

GUMALA NEWSLETTER

December 2021



RECORD NUMBERS AT GUMALA'S OCTOBER AGMS

Gumala would like to extend a thank you to all our Members who travelled to South Hedland in late October to attend the 2021 Consultation and Annual General Meetings (AGMs). A record number of 766 Members registered for the meetings. It was a big day for Gumala!

Instead of carrying the meetings over two days, both GAC and GIPL held their AGMs on the same day after the morning Consultation Meeting.

Feedback following the AGM indicated that it was one of the best AGMs that Members have attended.

Once again Members were able to apply for an Advanced Payment of Travel Allowance and register electronically on arrival at the venue. Moving forward we hope to have more options around electronic voting and attendance online.

Full details of the newly appointed GAC Board and office bearers can be found on page 12. More Member photos can be seen on pages 4 and 5.



When reading this publication and sharing it with family and friends, please be mindful that it may contain images and/or names of people who have since passed away.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT



Thannarru,

On behalf of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation's Directors, I would like to thank all who were able to attend the Corporation's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Consultation Meeting on Saturday 23 October 2021.

These meetings were held in South Hedland, home of the Kariyarra people and we thank them for welcoming and hosting Gumala people on their country. Thank you also to Kariyarra Elder Alfred Baker for providing the Welcome to Country.

The meeting saw approximately 766 Members and Beneficiaries register to. It was a big day for Gumala!

As a result of the elections, there were a few changes with our Directors, along with the changes in office bearers appointed. These updates can be seen on the back page of the newsletter.

A number of topics were covered at both the Consultation Meeting and the AGM. For those Members who were not able to attend the AGM, following is a summary from the day:

Joint Strategy and Foundation Review Update

The Consultation Meeting commenced with an update on the Joint Strategic Plan and a video, narrated by GIPL employee and Banjima Member Arleah Simpson, was played to provide Members and Beneficiaries with an overview of the contents of the plan.

If you missed the video, you can watch it on the Gumala Trust's YouTube channel or by scanning the QR code.

The Boards of GAC and GIPL have been working closely over the past 12 months on developing and finalising the strategic plan, which was endorsed by both Boards in September 2021. The 5-year and long-term goals included on this plan will guide Gumala moving forward.



Underpayments update and YLUA Modernisation

The GAC Board has been meeting frequently with Rio Tinto representatives over the past 6 months to progress with the negotiations.

At the AGM, some Members inquired about what aspects of the YLUA were being modernised and what was the scope for modernisation.

We can report that GAC has commenced negotiating a royalty model with RTIO which will be included in a modernised YLUA, however the royalty percentage is still to be agreed. In terms of the scope of the modernisation, GAC is exploring all avenues of modernising the agreement, including in areas of the agreement that pertain to the protection of heritage and cultural sites, and access to resources such as water.

Some Members requested that in negotiations with RTIO, GAC considers negotiating for compensation to be paid based on contamination of land as well as ground disturbance/royalties.

Members also queried whether GAC should negotiate for Members to have shares in Rio Tinto, as this could be financially beneficial for Members, and could also allow them a role in decision making if they were to become shareholders of the company.

Members also emphasised the need to hold RTIO accountable for meeting Traditional Owner employment objectives as they are stated in the YLUA. Members agreed that these objectives should be tightened in the modernised YLUA.

Members noted that the Trust Deed will also require modernisation through the process of modernising the YLUA.

Gumala Enterprises Pty Ltd (GEPL) Update

An update on the GEPL Restructure and Karijini Eco Retreat (KER) was presented. Members expressed their dissatisfaction with the level of Traditional Owner involvement in the running of KER and felt that there has not been enough effort on GEPL's behalf to improve this KPI.

Some Members questioned whether GEPL can be used as a training facility/become involved in a work ready program supported by RTIO.

Housing Program Update

An overview on the Housing Support Program and some background information on Housing in the Pilbara was given, explaining that the lack of available and affordable housing in the Pilbara is a significant issue for Gumala Members. However, it was also stressed that there are long-term consequences for creating a housing program that alleviates the responsibility of the State Government for solving housing issues in the Pilbara. Many Members agreed that the Housing Support Program is important, but it is also important that Gumala continues to hold the State Government to account on these matters.

A portion of Members questioned whether the Housing Support Program would be available to Members who already own their homes and could utilise the program funds to pay off their mortgage or carry out renovations on an existing home.

At this stage of the program, the eligibility criteria only applies to those Members who need transitional housing, and down the track, new eligibility criteria can be developed to assist Members in a variety of housing circumstances.

It was recognised that the initial project won't address all sections of the Gumala family, but we need to start somewhere and build upon a pilot model. It was also noted that broadening of the program eligibility criteria is somewhat dependent on a good outcome from the underpayment negotiations.

2021 Christmas Program

Members were asked to vote on whether they would prefer GAC paid the \$500 Christmas Program amount as a cash payment instead of a gift card this year. The cash option is preferable for GAC as in previous years, providing gift cards has caused large administrative overheads which could be avoided if the program consisted of a cash payment instead of gift cards.

The Members cast a vote in favor of the 2021 Christmas Card Program consisting of 2 options where Members can either opt for a \$500 cash payment or a \$500 gift card. This Christmas Program has now been rolled out and payments will be made by Friday 17 December at the latest.

By Justin Dhu, Executive Officer

COVID-19 VACCINATION HUB AT AGM

At Gumala's recent AGM, Dr Aleeta Fejo addressed the membership to talk about the importance of getting vaccinated against COVID-19.

Dr Fejo (pictured below right) is a member of the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) and a senior GP with 35 years' experience in Aboriginal health.

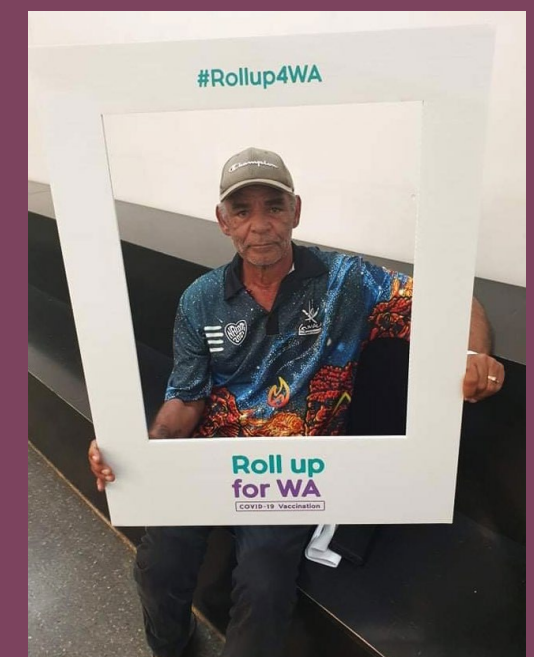
The opportunity to get vaccinated was offered in a pop-up clinic run by health professionals, and Gumala is pleased to report that over 30 Members were vaccinated at the AGM, including Director Maurice Narrier (pictured right).

Gumala continues to encourage our Members who are not vaccinated to talk to their doctor or a health professional about any concerns they may have.

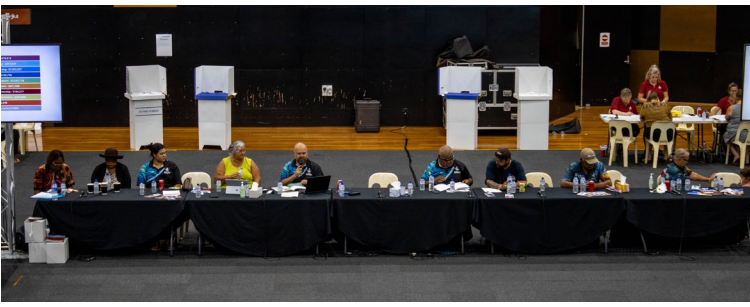
Unfortunately, the Pilbara region continues to see the lowest vaccination rates in Australia. Under the Government's mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy, Gumala (having staff working in or entering remote Aboriginal communities) is required to have all staff fully vaccinated by 31 December 2021.

For more vaccine information, go to

www.rollupforwa.com.au



GAC & GIPL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS



GUMALA SUPPORTS HARMONY 9S



Through our Member Sponsorship Program, Gumala was pleased to recently contribute to the Harmony 9s Rugby League tournament held in Perth by providing shade marquees for players and supporters of Gur Wirimalpa.

Niyiparli man and Gumala Member Ratehi Hirini founded and manages Gur Wirimalpa; a state Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rugby league team he said he started to represent our nations based on the principle of acknowledging where we have come from, sharing culture through generations and embracing opportunities.

Ratehi said the name Gur Wirimalpa comes from both the Torres Strait – Eastern Islands language group and Niyiparli languages. Gur meaning Saltwater in Meriam Mir and Wirimalpa meaning Warrior in Niyiparli.

The tournament was played across two days in November, and 8 of the 29 players were from Port Hedland and travelled down for the event.

“We work hard to incorporate culture. We see we are more than a team; we are family. We work and support one another to ensure the sharing and preservation of culture and language by incorporating learning events in training,” said Ratehi.

The team will look to travel and play other teams across Australia over the next year to help improve the love of rugby league for Aboriginal people in WA, including creating a women's and youth representative team. We wish them all the very best!

3A PLAYGROUPEARLY LEARNING UPDATE



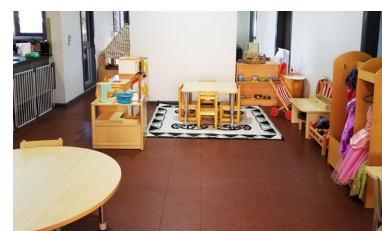
Gumala is thrilled to announce the opening of a new 3a Playgroup in South Hedland located at 18 Mooring Loop. The centre is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 11.30am for all Aboriginal families.

All families are welcome to join in and participate in our 3a Playgroups, with a brand new site open in Hedland 5 days a week.

We have lots of fun, exciting activities and play equipment for children 0-5 to engage in with their families.

Each of our playgroups use the 3a Approach (Abecedarian Approach Australia), which empowers families as their child's first teacher. This approach focusses on building children's oral language through fun learning games, conversational reading and enriched caregiving.

If you would like to know more about Gumala's 3a centres across the Pilbara, please call Noreen on 9188-4560 or visit our website at <http://gumala.com.au/3a-early-childhood-education-project/>



EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Gumala has a partnership with the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) to encourage our Members, who aren't already, to enrol to vote for the next federal election (date yet to be confirmed).

We also want to make our Members aware that there are employment opportunities for AEC during this election. There is a wide range of temporary roles ranging from supervisory to administrative or logistics roles.

If you are looking for AEC casual work in the future, please contact Hayley in the Gumala office on (08) 9219 4500 to find out more information.



Do you want to work in an election?



aec.gov.au/indigenous
Authorised by the Electoral Commissioner, 10 Mort Street, Canberra ACT 2601
Original artwork by Marcus Lee Design



Employment & Training

Are you looking for work or training opportunities?
Need help with your resume or tips on interview skills?

Gumala Traditional Owners needing assistance with job searching and training support can email gacjobs@gumala.com.au or call our office – Tuesday to Thursday – to speak with our Employment and Skills Development Officer Hayley.

For more job information you can also follow our Facebook jobs page at: <https://www.facebook.com/GumalaAboriginalCorporationJobsLink/>



THANK YOU & FAREWELL RONWYN



Gumala Aboriginal Corporation would like to thank and farewell our Community Engagement & Heritage Liaison Officer Ronwyn James, who has left after more than 21 years of service.

Ronwyn has been our longest serving staff member, and over this time, she has seen the highs and lows that form part of Gumala's colourful history. As a Member of Yinhawangka, Ronwyn shares a long history with the people of the central Pilbara and their journey toward self-determination and advancement.

Ronwyn started with GAC on 1 May 2000 as a Receptionist and Admin Officer. Over the years, Ronwyn worked in roles ranging from Health and Culture Specialist and Trainee Manager of Lore and Culture to Heritage Services Manager, and Community Engagement & Heritage Officer. In this final role, Ronwyn worked closely with Rio Tinto as the point of contact between GAC and Rio to build a mutually beneficial relationship and outcomes for the Gumala family. We would like to wish her success and happiness in the future.

Thank you, Ronwyn!



COMMUNITY PROJECTS UPDATE

Bidiltha Projects

Donga Refurbishment

The Bidiltha community has been going full steam ahead with one of the dongas being completely refurbished.

The insides of the dongas have been gutted and fixed up, painted and had new fittings installed. The outside of the donga has a large fly shade shed extending over into a patio around the entire building.



Pacific Energy Solar Power System Installation

Gumala has partnered with Pacific Solar Power Energy Systems with the aim to create sustainable power options in all our Homeland communities.

In Wirrillimarra, the solar power system has been running for almost a year now. Bidiltha has just had the new solar system installed in November and we are very excited for the community.

The new solar system means that the community will be spending less money on fuel to run the generator and will ensure that the community has a sustainable power source long into the future.



Mingullatharndo

The Mingullatharndo community has been busy with much-needed upgrades and maintenance work on a range of community buildings. These works included refurbishing the transportable dongas, artefact display room, tearoom and the woodwork workshop.

After a long wait, the solar power system is now up and running due to the purchase of the solar power batteries for the solar power system. Being able to access sustainable power will reduce the expensive fuel costs to the community.

Another exciting development is the water treatment plant that has been installed with the community accessing quality clean water.

All these projects have been possible due to the strong partnership between the Mingullatharndo community, Fortescue Metals Group and Gumala.

"We are so grateful and thankful to Gumala for all the support to make this all happen," said Marshall Smith.



Youngaleena Community Building Refurbishment

Throughout August and September 2021, the Youngaleena community building was refurbished to meet the needs in the community.

The community urgently required a space that was wheelchair friendly for all Members needing disability access and use of the facilities in the building.

This project meant that people with disabilities living in the community now have access to facilities that support social and emotional wellbeing and inclusiveness.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR MEMBERS



Above: Malcolm Richmond presents a certificate commemorating the signing of the YLUA to GAC Director Charles Smith in May 1997.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

On 1 March 2022, Gumala Aboriginal Corporation will be celebrating 25 years since the Yandi Land Use Agreement (YLUA) was signed.

The YLUA was a historical turning point between resource companies and Traditional Owners, and the 134 original signatories to the YLUA were the founding Members of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation.

Sadly, some of those Traditional Owners have now passed away but current and future generations of Traditional Owners will always be grateful for the foundations that were laid by all of the original signatories.

Thanks to their unwavering determination, they ensured that a land use deal would be struck that would result in long-term economic, social and community development benefits to the Traditional Owners.

In 2022 we look forward to celebrating this 25-year milestone with our membership.

We plan to come together to celebrate and showcase the many achievements of our Gumala Members through a special 25 Year Anniversary Celebration Event.

At the time of publication, the event is planned for early to mid-March and we hope to have more details out to our Members as soon as they are finalised.

We look forward to celebrating with you all.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR MEMBERS

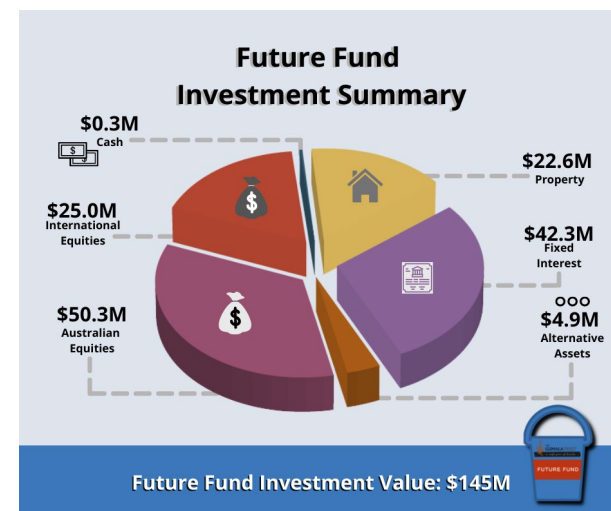
- MONDAY 13 DECEMBER**
Final deadline for all applications
- FRIDAY 17 DECEMBER**
Final day for phone lines and office open to Members
- WEDNESDAY 22 DECEMBER**
Final day of year for Gumala staff
- THURSDAY 6 JANUARY**
Gumala staff start for 2022
- MONDAY 10 JANUARY**
Phone lines and offices open to Members



GUMALA INVESTMENTS PTY LTD (GIPL)

GGF Financial Overview

The General Gumala Foundation Trust is pleased to advise the Beneficiaries that as at 30 September 2021, the total assets under investment were \$185.3M, with the Future Fund valued at \$157.5M. Within the Future Fund we hold Investments of \$145M.

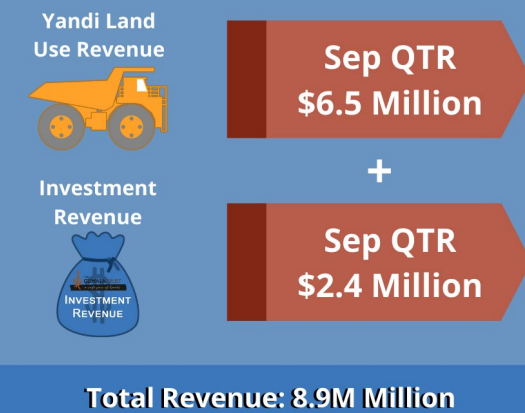


The first quarter result has seen a solid start to the year from dividend and distribution returns, but at the same time market investment values have fluctuated with growth in July followed by subsequent reductions in August and September with an overall reduction of \$1.1M.

In the September quarter, the Trust commenced the purchase of houses in Karratha, which will be utilised, along with existing Trust houses in Tom Price and South Hedland, for the GAC Housing Support Program. As such, there was a continued significant reduction in residential property rental income compared to the previous year.

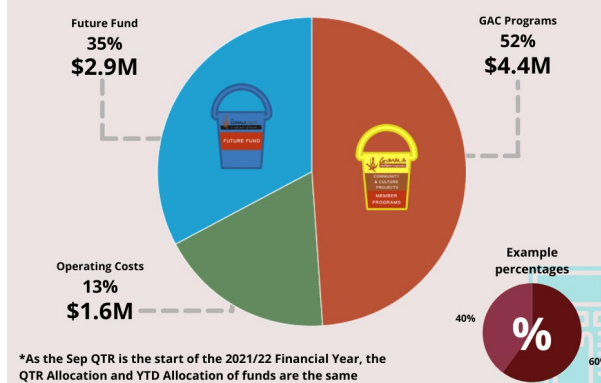


The Gumala Foundation Revenue

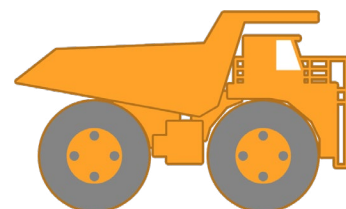


Total Revenue for the 3 months to 30 September 2021 was \$8.92M with \$7.29M being retained for the benefit of Members and Beneficiaries through available Member Program Funding and Investments into the Future Fund.

The Gumala Foundation Funding Allocation Sep QTR and Year-To-Date



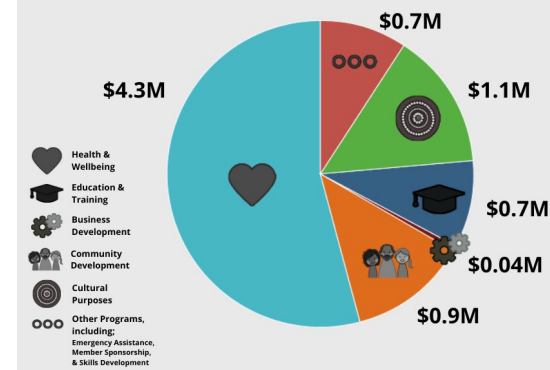
Within this total revenue, the Yandi Land Use Agreement payments totalled \$6.54M.



GUMALA INVESTMENTS PTY LTD (GIPL)

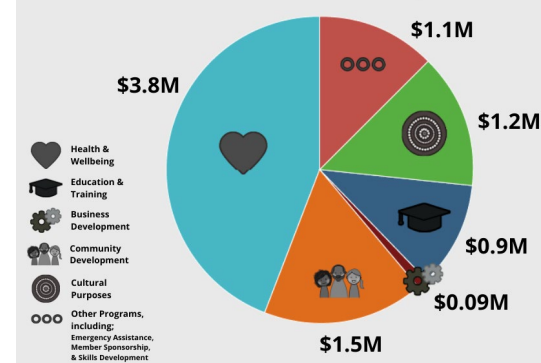


The Gumala Foundation July-Sep Program Funding Spent \$7.9M Spent



As of the 30 September 2021, the Gumala Foundation has spent a total of \$7.9M on program funding.

The Gumala Foundation July-Sep Program Funding Budget \$8.7M Allocated Budget



The allocated budget was \$8.7M. The amount spent on Health and Wellbeing was higher than budgeted, with the Foundation having spent \$4.3M. This is primarily due to the Flexible Program allowing greater choice for Members to better control their funding, with more Members using their funds for Health & Wellbeing in this quarter.

Contact GIPL

Email: gipl@gumalatrust.com

Web: www.gumalatrust.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/GumalaTrust/

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/gumala-trust/

GUMALA FOUNDATION 5 YEAR REVIEW PRIORITIES

At the AGM Consultation, we played a video update on the 5-year-review priorities. If you missed it, you can scan the QR code to watch it now, or check out the Gumala Trust YouTube channel.



The GIPL team welcomes Kirsty Whiteoak, who has taken over the role of Office Manager. Prior to this role, Kirsty worked within the Early Years Sector for 18 years. Kirsty is proud to work for Gumala to achieve positive outcomes for our Members and Beneficiaries. We wish her well in this role.



Gumala would like to thank Sista Girl Sign & Print for the banners that were presented at the 2021 AGM showcasing our financials and Joint Strategy.



DIRECTORS' TERMS AFTER AGM

Yinhawangka

Mary Mills

Term expiring AGM October 2023

Rodney Parker

Term expiring AGM October 2023

Lorraine Injie

Term expiring AGM October 2022

Pamela Condon

Term expiring AGM October 2022

Banjima

Charles Smith

Term expiring AGM October 2023

Nola Naylor

Term expiring AGM October 2023

Michael Gibson

Term expiring AGM October 2022

Karen Tommy

Term expiring AGM October 2022

Niyaparli

Layneisha Sgro

Term expiring AGM October 2023

Dakota Roy

Term expiring AGM October 2023

Maurice Narrier

Term expiring AGM October 2022

Lisa Derschaw

Term expiring AGM October 2022

NEW OFFICE BEARERS APPOINTED

Shortly after the AGM, the newly appointed Board of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation met to consider the appointments of office bearers in the positions of Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and Secretary.

As a result, the following appointments have been confirmed moving forward:

- Director Nola Naylor has been reappointed as Chairperson.
- Director Lisa Derschaw has been appointed as

Deputy Chairperson replacing Director Mary Mills.

- Director Pamela Condon has been appointed as Secretary, which was previously occupied by Director Lisa Derschaw.

GAC would like to welcome the newly appointed office bearers and thank Director Mills as an outgoing position holder for her leadership.



Thank you for attending the October AGM - from all the staff at Gumala.



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LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/gumala-aboriginal-corporation>

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