



Message from the Chairperson

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to this edition of "WGAC News". Our newsletter aims to keep everyone involved and informed about activities that are being pursued by the board for the benefit of our people. If you have a great story or news to share, please don't hesitate to let us know!

2014, was a very successful year for our Corporation and we would like to repeat this success into 2015 and beyond. We can only do this if we have your full support and participation. **This year's Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday the 2nd of April.** Please come and learn more about the achievements of your Corporation over the last year and understand our direction for the future.

I am pleased to announce that our goal of becoming a profitable, pro-active and autonomous Aboriginal Corporation delivering benefits to all of our members has made tremendous headway.

We are now actively functioning in these areas:

- Heritage work
- Civil Contracting
- Employment

With the blessing and direction of our Elders, our goal is to secure a strong foundation that will enable us to build a strong financial future, investing in programs that support the individual members and the community.

Wintawari Guruma Enterprises P/L



Service Truck



140M Grader

In May 2014, Wintawari Guruma Enterprises Pty Ltd (WGEPL) was established to take advantage of the commercial opportunities on country for the benefit of the EG people. The shares in this company are wholly owned by the Corporation.

WGEPL is the only Eastern Guruma business that has been established to represent the interest of the community.

To enhance our skills and boost our growing capability, the Board has appointed Tony Bevan as Chief Executive Officer of WGEPL and Phil Paul as Business Development Manager.

Reporting to the Board, both Tony and Phil have strong backgrounds in their respective fields and have achieved positive results for the business. All profits generated by WGEPL will be returned to the Corporation, for the benefit of the community.

WGEPL has been awarded its first direct contract - to provide five items of equipment plant on long term hire to Indigenous Construction Resource Group (ICRG) to be used on the maintenance of the Nunutarra Road for FMG. The equipment was purchased for around \$1.5m and will be fully paid off in three years. The equipment comprises:

- Cat 140M grader
- 30,000L prime mover & water tanker
- Cat 966H Loader
- Service & Maintenance truck



Multi-Tyred Dozer



30,000L Water cart

WGEPL has also entered into a four year plant hire agreement with Brierty Limited, resulted in WGEPL purchasing a Komatsu Multi-Tyred Dozer for use on the RTIO Western Turner Syncline Project.

WGEPL has also been developing a relationship with Downer Mining, looking at sub-contracting opportunities for the now deferred Silvergrass Mining tender. This relationship will also provide other Eastern Guruma business's the opportunity to participate with WGEPL on a large mining project.

Muntulgura Guruma Pty Ltd (MG)



In May 2014, Indigenous Construction Resource Group (ICRG) and WGAC agreed to establish a civil construction business, to undertake civil projects on Eastern Guruma country. This business is a 50:50 incorporated entity, with equal ownership and control.

MG has been awarded its first contract at Solomon providing a 24/7 train loading operations over 2 years with a value of around \$8million a year.

MG has also been nominated by FMG to participate in undertaking various de-watering projects across the various FMG Mine sites.

In recent weeks MG and Brierty Limited have agreed to enter into a joint venture arrangement to undertake larger civil projects on country. The JV provides additional capability to MG and ensures that Eastern Guruma participation on projects remains relevant.

The photo on the previous page, shows WGAC Board members presenting framed boomerangs to FMG & ICRG to express our gratitude for the support they have provided to develop the capability of WGEPL resulting in direct benefit to the EG people.

Office Opening & Community Day

On behalf of our Elders, the WGAC Board and the community, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the Honourable Brendon Grylls (member of the Pilbara) for attending our Office opening and Community Day.

We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to Nanna Pansy Hicks for performing the Welcome to Country ceremony.

The board would also like to extend our gratitude to all our Elders and family for gracing this occasion.

Special mention to Aunty Susan Smith for her wonderful barbeque. The Kangaroo Satays were a definite treat!!! (Recipe please)

This day would not have been made possible without the tireless efforts of both Cel and Tami. Their planning and execution was exceptional. A **'Big Thank You'** for making this day a success.



Thanks
Brendon



Our
Community

This celebration recognised the contribution of our people, through the direction of our Elders. We must continue to push for greater opportunities for the long term benefit of our future generations. Our board is determined to succeed and further improve the well-being of our community. We can only do this with your participation, support and cooperation!!

On a lighter note, it was wonderful meeting the family and sharing stories around the table, whilst absorbing the laughter and excitement of the children. I am told that the 'Snow Cones' were a massive hit by both young and old.



Cooooo!!!

What's next?



As you know, the Pilbara is heavily reliant on the Iron Ore industry. 2015 has seen a slump in the price of Iron Ore, which means more challenging economic times ahead for the state and for everyone.

We are confident that we will be able to continue to realise business opportunities and continue to grow. The WGAC Board is determined to focus our priorities on building the capability of our people.

I firmly believe that if we continue to demonstrate our willingness to achieve, positive outcomes will eventuate.

Thank you and till the next issue, stay safe and positive!!