

SUMMER 2010–11

GUMALA NEWS

COVER STORY – Gumala and Murdoch University sign the ground-breaking Health & Education Needs Analysis Agreement

Pictured are Gumala's Chairman Stuart Ingie Snr and Murdoch University's Pro Vice Chancellor Faculties Professor Rhonda Marriott. Overseeing the signing ceremony are Gumala's Chief Executive Steve Mav and Murdoch University's Health & Education Needs Analysis Project Director Dr Bruce Walker



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... and much more



GUMALA
Aboriginal
Corporation
ICN 2744

GUMALA GOING GANGBUSTERS!

A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT

"Wow!" That's what one VIP said to me recently during a visit to our office to learn more about the growth of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation. A lot's been happening!

We're now finishing off the third year in which rapid growth, an expansion of members' services and improved service delivery

Over \$11 million in private grant funding has gone to our members and assisted in many ways included funding for community infrastructure work, school programs, lore & culture activities and an expansion of the popular health and well being program.

HOUSING PLAN

There's still a long way to go and Gumala wants 2011 to be the year

Secretary Stephen Petersen (Niyarpali) for their leadership and for supporting the day-to-day operations of the seventh largest indigenous corporation in Australia.

I also express my thanks to all language group directors for their hard work and commitment to Gumala's growth.

I look forward to continuing to serve

"THREE YEARS OF RAPID GROWTH"

"AN EXPANSION OF MEMBERS' SERVICES"

"IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY"

have become central to better serving the Traditional Owners.

It's a pleasure working for you and continuing to build one of Australia's leading indigenous corporations.

Together we've made great progress in 2010 to advance the strategic goals of our ever-growing and ever-expanding member-based organisation.

\$11 MILLION IN MEMBERS' GRANTS

The membership has continued to grow and Gumala Aboriginal Corporation now boasts over 1200 adult members receiving benefits totalling more than \$11 million for this financial year alone.

This is a 1000% increase in funding since significant changes to our organisation started three years ago.

With a professional team now in excess of twenty and a visionary Board of Directors, your organisation continues to set ambitious goals to better serve its members – the Banyjima, Niyarpali and Innawonga people.

of "bricks and mortar" with plans to make significant progress on the homeland movement and to commence constructing 150 houses for our Members over the next five years. And we've already started....

The pilot project of building two houses on the "Wirrilimarra Block" as part of the homeland movement has been completed.

Gumala is keen to see more houses built on the Traditional lands including in Youngaleena, Wakathuni and Bellary Springs communities.

Gumala has also purchased land to build ten houses in South Hedland and construction is expected to commence next year.

Gumala is also looking at obtaining land in Tom Price, Onslow, Paraburdoo and other areas of the Pilbara as part of its housing growth plan.

MOVING FORWARD

As we enter the festive season, may I thank Chairman Stuart Ingie (Innawonga), Deputy Chairman Archie Tucker (Banyjima) and

you in 2011 and beyond. Merry Christmas and a happy new year!



Steve Mav
Chief Executive
Gumala Aboriginal Corporation



Keely and Kiet hit the right note at high school

A private school in Perth has praised two young students who are children of Gumala Members, with Gumala providing the vital education funding to pay for their educations.

The students are Keely Tucker (whose parents are Karen Hayes and Weston Tucker) and Kiet Cook (whose parents are Germaine Condon and Dougie Cook). Ellenbrook Christian College's

Tracey McGuire (Indigenous Support) said the Staff at ECC have always found Kiet and Keely to be very quiet and friendly students.

She said Keely also enjoyed the opportunity to show her talent in basketball on different occasions. In one competition, she competed against students a few years her senior, with the basketball coach commenting that it was a pleasure

to have Keely on his team. Tracey added that Keely is a pleasant student who will be missed in the school environment.

Tracey added that Kiet also found his feet with basketball as his talent. On many early mornings he could be seen shooting hoops with a few of the other Year 10 students. Kiet is described as a great team player and valued member of the team.

"Kiet adapted well to boarding school and life at Ellenbrook Christian College," Tracey said. "He will be missed amongst his peers."

All staff and students of Ellenbrook Christian College wish both Keely and Kiet the best of luck in the future and may they succeed in all they do.

Next year Keely and Kiet will be attending La Salle College and Guildford Grammar respectively.



Keely Tucker and Kiet Cook

Leon uses Gumala traineeship to advance his career

Gumala Trainee Leon Nokes, who was carrying out a traineeship with Gumala Contracting, has used the knowledge, training and experience gained at Gumala Contracting to advance his career.

Leon is a Gumala Member and recently decided to take up employment with mining giant FMG.

Although he is only contracted to work at FMG over the summer, Leon has also secured employment with Richards Mining Services (RMS) in

Port Hedland. He will begin working for RMS once his FMG contract ends. Everyone at Gumala wishes Leon every success.



Gumala Member Leon Nokes

Education Funding available from Gumala Aboriginal Corporation:

- Financial assistance of up to \$10,000 per year for Scholarships
- Up to \$2000 per year for Education Assistance

Contact our Education Officers Hannah Newnham or Anne Pomery for more details

We are keen to hear from GAC Members or their children who have recently celebrated a graduation ceremony from high school, TAFE or university, or have received a certificate of recognition or award for completing a training course. Photos (jpeg files preferred) should be emailed to peter.caruso@gumala.com.au.

Gumala and Murdoch University sign Needs Analysis agreement

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) and Murdoch University have signed an agreement in which Murdoch University will complete a Health and Education Needs Analysis of Gumala Members and their children. The needs Analysis is also made possible by the generous co-sponsorship of Rio Tinto Iron Ore (RTIO).

The Health and Education Needs Analysis will result in a final plan for both the Mobile Health Clinic facility and the implementation of improved school education programs.

Following the formal signing ceremony, which took place in Perth during October, Murdoch University is scheduled to begin Phase I of the Needs Analysis in early 2011, with a final report scheduled to be delivered to GAC by March 2012.

The comprehensive report will aim to provide an analysis that will guide longer term strategic planning for enhanced health and education service delivery. It will also review the proposed development of tailored educational programs and resources that could be integrated with the Mobile Health Clinic.

On completion of the report, a detailed proposal for the



Board and Management representatives of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation pictured together with Murdoch University representatives at the official signing ceremony in Perth.

construction and operation of the Mobile Health Clinic will be presented to Gumala for review.

GAC and Murdoch University wish to thank RTIO for its funding support for the Needs Analysis Phase I.

Project Director of the Health and Education Needs Analysis, Murdoch University's Dr Bruce Walker, said this initial analysis would enable essential planning for the development of the delivery of more effective health and education for Gumala Members and their children living in the Pilbara region.

"In terms of education, improved levels of school attendance and learning outcomes will be the focus of the strategic development," Dr Walker said. "With the support of Gumala, Murdoch University hopes to facilitate healing, growth, educational and cultural and economic prosperity in Gumala's communities."

GAC's General Manager, Francois Langlois, said that Gumala's Members and their families living in the Pilbara require improved health and education services.

"The Mobile Health Clinic is part of an overall solution to improve the prosperity our Members and their children," Mr Langlois said. "However, a Needs Analysis is required beforehand. This will provide us with comprehensive information about our Members and their children so that we can best cater for their health and education needs."

During Phase I of the Needs Analysis, data that will be collected includes:

- current demographics
- service provisions across health and education in the Pilbara region



Gumala's Chairman and respected Elder Stuart Ingie Snr and Murdoch University's Pro Vice Chancellors Professor Rhonda Marriott during the official signing ceremony

Board approves primary school agreement

The Board of Directors of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) has formally approved an agreement which paves the way for improvements in school outcomes for our Members children at primary schools throughout the Pilbara.

The first agreement was recently signed between GAC and Tom Price Primary School.

This means that from 2011, funds provided by Gumala for Members kids schooling are paid directly to the school.

Gumala's Education Officer, Anne Pomery, said Gumala is now looking to secure similar agreements with other schools in the Pilbara, including Paraburadoo, Onslow and Karratha.

This represents an important streamlining in the funding process, with the funds paying for a range of education costs including school fees, uniforms, shoes, stationery, meals and excursions.

It also means that Gumala kids that attend Tom Price Primary School will obtain the maximum benefit out of the school's Welcome Centre.

Gumala kids arrive at the Welcome Centre in the morning (many of them arrive together on the Wakathuni school bus), receive breakfast, get changed into their school uniforms and go to their classrooms. They also get healthy lunches at the Welcome Centre.

"This agreement is very important because it is streamlining the funding process that will result in higher attendance levels," said Tom Price Primary School's Deputy Principal Kath Hart.

"The better the children's attendance, the better their school results will be."



ABOVE: Gumala kids beside the Wakathuni bus: Tasma Cook, Zaykeas Carey, Shakira Carey, Kieran Jones, Kane James and Shanie Jones.

BELOW: Image taken at Tom Price Primary School's Welcome Centre. The kids: Tasma Cook, Zaykeas Carey, Shakira Carey, Kieran Jones, Kane James and Shanie Jones, Louwena James, Blake Cook, Ty James, Jarrell Jones, Joel Turner and Skye Cook. The grown-ups: Kim Wallace, Anne Pomery and Kath Hart.



- the health and education status of the population, including child and health indicators and school achievement and attendance.

Murdoch University will also canvass social determinants of health and disease such as water, sewerage, housing, power, education, employment, and legal and criminal justice concerns. They will also ask open-ended questions to Gumala Members regarding what other factors impact on their health and what services they require in relation to health and education.

The Needs Analysis will focus on education in the early years and associated parenting, particularly that of young mothers. It will also focus on disease prevention.

"While primary care of those with immediate needs is important, prevention is vital," Dr Walker said. "Our analysis of this area will include a review of those disease prevention strategies that are in place and the current and future needs in this area."

Dr Walker added that the specific health and education needs that the proposed Mobile Clinic facility will address will also be investigated.

The following will also take place:

- Mapping the territory (data collection from existing sources; health education; community services)
 - Health clinic reporting data
 - Yarning groups (language and cultural group meetings led by facilitators)
 - Focussed interviews with Gumala's Elders and community groups
 - Interviews with health and education workers
 - Focus groups around key issues for clarification (adults and children)
- As part of Phase I of Health and Education Needs Analysis, a steering committee will be formed. The committee will include representatives of GAC, Murdoch University and Rio Tinto Iron Ore.

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation receives

On 26 October 2010, at Government House in Perth, His Excellency Dr Ken Michael, AC, the Governor of Western Australia, hosted an official reception for Gumala Aboriginal Corporation. The reception included representatives of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (Directors, Elders, Management and selected Members), as well as representatives of Rio Tinto Iron Ore (including Chief Executive Sam Walsh AO), Gumala Enterprises Pty Ltd (GEPL) and ESS Gumala.



Ken Ingie, Churchill Jones, Alec Tucker, His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC, Stuart Ingie, Mrs Julie Michael, Archie Tucker, Brian Tucker



Stephen Peterson, Melanie Condon, Churchill Jones, May Byrne, Linda McCarthy, Karen Tommy, Ken Ingie, Sam Galati, Archie Tucker



Churchill Jones and His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC



Joanne Farrell, His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC, Stuart Ingie, Mrs Julie Michael, Janina Gawler



Steve Mav and Ken Ingie



Archie Tucker and Jayden Hansen



Mrs Julie Michael, Karen Mitchell, His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC



Archie Tucker and Stephen Peterson



His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC, Stuart Ingie, Mrs Julie Michael, Steve Mav



Bert Giancristofaro and Sam Galati



Janina Gawler, Hon John Cowdell and Sam Walsh AO

special invitation to Government House



Sam Walsh AO and Brian Tucker



His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC, and Steve Mav



Churchill Jones and Alec Tucker



Mrs Julie Michael, His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC, Steve Mav, Jenny Viviers



His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC, Stuart Ingie, Mrs Julie Michael, Sam Walsh AO



Natalie Parker and Dr Sally Raine



Steve Mav, Sarah Buckley, Stuart Ingie, Mrs Julie Michael, Sam Walsh AO



Karen Tommy, Melanie Condon, May Byrne



Stephen Peterson, Karen Tommy, Melanie Condon, May Byrne, His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC, Karen Mitchell, Stuart Ingie, Mrs Julie Michael, Natalie Parker

The unveiling of "Bugurunda Seed Wattle Tree"

Artist:
Gumala Member
Nina Smith



Presented by Gumala Aboriginal Corporation to His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC, Governor of Western Australia and Mrs Julie Michael on 26 October 2010



Elders In Profile

Ken Ingie Gumala Elder and Innawonga Traditional Owner

Your family and background: I've got two sons, one daughter and several grandkids. I was born in Onslow and spent most of my childhood there. My high school education was in Carnarvon and Port Hedland, after which I moved to Wittenoom. My main job was at the local service station there, but I also spent time living at Hamersley Station with my uncle and his family.

Then I returned to Onslow, where my parents lived. I moved around a lot, including Port Hedland and Roebourne. I lived in Roebourne for a few years and also travelled up north a lot in the Kimberley and the Northern Territory.

Employment you're had over the years: Many jobs, including working as a stockman, driving trucks and operating earth-moving machinery.

Something out of the ordinary you have done:

- I went overseas once. It was a once in a lifetime trip to Thailand.
- Wearing a suit! I wore it at the Governor's reception in Perth (see photo opposite).

Your association with Gumala: I was a foundation member back in 1997, together with my brother Stuart and the rest of my family. I was a Director of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC). Right now I am a Director of Gumala Investments Pty Ltd (GIPL). I am also currently on GAC's Lore and Culture Committee.

How do you view Gumala Aboriginal Corporation: We have come a long way on many levels, and I have to give Steve (Chief Executive Steve Mav) a lot of the credit for that.



I've got big hopes for the future of our organisation. I believe the re-structuring process will result in major changes that will ultimately benefit the GAC Members.

The Ingie family have been involved with Gumala for many years and we, like many others, are doing our best to help pave the way for future generations.

Trevor Parker Gumala Elder and Banyjima Traditional Owner

Trevor Parker

Gumala Elder

Banyjima language group

Foundation Member

Married to Doris Parker

Trevor and Doris live at Peedamulla Station near Onslow

They took over the running of the station 1981



Learning from the Alaska Experience

by Gumala Aboriginal Corporation's Chief Executive Steve Mav

Having recently attended the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Convention, it dawned on me how Gumala Aboriginal Corporation can learn from overseas experiences on how to maximise returns for the Traditional Owners stemming from our land use agreement with Rio Tinto.

We had the pleasure of spending five days in the State of Alaska as part of a Gumala Delegation comprising Directors May Byrne (Banyjima), Natalie Parker (Niyiyapali), Melanie Condon (Innawonga), the Corporation Solicitor, Dr. Sally Raine and myself.

The delegation used its first international trip to learn from the Natives (as they're called in Alaska) about important economic and social development issues.

The Convention was held in the city of Fairbanks – close to the arctic circle – in central Alaska with a population of 35,000. The weather was exactly the opposite to the Pilbara – freezing! In fact, the temperature fell as low as minus 10 on some days.

We were all “rugged up” while meeting some of the 4000 delegates who had travelled from across the state to participate in one of the biggest cultural and political events for America's natives.

We also tried some of the local food including moose, deer, rabbit and Alaskan salmon – all very delicious!

There are 564 Tribes recognised by the US Government and approximately half are located in the State of Alaska. While a small state

in terms of population (700,000), Alaska is the largest state in the United States by area (approx 1.7 million km²).

About 20% of the population are natives and there are thirteen Alaska regional native corporations representing the collective interests of the Eskimo, Indian and Aleut peoples.

The thirteen corporations have combined assets exceeding \$7 billion and have a portfolio of diversified investments in areas including gas, oil drilling, property development, government contracting, fishing, timber and many different types of natural resources.

What we found interesting is that the regional corporations were established by legislation and under



The Gumala delegation consisted of Chief Executive Steve Mav, Directors May Byrne (Banyjima), Natalie Parker (Niyiyapali), Melanie Condon (Innawonga) and our Solicitor, Dr. Sally Raine. Also pictured is AFN President Julie Kitka (centre)



“The Alaskan model has a number of attractive features that Gumala will seek to adopt as it relies on international best practice to grow and become Australia's leading indigenous corporation.” – Steve Mav

the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, enjoy special protections.

In particular, under US law the regional corporations are deemed to be “minority and economically disadvantaged business enterprises” which allows them to gain commercial contracts with the US Government on favourable terms.

This is designed to allow the indigenous peoples of Alaska to make reasonable returns on their investments either solely or through joint ventures to enable annual dividend cash payments to be given to the beneficiaries – Alaska's natives.

The delegation also visited Bever (pop. 120 people). The only way to get to this place was by a small plane. This isolated and traditional village is located at the arctic circle next to the majestic Yukon river.

The Gumala delegation was welcomed enthusiastically by the locals and we had the opportunity to inspect the traditional cabins

and learn about the challenges of “surviving” in such a remote location.

In many ways, attending the AFN Convention and being exposed to the significant achievements of Alaska's indigenous populations over the past forty years gave us hope and inspiration that Gumala and other similar organisations can

replicate the success of US native corporations.

While clearly different to our land use agreement, the Alaskan model has a number of attractive features that Gumala will seek to adopt as it relies on international best practice to grow and become Australia's leading indigenous corporation.



The Gumala delegation presenting the Aboriginal flag to the AFN Board

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation excels as honorary guest at AFN Convention

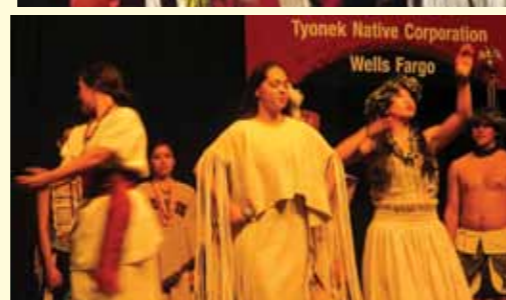


Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) has proudly taken part in the Alaskan Federation of Natives (AFN) Annual AFN Convention from October 21-23 in Fairbanks, Alaska. In addition to our active participation in the event, it proved to be a major learning curve which GAC will be able to take on-board and utilise in the next phase of the transformation of our own organisation.

GAC Directors May Byrne, Natalie Parker and Melanie Condon attended and participated in the event, together with GAC Chief Executive Steve Mav and GAC Solicitor Sally Raine.

The convention's theme, "Village Survival", included a special emphasis on education, movement of peoples, sustainable economies and contributing to Alaska's economic recovery. GAC absorbed a significant amount of key information regarding these themes, which can be applied to our organisation in the future.

The conference was webcast live and included speeches and media interviews involving Gumala representatives. The exchange of knowledge at the convention was truly invaluable.



Gumala ends the year with a string of new appointments

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation has bolstered its staff numbers, with several new appointments being made in the lead-up to Christmas. This includes the vital appointments of two education officers, a new addition to our finance department (Emma Heys) as well as several new appointments to boost the capacity of our Members' Services Unit (MSU).

As part of our MSU expansion, we have opened a new MSU room in our Tom Price office. We now have two MSU Teams – one team (MSU 1) takes care of Innawonga and Nyiyaparli Members' applications and enquiries, while the other team (MSU 2) takes care of Banyjima Members' applications and enquiries.



Gumala's newly appointed Education Officers
Hannah Newnham (left) and Anne Pomery



Gumala's original MSU office (MSU 1), which now deals with applications and enquiries from our Innawonga and Nyiyaparli Members



Gumala's new MSU office (MSU 2), which deals with applications and enquiries from Banyjima Members

Our new Members' Services Unit (MSU) line-up

MSU 1 – Innawonga and Nyiyaparli

- Liz Diver – MSU Team Leader
- Helen Cotter – MSU Acting Team Leader
- Debbie Eatwell – MSU Officer
- Piné Byrne – MSU Trainee
- Eleanor Lukale – MSU Officer

MSU 2 – BANYJIMA

- Ronwyn James – Senior MSU Officer
- Karen O'Brien – MSU Officer
- Zane Honey – MSU Officer
- Katherine Price – MSU Officer (casual)

General Gumala Foundation consultations prove to be highly effective

Consultations that the Implementation Working Group (IWG) held with Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) Members regarding proposed changes to the General Gumala Foundation have been highly productive.

Members from around Western Australia were consulted in September and October about how the General Gumala Foundation could be improved.

Members views will be taken on-board by the IWG, which is made up of the Indigenous Directors of GAC; Gumala Investments Pty Ltd (GIPL); and representatives from Rio Tinto Iron Ore (RTIO).

The IWG is tasked with making recommendations stemming from 3 major reviews that have been completed over the past 2 years on GAC and related entities (GIPL & GEPL).

The IWG recommendations will be considered by the Manager (GAC) and the Trustee (GIPL) of the General Gumala Foundation before appropriate resolutions are put to the Membership at the AGM in March next year.

As part of the consultations, Andrew Collett and Mark Simpson (RTIO) engaged with as many interested Gumala Traditional Owners as possible about improvements to the General Gumala Foundation.

A 75 per cent majority vote will be required by the membership at our Annual General Meeting in order for any changes to the General Gumala Foundation to take effect.



Christmas bonus for over 50s

All Gumala Members aged 50 or older on 31 December 2010 are now automatically eligible for the Christmas 2010 cash bonus of \$2900.

Eligible Members should have received an application form to receive the Christmas bonus, which can be paid as a lump sum or in instalments throughout the year.

If you are a Gumala Member that will be aged 50 or more on 31 December 2010 and you have not received and returned to Gumala the Christmas bonus form, please call Gumala Aboriginal Corporation urgently.

Payments are scheduled to be made on 17 December 2010.

AGM reminder

All Gumala Members should be reminded that the Annual General Meetings (AGMs) of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) and Gumala Investments Pty Ltd (GIPL) will be held during the weekend of the 26th & 27th of March 2011.

All Members will be informed of further details closer to the meeting date.

Christmas Closure over Christmas – New Year period

Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) wishes to advise all Members that our offices will be closed for several days during the Christmas to New Year period.

We will be closed from midday on Friday December 24 and will re-open for business as usual on Monday 10 January 2011.

For EMERGENCIES only, please call the Gumala office (1800 486 252) and leave a message.

We would like to wish all Gumala Members and their families a happy and healthy festive season.

Projects and Communities Update

Important renal health discussions held

In early December, Dr Maggie Haertsch from Combined Universities Centre for Rural Health met with Gumala's Projects Officer (Community Projects), Rebecca Harkin, to discuss renal health needs in Tom Price.

"Dr Haertsch is carrying out a diabetes and kidney disease prevention and management plan for the Pilbara Aboriginal Health Forum," Rebecca said.

"Our meeting was very useful because we exchanged a significant amount of information and can now look forward to working with her further in the future.

"We are working together to research and develop the best possible renal health model for our Gumala's Members. This includes liaisoning with stakeholders. Ultimately we want to implement a renal health proposal for Tom Price that will best benefit the membership."



Gumala's Project Officer (Community Projects), Rebecca Harkin pictured with Dr Maggie Haertsch from Combined Universities Centre for Rural Health

Wakathuni upgrades

Gumala has undertaken a scope of works to improve Wakathuni's community centre and clinic. Hopefully the implementation of these important works will occur in the very near future.

Karijini remediation works update

The remediation works at Karijini Eco Retreat (KER) have been completed. The works were being undertaken by Gumala Aboriginal Corporation in conjunction with the Western Australian Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) in order to meet proposed recommendations from DEC relating to vehicle circulation, parking and site rehabilitation issues that were first identified in an external sustainability audit and follow-up assessment of the site in 2008.

The main objective was to halt and reverse site degradation and corresponding decline in site amenity owing to a range of site development and management issues.

The next proposed phase of the remediation works include: scratching of surface to allow re-germination of native plants; brushing where applicable; form a slight sloping from tent where appropriate; form gravel pathways where designated; and move rocks to delineate road. GAC is currently in negotiations with a contractor to undertake the works. Once the contract has been finalised the works will commence shortly thereafter.



Gumala Member Kevin Eckerman of Binbirri Contracting discussing the next proposed stage of KER remediation works with Gumala's General Manager Francois Langlois

Plans for Youngaleena and Bellary Springs

The WA Department of Local Government has identified Youngaleena and Bellary Springs for possible service/infrastructure improvements.

Gumala took Brad Smith, Senior Consultant, Cam Management Solutions, to visit Youngaleena and Bellary Springs in early December. Mr Smith is preparing "Scopings and costings of local government related services and infrastructure in remote Aboriginal Communities in the Pilbara." Mr Smith will now report to the government on his findings. Gumala is willing to assist in any possible way to ensure these improvements come to fruition.

Projects and Communities Update

Lore Camp upgrades progressing well

The Lore Camp upgrades have been progressing well and are on-track. The Wirrilimarra lore camp upgrade is expected to be finished shortly, with Gumala Members carrying out the majority of the works including: laying water pipes (involving two km of trenching), fencing and ablution blocks installation.

The Cane River lore camp upgrade will be completed shortly.

An integral part of our lore camp upgrades involves health and safety. Hence a critical upgrade at the lore camps is the provision of fresh running water.

When the Wirrilimarra and Cane River lore camp upgrades are completed, lore camp upgrades will then begin at Bellary Springs, Wakathuni and Youngaleena.



The laying of water pipes at the Wirrilimarra lore camp involved two km of trenching

Playground upgrades

In the new year, Gumala is planning to install new recreation structures and upgrades at each of our communities, including: rubber flooring for the playground areas at each community; the installation of backboards for the basketball courts at Youngaleena as well as repainting of the court. We are investigating the possibility of building a skate park at Wakathuni.



The basketball courts at Youngaleena will be upgraded by Gumala. We also plan to carry out upgrades at all our communities' playgrounds

Gumala Members' children visit Rio Tinto's MEM operations

On Wednesday 3 November 2010 Rio Tinto Tom Price Operations MEM Superintendent, Mark Hutchinson and Electrical Supervisor, John Coope hosted Tom Price Senior High School students who take part in the Aboriginal traineeships program at the High school.

The students are also participants of the Follow the Dream / Partnerships for Success Program run through Garnjurri Mirnumurri Nurr-unga, at the Tom Price Enrichment Centre, for a site visit.

Students Todd Jones, Roddy Hughes, Brayden Simpson and Banjeeri Dwyer were taken on the tour of the MEM operations, led by Mark Hutchinson and John Coope



From left: Brayden Simpson, Roddy Hughes, Superintendent Mark Hutchinson, Banjeeri Dwyer, Coordinator Jasmine Harris, John Coope, Todd Jones



From left: John Coope, Banjeeri Dwyer, Todd Jones (son of Gumala Member and Director Churchill Jones), Brayden Simpson and Roddy Hughes (son of Gumala Member Lynley Coffin)

and accompanied by Coordinator of the Enrichment Centre, Jasmine Harris and Aboriginal Mentor and Liaison Officer, Regina Fisher.

The invitation was extended to students to take part as an initiative by Mark Hutchinson with an aim for Aboriginal students who are interested in applying for apprenticeship opportunities to expose them to the work environment for them to see first hand what is involved in the working on mobile equipment in the mining industry.

Site based Aboriginal Mentor and Liaison Officer, Regina Fisher, co-

ordinated the visit for the students. Cranage and Transport Supervisor, Gary Duss, provided logistical support with the bus.

The visit was a huge success. The students and their families were very pleased and impressed that Superintendent, Mark Hutchinson, Senior Electrical Supervisor, John Coope and Regina Fisher took time out from their busy schedules to spend such quality time with the students and be involved with them at such a personal level.

Enrichment Centre Coordinator Jasmine Harris has received positive feedback from the students and families involved and it is envisaged that this will run again next year.

Student Todd Jones said "It was great being able to actually go up to the mine and meet with the people working there."

Courtesy of Lauren Heinritz, Project Coordinator, Communities, Rio Tinto Iron Ore (RTIO).

Rio Tinto Iron Ore (RTIO) and Gumala Aboriginal Corporation are key stakeholders of the Tom Price Enrichment Centre.

Regina Fisher is a Member of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation.

Members' thanks appreciated

Our Members' Services Unit (MSU) appreciates the *thank you* messages received recently from some of our Members who have received birthday cards and gift vouchers from Gumala.

Thank you messages have been received from several members, including Robert Aitchison Snr, Elisabeth Lethbridge and Jean MacLean.

On their birthdays, Gumala Members aged over 55 receive a birthday card and a gift voucher from Gumala Aboriginal Corporation.

Do you have a yarn to tell Gumala News?

If you have a good yarn to tell about yourself, someone in your family, or a friend who is a fellow Gumala Member, phone Gumala Aboriginal Corporation's Communications Officer Peter Caruso on (08) 9361 0522. Peter will call you back to pay for the call. Or you can email him: peter.caruso@gumala.com.au

Janice's Tip

A tip from our Receptionist
Janice Garbutt



When filling in application forms and faxing them to Gumala Aboriginal Corporation's Tom Price office, please ensure you tick the box indicating which language group you belong to. This is very important because the Members' Services Unit is now divided into language groups.

Gumala Graduate



Todd Jones (son of Gumala Director Churchill Jones) from Wakathuni Community in his Valedictory cloak for graduating from Year 12 at Tom Price Senior High School

Setting goals puts Zoey on the path to success

– by Zoey Lethbridge

My name is Zoey Lethbridge, Sophia Lethbridge's daughter. I am 17 years old and I have just graduated from Year 12 at Karratha Senior High School.

At the presentation I was given the award from the Gumala Mirnuwarni Education Project.

I have been attending Karratha Senior High School since I was in Year 8. When I got into Year 10, I decided to apply for a Traineeship at the ANZ bank in Karratha.

I then moved to Wickham so I had to change my Traineeship to another place near home – so I decided to work at the Department for Child Protection.

I have been awarded Certificate II in Business along with completing my

Traineeship. I have been given a full time job as an Admin Assistant at the Department for Child Protection.

I set goals for myself and that was to graduate... and I did. I hope that my younger family look up to me and do the same. Just follow your dream and you will never know where it is going to take you.

The Gumala Mirnuwarni Education Project is a homework centre. Students apply to attend but you must be willing to do your homework. They help you out with your homework (they give you free tutors and other things). I have been attending the program since Year 8.



Year 12 graduation photos: left – Zoey and friends; right – Zoey and her mother, Gumala Member Sophia Lethbridge

Francois awarded CDC qualification



Gumala Aboriginal Corporation's General Manager Francois Langlois, pictured accepting his Company Directors Course (CDC) Diploma. He was recently awarded the Diploma in Perth.

Enrichment Centre sign is a big hit

The Tom Price Enrichment Centre's new front door sign, which was designed by Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC), has proved to be a popular addition at the centre. GAC is a proud supporter of the centre, and is extremely proud of our Members children who gain lasting rewards from attending the centre.



Pictured in front of the sign are: Back: Lenka Hansen and Michael Leslie; Front: Nikita Scott, Kathleen Nelly and Brandon Cook (son of Gumala Member Brendon Cook).

GUMALA RADIO

Bellary 101.7 FM
Roebourne 102.9 FM
Onslow 101.7 FM
Wakathuni 104.9 FM
Youngaleena 102.1 FM
Tom Price 106.5 FM
Paraburdoo 102.9 FM

tune in now!

Piné adds another string to her bow

Young Gumala Trainee and Member Piné Byrne has been appointed as the Vice-Chairperson of Milyuranpa Banyjima Aboriginal Corporation.

Piné is successfully balancing this new role together with her Gumala Traineeship in the Members' Services Unit (MSU) and her Certificate IV (Business) studies.

Since beginning her MSU traineeship in April 2010, Piné has felt a great sense of achievement and pride in helping her people and all of Gumala's Members in any way she can. Well done Piné!



Piné Byrne



The Directors, Management and Staff of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation wish all of our Members and their families a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year... and we wish to remind everyone to please take care on our roads during the Festive Season.



GUMALA
Aboriginal
Corporation
ICN 2744

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