. GAC currently employ 4 Traditional Owners and 1 Traditional owner intern.
- A strong call for Elders to take a leadership role in the business by reinstating the Elders Advisory Committee; GAC has passed a committee charter and is forming the advisory committee before the end of the financial year. Elders please look out for notices around expressions of interest for this committee.
- Concerns about quarterly acquittals and funding in arrears and requested GAC meet with

GIPL about the impact of the process; GAC have voiced this concern to GIPL in writing.

- There was an overwhelming majority support towards the proposition to change the Trust Deed to allow for direct benefit payments. The Trustee Board tabled a special resolution for these amendments at its general meeting in October.



Finally, the day was closed with the cultural showcase, where family and friends came together to celebrate their culture and to relax with good food and some entertainment. A beautiful Kangaroo Stew with rice and damper was prepared by GAC Member

Cecilia Parker and GAC staff prepared a yummy chicken curry with rice. After a good feed and a catch up, everyone was mesmerised by the amazing and talented voice of GAC Member, Mr. David Ward. It was a spectacular day!



THE TRUSTEE AGM IN KARRATHA & REQUISITION NOTICE

Following the strong feedback received from beneficiaries at the GAC consultation meeting in September regarding direct benefits, the Trustee placed a special resolution on its agenda for the necessary changes to the Trust Deed to permit the distribution of direct benefits to beneficiaries from the Trust. The resolution was not passed by the beneficiaries. In the days following the meeting in Karratha, the Trustee received a notice from beneficiaries requiring the Trustee to consult more widely on the changes to the Deed. As a result of that notice, the Trustee will call a meeting of beneficiaries for the 26th March in South Hedland. Please watch out for the notice relating to this meeting.

Other outcomes from the Trustee meeting were a request for a GGF wide travel policy for Member & Beneficiary group meetings to be put in place. This policy has been drafted and approved by the Trustee Board and is due to go to the next GAC Board meeting. This policy is available for viewing at <http://www.gumalatrust.com/policies/>.



School Attendance Incentive Program

Commencing in July 2016, Gumala has been rewarding students with an incentive program aimed at encouraging good participation for all children in primary and secondary school.

At the end of each school term, children collect their personal attendance records from their school. Their parents then send in the record with an application form to enter the competition. If the attendance record is at or above 85% for the term, children go into the draw to win an iPad (with cover and antivirus security) or a cash prize of \$250.

Each term Gumala rewards five primary and five secondary school students drawn randomly from a pool of entrants. In order to enter, parents will need to send proof of attendance and an application form into GAC by the due dates. Applications are due on 18th April for Term 1 and 7th July for Term 2. The draw will be held on 26th April for Term 1 entrants and on 14th July for Term 2 entrants.

TERM 4 - 2016 WINNERS

High School:

- Tariq Yu
- Arleah Simpson
- Damiris Simpson
- Christopher Drage
- Tasmin Yu

Primary School:

- Jason Dann
- Daniel Franklin
- Roland Simpson
- Marco Sabbioni
- Clinton Cooke

TERM 3 - 2016 WINNERS

High School:

- Bree Whitby
- Justin Whitby
- Harrison White
- Latarah Little

Primary School:

- Bailey White
- Bianca Broadwidth
- Jaiden Carter
- Melakia Carter
- Elly Sara

For more information and to obtain an entry form, please contact Education Manager Nikita Mulder on 9188 4500 or email gac@gumala.com.au

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation is one of the largest Aboriginal Corporations in Australia, and seeks to alleviate poverty through proactive measures to achieve economic, social and community development.

BUILD YOUR FUTURE NOW with help from Rio Tinto

WORK READINESS OPPORTUNITIES AT YANDI

Rio Tinto has several opportunities at Yandi for Traditional Owners looking for work readiness.

The program provides comprehensive pre-employment training to help job seekers address barriers to employment, build on their strengths and receive training that can lead to employment.

Positions available range from mining to process plant roles. If you have the drive and determination to succeed, there could be an opportunity for you.

All positions are FIFO, and will build up to a two weeks on, one week off roster. There is a possibility to consider DIDO, dependent on your home town.

Applicants should ideally have a drivers' licence – or the potential to obtain one – and must be able to pass drug and alcohol testing.

If you're interested in taking on a bigger role, now is the time to send through your resume or to register an Expression of Interest.

Employment opportunities

Rio Tinto recently launched the Individual Placement and Support programme, which provides personalised and dedicated support to Pilbara Traditional Owners in finding local employment opportunities.

If you're keen to start working but have been unsuccessful in applying for jobs through mainstream employment pathways, or have limited work experience, we want to hear from you.

The programme provides support to overcome employment barriers, determine employment goals and help identify a suitable job opportunity.

Positions considered range from working in a supermarket to driving a truck at one of Rio Tinto's mine operations.

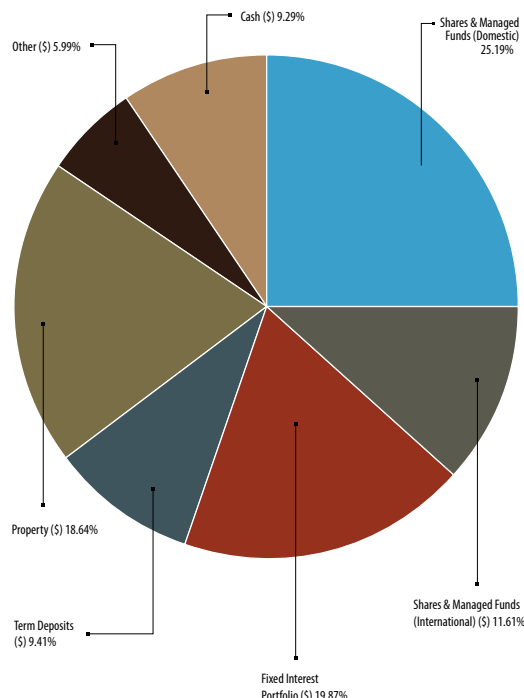
If you would like to be considered for this program, please call 1800 486 252 or email Fran.Hildreth@gumala.com.au.

You can also contact the Rio Tinto Indigenous Employment team for more information at ipsprogram@riotinto.com

RioTinto

TO REGISTER YOUR DETAILS FOR ANY OF THE PROGRAMS ABOVE, PLEASE EMAIL FRAN.HILDRETH@GUMALA.COM.AU IN OUR TOM PRICE OFFICE. FRAN.HILDRETH@GUMALA.COM.AU THE TOLL FREE NUMBER TO CALL IS 1800 486 252

Investments: Current Asset Allocation



Trust Fund Investment Update

The Trust Fund has grown by nearly \$12m since June 2016, from \$87 million to \$99 million.

With \$7.9million of this being revenue from land use compensation (which will be used to fund next year's budgets for GAC and the Trust), this means that over \$4million of the increased value is capital growth of the fund, or between 4-4.5% return over the past seven months.

For the current year, GAC has claimed \$374,000 of its budget for programs. This means that the Trust expects to receive claims from GAC in the next few months for up to \$3.38 million.

The chart shows how the fund is divided among different asset classes.

Monitoring and Liaison Committee Meeting



On the 22nd November 2016, representatives from the GAC Board and Rio Tinto met to discuss and deliberate on heritage decisions and updates, in line with the requirements of the Yandi Land Use agreement. GAC members in attendance included Directors May Byrne and Ailsa Roy, Chairperson Steven Dhu and staff members Jahna Cedar (executive officer) and Ronwyn James (RTIO Liaison officer – GAC).

It was a great opportunity for GAC to:

- Tour the Oxbow Operations
- Discuss a joint subcommittee to prepare for 20-year celebration of the signing of the Yandi Land Use Agreement
- Discuss Yandicoogina operations and possible expansion works, including Oxbow
- Discuss business development and contracting opportunities.
- Discuss cultural Heritage Management
- For GAC Executive Officer Jahna Cedar to present on the approved GAC Strategic Plan 2017-2020

GIPL Term Update

GIPLs term is due to expire on 27 February 2017. In line with the requirements of the trust deed, an expression of interest was offered for proposals to act as Trustee of the General Gumala Foundation. This closed on 2 December 2016.

An appointing committee has been confirmed who will meet and carry out due diligence over received submissions, and who will then make a recommendation to a meeting of beneficiaries within 90 days of the end of GIPLs term. The recommendation will be either to appoint GIPL for a further 5 years, or move to a professional trustee. Further information will be posted closer to a meeting date.

Attention Gumala Members!

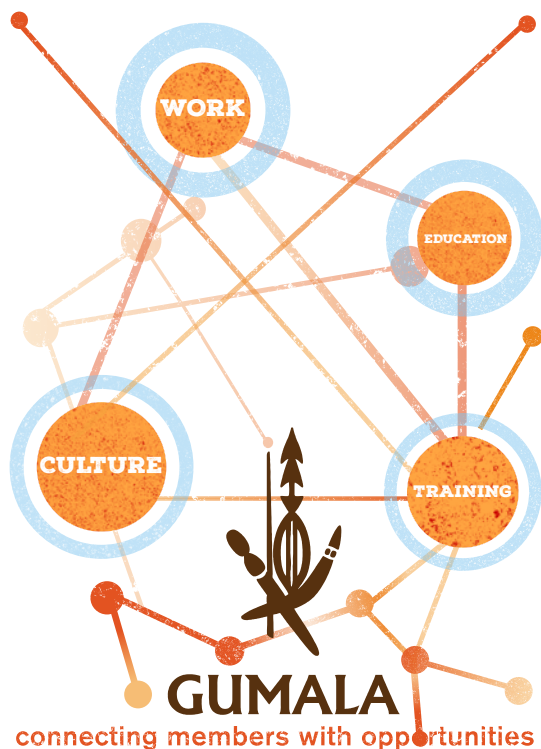
GEPL is currently compiling a database of members who are interested in potential employment opportunities that may arise in the future.

The database will record employment information about members' skills, qualifications, licenses, tickets and any previous experience.

If you are interested in registering your details on the GEPL database, please submit a current resume to jobs@gepl.com.au

Please ensure you include copies of any current tickets, licenses, qualifications and complete a GEPL application form which can be obtained from our website – www.gepl.com.au or from the GAC office in Tom Price.

GEPL will contact suitable candidates should any opportunities arise in the future.



Perth Office helps GAC Members

GAC Members are being assisted with support from our Perth office by GAC Trainee Noreen Derschow. Noreen has been assisting Members with advice on paperwork, technological questions and use of telephones and computers and other queries that members need assistance with. If you require assistance, please feel free to contact GAC by calling (08) 91884500 or 1800 486 252 (1800 GUMALA) or emailing gac@gumala.com.au



*GAC Trainee and Banyjima member
Noreen Derschow and Nyiyaparli
member Julie Fland*

Mobile health clinic for Pilbara thanks to Gumala and Murdoch University

Final year university students will team with health professionals in WA's Pilbara region to deliver an innovative, new mobile health and education clinic for indigenous communities on-country.

The Health In Motion program, a partnership between Gumala Aboriginal Corporation and Murdoch University, will offer allied health care, veterinary services and health education as part of a pilot project due to start in 2018. Gumala will invest \$450,000 towards capital expenses and operating costs for the four year project, while the Karla Nyiyaparli Aboriginal Corporation's Nyiyaparli Charitable Trust Board will offer \$50,000 for capital costs.



"More than 90% of people surveyed supported a mobile health and education unit that would travel to smaller remote communities," Professor Walker said.

He said the Health in Motion pilot would involve all areas of the university including students from allied health services (nursing, chiropractic, counselling), veterinary and researchers from other parts of the University such as Education, Engineering and IT.

This funding is in addition to a \$1 million pledge and \$250,000 cash donation that Murdoch University has received from philanthropists for the project. Gumala Aboriginal Corporation executive officer Jahna Cedar said the dedicated mobile clinic for Aboriginal people on-country was a worthy investment given the high level of chronic health conditions experienced by indigenous people living in the Pilbara.

"Gumala is proud to support this ground-breaking trial that will see better access to medical care and better health outcomes for our members, as well as invaluable learnings for the students involved," Mrs Cedar said.

"Statistics show that hospital presentations for Aboriginal people in the Pilbara are higher than other regions in WA and it is known that around 65 per cent of indigenous people have at least one long-term health condition.

"For many of our people, the time, energy and cost it takes to travel vast distances to major towns can be a barrier to receiving health care.

"We believe this partnership will herald genuine benefits and provide a program that will self-empower our people. We hope other government and industry bodies will also come on board."

Health in Motion Project Director Associate Professor Bruce Walker AM said Murdoch University had conducted a health and education needs analysis of Aboriginal people in the Pilbara, which identified the gaps. The research also asked local Aboriginal people what they wanted.

"Murdoch has research groups involved in innovative approaches for remote communities – such as alternative energy and water sources who are keen to be involved," Professor Walker said.

Professor Walker said Murdoch University was delighted that Gumala Aboriginal Corporation has invested in this important partnership and hoped the investment would attract other partners so that the project could commence in 2018. Murdoch University has consulted with WA's other universities to gauge their interest in involving their students in this pilot.

Professor Walker said Murdoch University's project team had consulted extensively with local Aboriginal communities and corporations, government and industry on the model and proposed route for the mobile clinic.

"Health in Motion is a genuine partnership approach informed by local knowledge, not a model that is dictated by the University," he said.

"While the overall project is about improving health outcomes and knowledge with supplementary services, our aim is to ensure our final year students gain real-life experience in remote service delivery and Aboriginal health. We want to deliver graduates that can deliver services free of racism and can carry this experience with them for their entire career," Project Director Professor Bruce Walker said.

Murdoch University Provost Prof Andrew Taggart said that he was excited about the project and would welcome further social investment into this worthwhile program.

PROGRESS REPORT



Surplus Mining Accommodation Unit

A couple of years ago GAC was able to acquire some surplus accommodation buildings from mining camps which were closing down. We are excited to say that we are now working towards getting those buildings to site at Gumala Communities.

Homelands have been chosen for buildings, footings have been poured, septic tanks and leach drains have been delivered and sites are almost ready for their new buildings.

We recognize that there is opportunity for GAC to gain benefits for its members from the slowdown in

the mining industry. Companies demobilizing camps occasionally contact us to see if our members want their buildings.

We are working with community to secure as many of these low cost assets for the membership as we are able.

Maintenance work at lore grounds

On request from the Gumala Membership, this lore season GAC has recommenced funding lore ground maintenance works in the Pilbara.

The program allows for \$10,000 worth of assistance per lore ground, to a maximum of five lore grounds per year to assist with maintenance.

If you are having a lore meeting and would like GAC to support it please contact us.

This year Cane River opted to:

- Have leach drains extended to the bathrooms at the lore ground and have general maintenance work completed like new door handles and taps.
- Have electrical distribution boards serviced.
- Purchase enough service kits and oil for the generator to last the whole season.
- Purchase some cement for future works at the camp.

EOI register your interest in our upcoming programs

Financial Literacy Training

Gumala will soon be offering Financial Literacy Training in partnership with First Nations Foundation – a national Indigenous organisation with a focus on financial wellbeing. Established in 2006 by a group of respected First Australian leaders, the Foundation was set up with the support of Credit Union Australia, Arnold Bloch Leibler lawyers and the ANZ Bank.

Financial Literacy training aims to assist members with the skills to navigate the financial services system. Participants will learn to reframe their relationship with money and further develop skills for saving, budgeting and setting financial goals. It is a program developed by Indigenous people for Indigenous people and is delivered in a culturally safe environment.

If you are interested in learning more about money management and making your money work for you, please express your interest by contacting Fran.Hildreth@gumala.com.au

Education – School Assistance (Kindy – Year 12)

GAC are offering school assistance in the form of fees, stationary and uniforms to the value of \$500 (primary school) \$1000 (secondary school)

GIPL have requested the following conditions be met, in applying for this program.

1. Proof of child/ren school attendance of 85% or higher (unless for exceptional circumstances where a parent can write to GAC for special consideration under the hardship rule)
2. Applicants to authorise GAC to seek from other relevant trusts, and authorize those trusts to release, information about any comparable sources of funding which may have been obtained by the applicant in 2017.
3. Birth certificates being provided by each applicant

If you are interested in learning more about the Education program, please email Nikita.Mulder@gumala.com.au or call our office on (08) 9188 4500.

Protective Behaviours Training

Gumala will soon be offering Protective Behaviours Training for members. One day workshops delivered by Protective Behaviours WA will provide Gumala parents and carers with simple practical teaching activities designed to increase their child's/children's personal safety and cope with situations such as bullying, abuse and violence.

The workshop will be delivered with Indigenous specific content and also delivered by an Indigenous trainer.

If you are interested in learning more about Protective Behaviours and what it means, please express your interest by contacting Fran.Hildreth@gumala.com.au

Family Violence & Prevention Service



Tom Price Yarn Group

The Nintirri Centre is working in partnership with other community service providers to bring to the community the Yarn Group. The Yarn Group is a safe and friendly place for everyone to get together and share stories, skills or just a place for you to come to relax and have a chat.

Tea, coffee and morning tea will be provided. So come down, bring the kids or a friend and have a cuppa tea.



WHEN: Thursday mornings during the school terms

TIME: 10:00am - 12:00pm

WHERE: The Nintirri Neighborhood Centre Lounge

PARTNERING WITH



For Further Information Contact

email reception@nintirri.org.au • visit www.nintirri.org.au • call (08) 9188 0500



GUMALA

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working together

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