

GUMALA NEWSLETTER

September 2021



HELPING OUR MEMBERS THROUGH SPONSORSHIP

Firstly, thank you to Gumala for their support; it has enabled me, once again, to take part in some amazing opportunities! Through Gumala's Member Sponsorship Program, I was able to take part in the Oxford Women's Leadership Development Programme, facilitated by the Said Business School at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom.

I will also be attending the Indigenous Allied Health Australia (IAHA) Conference, scheduled to take place late November in Queensland.

IAHA is a national, member-based Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander allied health organisation, which supports the empowerment of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander allied health workforce through transformative change, promoting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of working and knowing, being and doing.

What an incredible year-and-a-half it's been! My life in a nutshell; I got locked out of Western Australia last year with everything COVID-19, despite this, I managed to finish my Master degree at the Australian National University and finally I was able to come home in December, only to leave soon after to get my belongings on the East Coast and be locked out again. It's been quite unbelievable!

Trying to make the best out of the situation; I applied for the Oxford Women's Leadership Development Programme.

Given the global pandemic, this Programme took place completely online, with a large cohort of women across the world; it provided a space to critically examine, acknowledge, and develop my leadership style and skills.

Words and image provided by Gumala Member Sheneise Hall. Story continues on page 3.

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,

You might recall that in February, the Corporation held its 2019-20 Annual General Meeting (AGM) which would have been held in October 2020 but was deferred due to the management requirements of COVID-19 and public gatherings.

Presently, the Corporation is preparing for the 2020-21 AGM on Saturday 23 October 2021 which will again be held in Port Hedland. We are again, holding the AGM in Port Hedland because Port Hedland is currently the only town in the Pilbara that can cater for the number of registered attendees that Gumala attracts.

However, we are in the process of reviewing our procedures to see how we can facilitate an AGM online or at different locations to encourage more Member participation.

This year, we will be giving updates on the following:

1. GGF Strategic Plan – The Boards of GAC, GIPL and GEPL have been working together to identify a broad strategy focused on the next 5 years and then the next 25 years. This has been done to bring about better alignment and identify strategies that should be represented throughout the three businesses.

2. Yandi Underpayments and YLUA Modernisation Progress – these conversations are ongoing with the GAC Board holding strong on a fair settlement of the infrastructure underpayments and also a fair modernisation of the 25-year-old Yandi Land Use Agreement. While we hoped to have finalised these matters with Rio Tinto by October 2021, GAC is strong in its resolve to represent the interests of the Gumala people however long the process may take.

3. GEPL Restructure – Gumala Enterprises no longer delivers civil and construction work but instead has been restructured to focus on and develop Karijini Eco Retreat and tourism opportunities for interested Members. It means that we are not competing with Member businesses that currently operate within civils and construction but provide opportunities to consolidate cultural tourism delivered by Members.

4. Housing Program – Recognising the challenges of limited affordable housing within the Pilbara, Gumala has been working towards lessening the impact of our more vulnerable Members who are or could become homeless due to the rising rental prices. We recognise 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.

More information and detail will be provided at the AGM and these will be delivered jointly by GAC, GIPL and GEPL who have been working closely with each other on each of items. This means we will only be impacting on one day of your weekend, but it means we all need to work together to share the information and get the business of the AGM done.

By Justin Dhu, Executive Officer

MEMBER SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

It is important that our GAC Members are supported financially to engage in once-in-a-lifetime opportunities that will deliver lasting and tangible educational, cultural or health and wellbeing-related outcomes.

Because of this, GAC has created a Member Sponsorship program that aims to provide financial support and resources to Members who are excelling in their community or in their hobbies, or who have been given an opportunity to participate in an educational, cultural or health and wellbeing-related activity or event that they would not otherwise be able to afford.

We would like to encourage more Members to consider what this program could do for them or their family. If you would like more information on how to apply for the Member Sponsorship program, please visit the GAC website or contact the office and ask to speak with Carol. Applications need to be sent to applications@gumala.com.au

MEMBER SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Cover story continued...

My message is that even with everything COVID-19 going on in the world, take part in every opportunity you can, whatever that might be. Find new ways of working, to do what is meaningful to you, or can help you gain the skills to make things better in your community.

When I was young, a very wise old boy in South Hedland told me about how important education is. I have been incredibly lucky in having the most inspiring and supportive people around me; all of whom have helped me get to where I am now, including Gumala, who have assisted me many times.

We all are aware of the issues affecting our communities; we also know how important it is that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are not only a part of but lead that change in this space and I strongly believe this will only come with education.

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, I began working for the Australian Government, writing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health policy, making sure where I can, that what is written about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, is strengths-based, holistic and culturally safe; with the hope of improving health outcomes for our people.

I hope to return home and work in the Pilbara providing Occupational Therapy services when some sort of normality returns to the world, and I can get into WA again.



PO Box 3183 South Hedland, 6722
PREMIERS 1980, 1985, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2015 & 2020
ABN:18970175851

To whom it may concern:

In 2021 the South Hedland Swans Football Club has been successful in obtaining 2 membership approved sponsorship funds.

Our aim is to provide the best training and education at amateur level and with the assistance given to us we have been able to achieve that this year as we have prompted 10 juniors to league level football.

The funds have been used for the following equipment purchases:

- Ice Bath Equipment
- Boxing gloves and mitts
- Weighted sled
- Goal Pads

This equipment has increased participation rapidly at our football club as we now have the equipment to utilize which we have desperately needed for a long time.

With the funding from Gumala Aboriginal Corporation has made our club more welcoming to the public and has given us the chance to reimagine yourselves.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Gumala for their assistance in this regard and hope to continue our relationship as many of its members are heavily involved in our local football programs.

Regards,

Trevor Dhu Jnr

South Hedland Swans Football Club President

Above: A letter of appreciation from Trevor Dhu Jnr who is president of the South Hedland Football Club. Trevor successfully obtained Member Sponsorship to help upgrade equipment at the club which he said will greatly help the many Gumala Members heavily involved in it.

Pictured below are Gumala Members Kayden Dann (left) and Trevor Dhu Jnr caught in action recently. Photos courtesy of Westy Sports Photography.



3A PLAYGROUP EARLY LEARNING UPDATES

Gumala welcomes new 3a Coordinator Sheryl Hicks

My name is Sheryl Hicks and I am the new 3a Program Coordinator for the Gumala Playgroups across the Pilbara.

I have been a teacher across the Pilbara region for the last 18 years and have also been the Deputy Principal of Wickham Primary School and recently the Principal of Tjuntjuntjara Remote Community School.

I am very excited to be working for Gumala, in partnership with the Department of Education, to support families to engage with our 3a sites which are open, at no cost, to all Aboriginal families in the communities we operate – Karratha, Roebourne, South Hedland, Marble Bar, Wakuthuni and North Tom Price.

Our playgroups encourage families to participate with their children from birth to four years of age and focus on building language through conversational reading and learning games, whilst encouraging enriched caregiving through establishing fun routines.

By participating in one of our 3a playgroups you will provide your child with a great start to their early years learning, and enhance their educational outcomes.

Over the last few weeks I have visited all of our 3a playgroup sites with our Management Support Officer Noreen Derschow, to meet all of our 3a playgroup staff and see how each of our centres operate. More details about the days and hours for each location can be found on our website: <http://gumala.com.au/3a-early-childhood-education-project/> or by calling 9188-4560.



Above: New Gumala 3a Coordinator Sheryl Hicks.
Below: Photos taken at recent visit to meet all of our 3a playgroup staff and see how each of our centres operate.



COMMUNITY PROJECTS UPDATE

3a Learning Centre repairs at Wakuthuni

The Wakuthuni community and 3a learning mums, dads and staff asked for the 3a Learning Centre to be repaired to make sure the environment was safe for kids to learn in.

Some of the work included the laying of vinyl nonslip flooring in the bathroom, classroom and kitchen areas.

Fencing was built around the patio to keep the kids safely contained in the learning play areas. An air conditioner was installed in the classroom so in the heat of the summer the kids have a cool place to play and learn in.

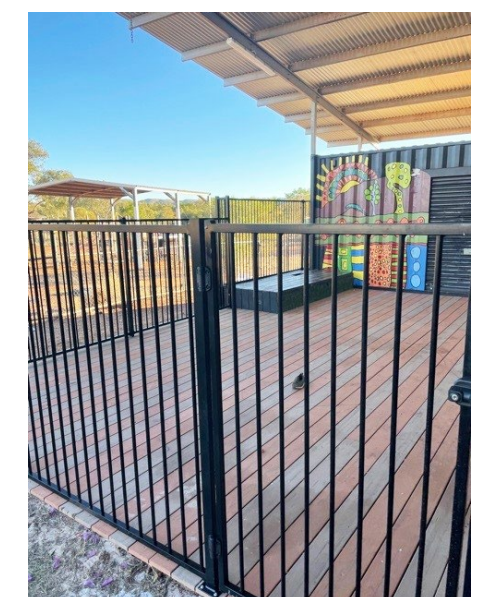
Prior to all this work being done, Gumala and Ashburton Aboriginal Corporations partnered to clean and clear out the 3a Learning Centre with the community.

Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation also sent their maintenance team to do mow the grass.

Gumala would like to acknowledge the help of everyone who made this happen.



Above: Gumala and Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation, along with Wakuthuni community members helping clean up the 3a Learning Centre to prepare for the work to be done. Below: Before and after fencing installed.



Thank you, Suzie

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation would like to acknowledge and thank the outgoing 3a Coordinator Suzie Powell for her work across the Pilbara 3a centres since 2017.

During that time, Suzie developed strong relationships with 3a staff, children and parents.

Suzie has returned to a teaching position so we would like to wish her all the best for the future.

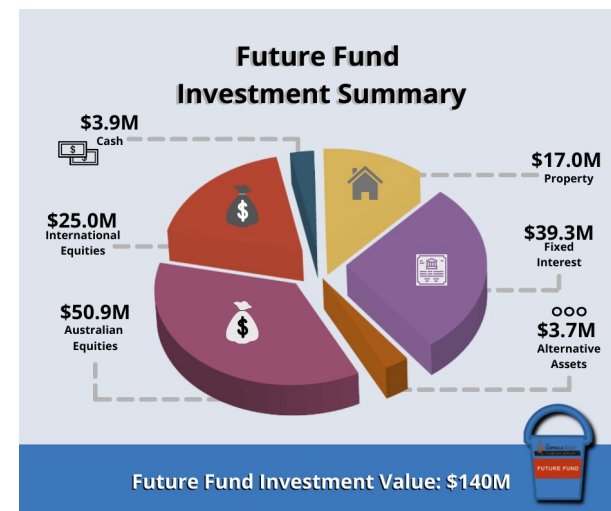




GUMALA INVESTMENTS PTY LTD (GIPL)

GGF Financial Overview

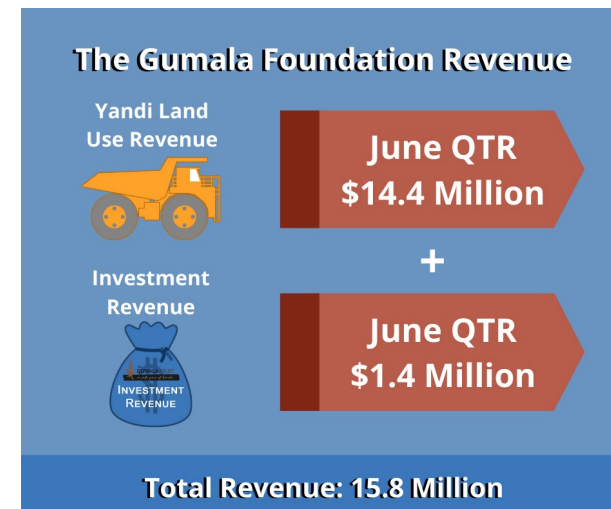
The General Gumala Foundation Trust is pleased to present the quarterly update for June 2021 and advise the Beneficiaries that, as at 30 June 2021, assets under investment totalled \$175.2M, with the Future Fund valued at \$153.6M. Within the Future Fund we hold Investments of \$140M.



The full financial year has seen a strong positive rebound with growth in investment values, with an increase of \$19.4M against a decrease in 2020 of \$6.5M which was caused by the early impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Actual investment earnings from interest, dividends and distributions, and rent, have increased slightly from 2020, with strong residential rent growth offsetting the impact of low interest rates.

The overall combined returns from earnings and values has seen the Future Fund increase by \$33.4M since 30 June 2020.



The Gumala Foundation received \$15.8M in revenue for the June quarter. This brings the total revenue for the 12 months to the 30 June 2021 up to \$42.5M. \$34.0M has been retained for the benefit of Members and Beneficiaries through available Member Program Funding and Investments into the Future Fund. Within this total revenue, the Yandi Land Use Agreement payments totalled \$37.1M, up from \$32.6M in 2020. As of the 30 June 2021, the Gumala Foundation has spent a total of \$19.2M on program funding.

Contact GIPL
Email: gipl@gumalatrust.com
Web: www.gumalatrust.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/GumalaTrust/

The GIPL team would like to say farewell to Hima, our Office Manager. Hima has accepted a new role at GAC and we wish her all the best in her future endeavours.



MURDOCH'S CHIRO STUDENTS TREAT THE PILBARA



The annual placement of Murdoch University chiropractic students in Tom Price and Paraburdoo was once again supported by Gumala in 2021.

Each year since 2007, groups of chiropractic students and supervisors travel to the Pilbara to provide health assessments and hands-on care to community members and travellers.

This free service is eagerly anticipated by the locals each year when the students visit. Over the years, students have now provided around 20,000 health checks and treatment visits across the remote areas of WA. While the student chiropractors primarily see people with back pain and other physical problems, they also encourage healthy

living, and give advice that improves quality of life and wellbeing such as exercises and stretches.

The 10 students were again supervised by Dr Lyndon Amarin-Woods who was accompanied this year for the first time by local chiropractor Dr Mark Hooper who has practised in the Tom Price Medical Centre for over 7 years.

Prior to participation in the placement, students were required to complete cultural awareness courses to become more familiar with Indigenous culture. However, they were really interested in learning more about local culture and stories, and were most appreciative of the opportunity to have an immersive experience with Brendon Cook at the Wakuthuni community.

Pictured is the team of chiropractic students from Murdoch University with their supervisors.



2022 EDUCATION PROGRAM OPENS SOON

Children of registered Members or Beneficiaries are eligible to access our Education Programs (Kindy – Year 12) for the 2022 school year from 1 November 2021 as the current 2021 school year program runs until 31 October. There has been a further balance increase in the education program moving forward.

The 2022 Education Programs provide the following amounts:

- \$500 per child for kindergarten students
- \$2,500 per child for primary school students
- \$4,000 per child for high school students

What items are available?

1. Books and stationery
2. School fees and contributions
3. Uniforms
4. Canteen lunches
5. Camp and Country Week fee



6. Equipment – e.g. sports clothing, musical instrument, computer, iPad (only one per financial year)
7. School photographs
8. Tutoring
9. Travel & accommodation (boarding school and school bus services only)
10. Extracurricular activities or excursions
11. Bicycles and scooters. (capped at \$600)
12. Children's sports clothing (excluding uniforms; capped at \$600)

Eligibility

All school aged Gumala Beneficiaries (minors) are eligible for this program if:

- They are going to school (enrolment records may be required)
- Their parent is a registered Member of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (pending Member's children cannot access funds).

SAVE THE DATE AGM - 23 OCTOBER



Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) and Gumala Investments Pty Ltd (GIPL) will hold a Consultation Meeting as well as their Annual General Meetings on Saturday 23 October 2021 at the Wanangkura Stadium in South Hedland.

Members and Beneficiaries are encouraged to attend the consultation for which a payment will be provided, as well as reasonable travel reimbursements.

An advance payment of \$750 to assist with upfront travel costs can be requested using the Request for Advance Payment of Travel Allowance form which is . The advance payment will be deducted from the total reimbursement of travel costs.

Further updates about the meetings will be made available soon to Members.



EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS DEVELOPMENT



On Saturday 31 July, our Employment and Skills Development Officer Hayley represented GAC at a joint Gumala, BNTAC and Rio Tinto Career Readiness Workshop in Perth to help Members who are looking for work. Key focuses at the workshop were:

- Indigenous Talent Network registration profile training
- Resume writing
- Pre-employment Medical Education Awareness
- Career pathway options.

If you would like assistance in any of these areas, please email gacjobs@gumala.com.au or call our office Tuesday to Thursday to speak with Hayley.

Would like to work for Rio Tinto?

Rio Tinto has various FIFO roles out of Perth available for inexperienced applicants at Gudai-Darri (near Newman). Applicants must have:

- Full manual license
- Values that are aligned with Rio Tinto

Please contact Hayley at gacjobs@gumala.com.au for more information.

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