



2014 YAWURU ANNUAL REPORT

STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE
STRENGTHENING COUNTRY AND CULTURE
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY





Maria McKenzie and Cissy at Roebuck Plains Station



INTRODUCTION

In Yawuru's establishment phase - 2010 to 2014 - we created our corporate governance which has served us well and has become a model for other native title groups throughout Australia. We have built our organisational structure and have begun producing important initiatives such as -

- *revitalising Yawuru language and culture;
- *building houses for Yawuru families to rent and own;
- * managing our country for the long term through designing a conservation estate and protected area in partnership with the State Government, the Shire and other stakeholders;
- * building Yawuru capacity to negotiate with developers wanting to use Yawuru lands;
- * transferring Roebuck Plains Station to Yawuru ownership; and
- * growing Yawuru's stake in the regional economy and mainstream society.

Our achievements are impressive but this is only the beginning. The Yawuru agenda is bold but realistic. Our commitment to achieve serious social and economic change reflects the belief by the Yawuru community that the recognition of Yawuru native title rights must be accompanied by change at many levels. Yawuru are not just another stakeholder but a primary equity player that will shape the cultural, social, economic and environmental fabric of Broome into the future.

In 2014 Yawuru received the final cash payment from the State Government arising from the Yawuru Native Title Agreement. This means that from this time on the Yawuru Corporation must generate all its own income to achieve its objectives

To build on our achievements and implement our development agenda, Yawuru will continue to invest in a prudent and careful manner and with a renewed commitment to grow our income and ensure that our costs are sustainable. This has to be done alongside with Yawuru's clear priorities to sustain culture and to look after country.

There are three broad areas for Yawuru to grow our income;

- * commercial development using our property assets with opportunities for joint ventures;
- * seeking public and private investments in priority projects such as the proposed Liyan Centre, Yawuru Knowledge Centre and Yawuru Cultural Centre; and
- * Using the expertise within the Yawuru community and corporation as a commercial service.

Yawuru's in-house financial capacity and five years of experience in best practice community and corporate governance provides the foundation for Yawuru's growth and achievements to be sustained for generations to come. As with all of Yawuru's aspirations and hopes, good judgement, wise advice and sound practice needs to guide our direction.





Signing at Roebuck Plains Station



STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE

GOVERNANCE

The Yawuru PBC Board has 12 Directors made up of six Law Bosses and six other Yawuru people who are chosen each year by the members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The Directors of the PBC as at the 30th June 2014 were Patrick Dodson, Francis (Lulga) Djiagween, Thomas (Unda) Edgar, Neil McKenzie, Susan (Marjadee) Edgar, Maxine Charlie, Leah Dolby, Debra Pigram, Darren Puertollano and Peter Yu, Errol Roe and Ronnie Roe.

The Law Boss Directors are nominated by Yawuru Law bosses leading up to the AGM and other Directors are elected by Yawuru members at the AGM. The term for all Directors is three years.

The PBC Board performs its duties with the support of management and staff of Nyamba Buru Yawuru Ltd, (NBY) in line with the PBC Rules and Australian Corporations law.

The NBY General Manager was Andy Yeates until the end of February 2014. From the 1st March 2014 two General Managers, Tony Lee who is responsible for Community Programs and Dean Newton for Commerce, were appointed by the NBY Board. The Company Secretary was Brendan Renkin until the 30th June 2014 and Rodney Nichole is now in that role.

The PBC Board met 9 times in the period 1st July 2013 to the 30th June 2014 to make decisions to protect and manage Yawuru country and on important policy and financial matters.

The PBC Board also received regular reports on community programs, on-country activities, company operations and investments.

PBC directors also had responsibilities beyond attending Board meetings. They were also members of several sub committees, reference groups and other bodies, such as the Yawuru Park Council, PBC Reference Group regarding Buru Energy's activities on Yawuru country, Yawuru Land and Sea Subcommittee; Yawuru Housing Committee, Community Development Committee, Risk Management Committee, Subcommittee on Healing and Wellbeing. These subcommittees have delegated responsibility to engage with external stakeholders and to report and make recommendations to the PBC Board.

Three directors of the PBC Board declared standing conflicts of interests in relation to Buru Energy's exploration projects at Yulleroo and Ungani and were not involved in the relevant discussions and decisions of the PBC Board. A Register of Conflicts of Interests by Directors was maintained and includes these declared conflicts by Directors.

During this year the Board also received financial updates every three months about Yawuru income received and money spent. Expenditure was compared to the annual budget for the year to make sure that it is controlled and that Yawuru can pay their debts.

Minutes and resolutions of every Board meeting have been recorded and signed by the Chair of the Board as true and accurate records of the matters which were discussed at meetings and are kept in the Minute Book.

The financial records of Yawuru are independently checked by an auditor UHY Haines Norton. The independent auditor's report is available for PBC members to view at the AGM and on the websites of Yawuru, Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission.



YAWURU PBC BOARD - DIRECTOR ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETINGS 1 JULY 2013 TO 30 JUNE 2014

| | 31/7 /2013 | 28/8 /2013 | 25/9 /2013 | 30/10 /2013 | 14/11 /2013 | 10/12 /2013 | JAN 2014 | 26/2 /2014 | 26/3 /2014 | 7/4 /2014 | 29/5 /2014 | 25/6 /2014 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Patrick Dodson Law Boss | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Francis Djiagween Law Boss | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Thomas Edgar Law Boss | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Neil McKenzie Law Boss | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Errol Roe Law Boss | | | | | | | | | | | ● | ● |
| Ronald Roe Law Boss | | | | | | | | | | | ● | ● |
| Susan Edgar | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| David Pigram | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | | | | | | | |
| Leah Dolby | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Rowena Puertollano | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | | | | | | | |
| Debra Pigram | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Peter Yu | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Maxine Charlie | | | | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Darren Puertollano | | | | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |

LEDGEND: ● MONTHLY MEETING ● AGM ● ATTENDED ● APOLOGY ● ABSENT ● APPROVED LEAVE ● INVITED TO ATTEND 29.5.14 ● TERM EXPIRED
● RE-ELECTED ● ELECTED AT AGM

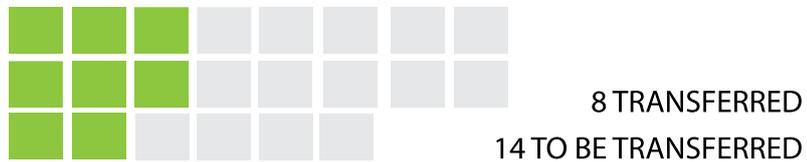
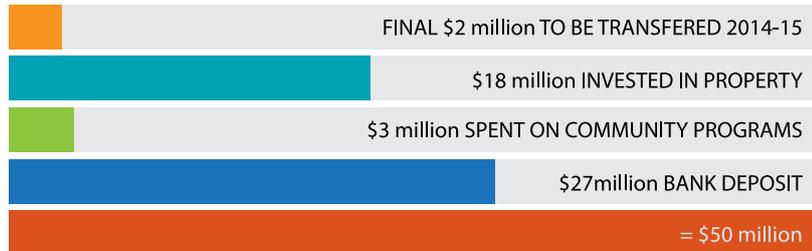
Your Directors' attendance at Board Meetings is shown in the table above.

The Board approved 111 applications for membership of the PBC on the recommendations of the Yawuru Membership Sub Committee.

Yawuru successfully settled a court case in the State Administrative Tribunal and as a result Yawuru did not have to pay land taxes for property which was transferred from the State of Western Australia to Yawuru as compensation in the Indigenous Land Use Agreements. Consequently Yawuru was repaid \$ 1.5 million from the State of Western Australia.

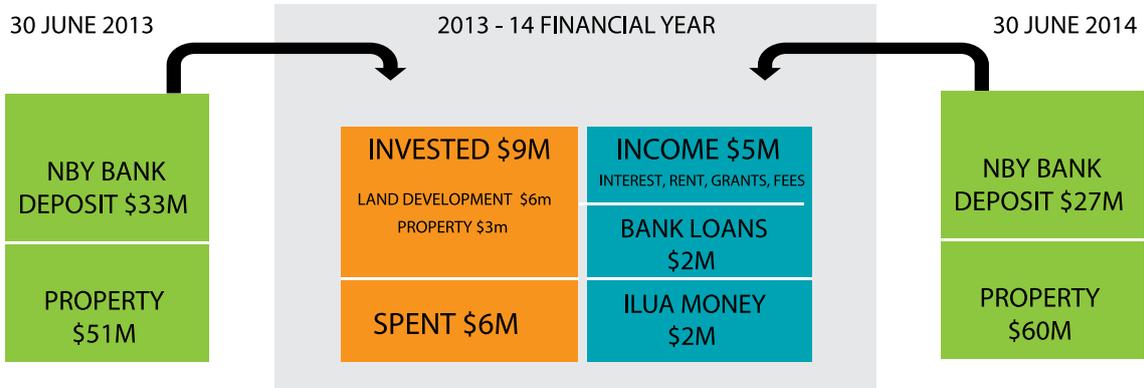
THE MONEY STORY

THE 2010 YAWURU ILUA

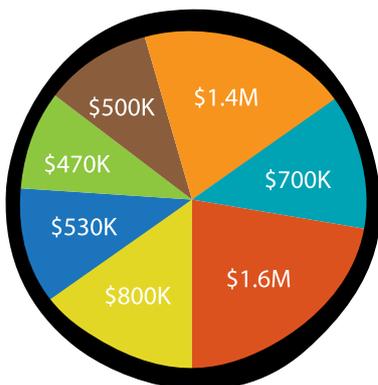


YAWURU MUST USE THE LAND AND MONEY TO REBUILD THE YAWURU NATION NOW AND FOR OUR CHILDREN

2013-14 FINANCIAL YEAR: WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

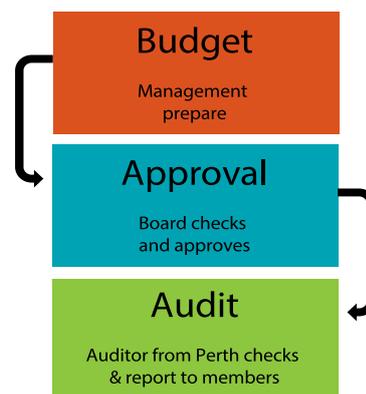


HOW THE MONEY WAS SPENT

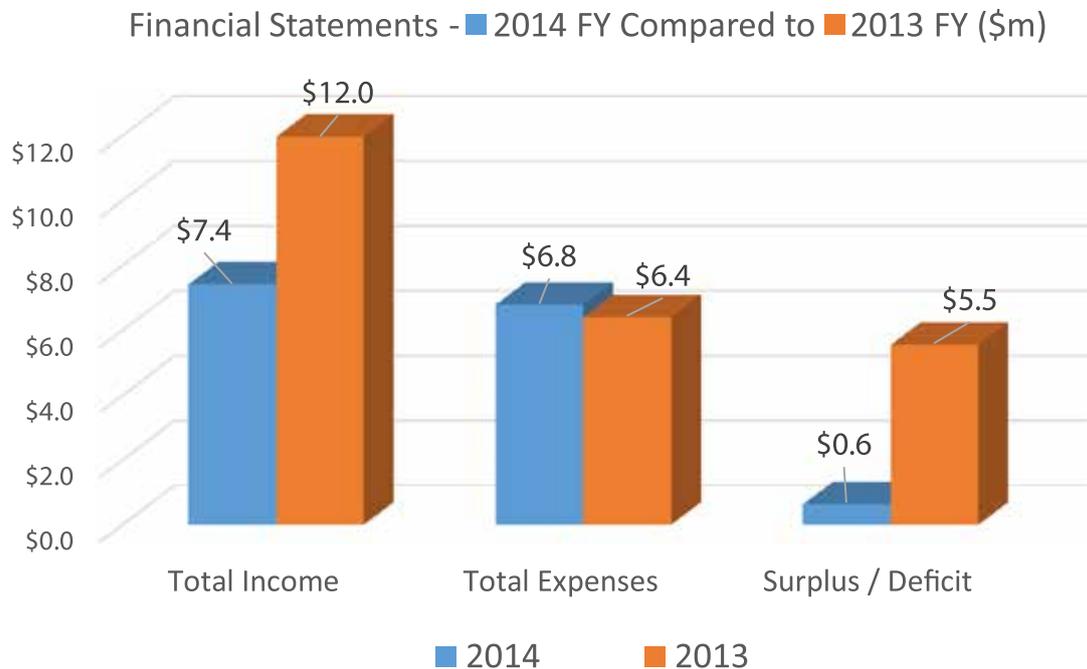


- HOUSING
- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
- LANGUAGE
- LAND & SEA
- FUTURE ACTS
- PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
- GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

WATCHING THE MONEY



Yawuru Income and Expenses – Comparison between 2013 and 2014



For 2013 there were ILUA Payments of \$8.3m compared to \$2.9m in 2014. There was a reduction of \$5.4m in ILUA Payments in 2014.

Yawuru are addressing Income requirements by

- * Investing money in Term Deposits with the bank
- * Investing in property
- * Entering into leases for Yawuru land
- * Charging third parties fees for Yawuru services and other activities

Yawuru Money Managers – Capacity Building

During the 2014 financial year, Yawuru's capacity to manage its own money was realised through the Yawuru organisational restructure which included a General Manager (Commerce), Finance Manager, an accountant and supporting staff. Previously, these services were outsourced to consultants based in Perth. This team now looks after Yawuru money by

- * Ensuring correct and full charges for Yawuru services to third parties
- * Controlling and monitoring costs in accordance with approved budgets
- * Ensuring that Yawuru get value for money for goods and services acquired
- * Providing financial leadership in investment decisions involving Yawuru money

Risk Committee

The Yawuru has created the Risk Committee which reports to and informs the corporate group on matters relating to business risks. The committee is made up of PBC and NBY Board members as well as senior management.

Investment Committee

The Investment Committee assesses and monitors all investments and opportunities before they are considered by the Board. The Investment Committee meets as required and is made up of NBY Board members and senior management.

The corporate group, through these committees assesses market challenges and finds a balance between community expectations and money management.

Managing Yawuru money is similar to managing a personal weekly household budget which involves:

- * looking at the amount of weekly wages and salary,
- * deducting expenses such as rent, food and groceries, electricity, water, fuel, car payments, entertainment amount and
- * Then saving money from disposal income for large expenses such as a holiday or for a deposit to buy a house.

PROPERTY

Land and property plays an important role in Yawuru's economic future. One of the Property Teams' role is to create income from Yawuru's property assets. Yawuru's in-house expertise also assists the housing program and infrastructure developments such as the proposed Liyan Centre on Bernard Way.

Yawuru Housing Construction

The Property Team project managed the delivery of 22 homes as part of the program for the Yawuru Housing Unit's rental schemes for Yawuru families.

Yawuru Investment Properties

The Investment Committee and NBY Board approved the development of 2 houses and 8 apartments on a commercial basis. These properties are located in Januburu and will be rented and/or sold on the open market for a commercial return.

Yawuru Residential Subdivision - Birragun Buru

Located in Cable Beach, Birragun Buru is a subdivision of more than 50 residential lots. The Investment Committee and Boards approved this development which is on track to realise the targeted commercial returns. The majority of all construction works have been completed. All costs and sales are tracking to budget expectations.

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PBC Board and Yawuru members at Roebuck Plains Station



Birragun Buru



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The sales campaign commenced in June 2014 with the release of the first 14 Lots. Yawuru members were given the first opportunity to register interest in these properties resulting in a number of Yawuru members taking the opportunity to secure their preferred lot within the development. Stage 2 has now been released and is attracting strong interest from both Yawuru members and the wider market.

Assistance to Yawuru Purchasers

The Yawuru corporate group also assisted Yawuru purchasers with selecting and entering into a contract with a builder as well as assisting with the design of their homes.

Yawuru Industrial Subdivision - Gubinge Road Industrial

The Gubinge Rd Industrial project is a proposed 28 Lot industrial subdivision located very close to the Broome port opposite the golf course. Due diligence is underway for this potential project with the subdivision plan being submitted for approval to the WA Planning Commission in September 2014. Viability investigations are ongoing for this project.

A small strip of Unallocated Crown Land which ran across on this Lot was surrendered and merged into the proposed subdivision. Native title rights and interests will be extinguished on the strip of land and this will enhance the commercial feasibility of the subdivision. At the appropriate time, Yawuru will be consulted at a community meeting to authorise the extinguishment of native title on this strip of Unallocated Crown Land.

Yawuru Industrial Subdivision – Lot 586 Broome Road

Landcorp is developing a 412 hectare industrial site, 8kms from town on Broome Road. Yawuru holds adjoining Lot 586 Broome Rd which already has subdivision approval. Yawuru has the opportunity to develop and bring to market this 22 lot subdivision at the same time as Landcorp, capitalising on development efficiencies that Landcorp will be bringing to this site as a result of their activities. Landcorp are looking to commence construction in mid-2015.

Yawuru Lease to Broome Airport Services

Yawuru continued to lease Lot 586 to Broome Airport Services for a temporary Asphalt Plant. The original term of this lease has expired and the lease now continues on a monthly basis.

Yawuru Lease to Marphil Holdings

Marphil Holdings continue to occupy and lease 10.5 hectares of Lot 587 Crab Creek Rd for their logistics services and warehouse depot. The ground lease is for 20 years and commenced in 2013.

Yawuru Residential Subdivision - Clementson Street

Yawuru hold Lots 3143 and 3144 Clementson Street and leases a portion of Lot 3143 to Sothern Cross Care who run an aged care facility known as Bran Nue Dae. The balance of the land has been identified as a possible residential subdivision.

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Freddy Edgar at Roebuck Plains Station



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Yawuru intends to continue feasibility studies for the residential development which will involve negotiations with the Water Corporation to develop and upgrade water and sewage infrastructure.

Negotiations with Southern Cross Care for a possible use of part of their lease area have been slow but they are progressing and it is expected that development planning for the entire vacant Clementon St site can occur in 2015.

Yawuru Land contained within the Shire of Broome's Local Development Plan 3 (LDP3)

Yawuru holds land contained within the Shire of Broome's LDP3. The plan shows that the Yawuru land can contain up to 20 bush living blocks (1,500m² to 5,000m²), 40 small residential blocks (450m² to 900m²) and a 20,000m² site zoned for tourism.

The planning, design and approval of LDP3 will convert Yawuru freehold assets into zoned land which can be developed for Yawuru housing or investment programs.

Yawuru assisted LandCorp with the submission of a subdivision plan for the next stage of Broome North which includes Yawuru property.

Yawuru Professional Services

The Fitzroy Women's Marninwarntikura Resource Centre (FWMRC) in Fitzroy Crossing has commissioned Yawuru to provide project management services for their staff accommodation, commercial and social enterprise facility. These services are being provided on a fee for service consultancy basis which will bring in income for Yawuru and has already delivered significant project savings to the (FWMRC).

Walga Walga Camp

Yawuru have conducted initial investigations into construction of a Walga Walga camp on Wattle Downs South. Progress has been delayed because of issues with occupied houses on Wattle Downs South, which have delayed the transfer of the land to Yawuru from the State of Western Australia. Alternative sites have been investigated with Department of Lands, Parks and Wildlife and the Yawuru Land & Sea Unit however the complexity of joint management, access and freehold tenure requirements has determined that the Crab Creek Rd site in Wattle Downs South is the most appropriate site for the Walga Walga camp. This project is on hold until the land tenure issues are resolved.

On Country Living

At the 2013 Yawuru PBC AGM a member requested that Yawuru do a fully costed plan on developing 'On Country Living' on Wattle Downs. Yawuru recently completed concept subdivision planning and feasibility modelling for On Country Living on Wattle Downs and a report on tenure options has been prepared by an academic as part of his PhD project at Australia National University. Four models were investigated for provision of services and infrastructure for On Country living at Wattle Downs, with preliminary development costs ranging from \$18M to \$34M. The cheapest of these options provides for road infrastructure only and does not provide for any essential services, rezoning, consultant reports or the complex tenure arrangements required to facilitate On Country living. This project is on hold because other projects take priority.



Jason Fong, Toby Munro and Cornell Tolentino



STRENGTHENING COUNTRY AND CULTURE

YAWURU LAND AND SEA

The Yawuru Land and Sea (LAS) Unit's role is to manage and protect Yawuru country, as set out in the Yawuru Cultural Management Plan and is informed by Yawuru Traditional Knowledge. It also builds the capacity of Yawuru people and the development of a viable and thriving economy to support this work.

It also promotes partnerships based on combining Yawuru knowledge and western science so that the Yawuru community have good information from which to make sound decisions about the sustainable management and use of Yawuru country. Biodiversity surveys and data collection, using geospatial mapping are becoming increasingly important to Yawuru fulfilling their responsibility to protect and manage Yawuru country for present and future generations.

The PBC has responsibility to implement Yawuru's strategic objectives to manage and protect Yawuru country, as set out in the Yawuru Cultural Management Plan.

There are two priority objectives in this area:

1. Yawuru Conservation Estate (YCE) incorporating the Roebuck Bay Marine Park, the Out of Town Park, the In-town coastal reserves and the Cable Beach Inter-tidal Park.
2. Yawuru Indigenous Protected Area (the IPA), which will overlay the YCE and also include other important cultural and ecological areas of the Yawuru but are not included in the YCE.

Over the past several years there have been significant achievements in building Yawuru capacity to record, protect and manage country.

Yawuru Conservation Estate

The creation of the Yawuru Conservation Estate is a major part of the Yawuru Native Title Global Agreement. Over the past year significant progress has been made in this area.

Conservation Estate Parks naming: This year the PBC Board approved names for three of the Yawuru Conservation Parks.

'Yawuru Nagulagun' - Marine Park Roebuck Bay Marine Park

'Yawuru Birragun Park' - Out of Town Area

'Minyirr Buru Park' - In Town coastal reserves

* The Cable Beach Intertidal Park is yet to be named

Draft Nagulagun Marine Park Plan: This year the State Government asked Yawuru to consider extending the Yawuru Nagulagun Marine Park over the Roebuck Bay intertidal area and agreement was reached about this change.

The draft Yawuru Nagulagun Indicative Marine Park Plan will include zoning to exclude ground disturbing mining and oil and gas exploration and development, and commercial gillnet fishing from the Marine Park. It will also include two Special Purpose zones for Yawuru Cultural Heritage. This draft Plan was approved by the PBC and will soon be released for public comment for 3 months.

Buy back of Commercial gillnet licenses in Roebuck Bay: The State Government has bought out commercial gillnet licenses in Roebuck Bay, which Yawuru has called for over many years.

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Draft Birragun Park Plan: The Birragun Plan was approved by the PBC Board in the middle of 2013. It included the Cable Beach intertidal area which is a three way agreement between the Shire, Department of Parks and Wildlife and Yawuru. Recently a decision was made to separate the Cable Beach intertidal area as a separate Plan.

Nagulagun draft Indicative Marine Park Plan and draft Birragun Plan will be released for public comment in December 2014 for 3 months. Yawuru community workshops and meetings will be held for Yawuru people as well as for the wider community to assist people to make their comments.

Yawuru Indigenous Protected Area (IPA)

Draft Yawuru IPA: This year the PBC Board approved the IPA area and the Plan of Management. The area includes parts of the Roebuck Plains Station, which are of high cultural and ecological value. The proposed IPA will support the Yawuru and ILC partnership to build a management regime which includes a commercial cattle operation and areas of Yawuru cultural and ecological importance. The proposed Yawuru IPA will be the first to be dedicated over a pastoral operation in Australia.

Yawuru/ILC Partnership: The ILC has agreed to invest \$200,000 per year for 5 years in the IPA. The Yawuru and the ILC will jointly present their "co-existence" at the World Parks Congress in Sydney in early December 2014.

Research and Initiatives

Roebuck Plains Wetlands Research: This year Yawuru continued to work with scientist Vic Semenuik to develop Yawuru's knowledge about significant water and ecological wetlands. A number of Yawuru Country Managers worked on the water monitoring program, collecting and analysing data and installing and maintaining bores and training.

Natural Rangeland Management Wetland Research Grant Report: Two reports were produced from this grant to assist in the development of the IPA and to guide further research supporting traditional knowledge with western science;

1. Roebuck Plains property management plan using geographic information systems (GIS) mapping to reflect the competing land uses

2. Wetlands on Roebuck Plains-distribution, plant composition, ecological values and status

NRM Rangelands Grant - \$30,000 for 12 months water monitoring program for Country Managers to continue building our knowledge about the wetlands on Roebuck Plains.

Community Grants Funding for Yawuru Country Managers - for 18 months research, surveying and collecting data on the abundance of snub fin dolphins in Roebuck Bay, and to train Country Managers in monitoring and data collection.

Grants have made possible short term employment opportunities. The LAS is also developing a business case to support long term employment for Yawuru.

Roebuck Plains Pastoral Lease, Export Yard and OTC property

On 2 September, 2014 the transfer of Roebuck Plains Station lease, Export Depot and the OTC property was celebrated at a ceremony at the Roebuck Plains homestead.

The area of Roebuck Plains pastoral lease amounts to more than half of the whole of the Yawuru determined native title land. The station was purchased in 1999 by the Indigenous Land Corporation for the benefit of Yawuru people. Yawuru traditional ownership and exclusive possession native title rights and interests was confirmed and determined by the Federal Court in 2006 over the whole of the area of Roebuck Plains Station.

Formal negotiations between Yawuru and the Indigenous Land Corporation took place over the past two years and concluded in an agreement to transfer the Roebuck Plains Station, the Roebuck Export Depot and the OTC property to Yawuru. The agreement includes;

* Yawuru sub leasing Roebuck Plains Station and the Export Depot back to the Indigenous Land Corporation for 15 years for an agreed rent which will be a secure income for Yawuru

* A grant of money from Indigenous Land Corporation to Yawuru to manage significant ecological and cultural areas on Roebuck Plains through an Indigenous Protected Area (IPA)

* A grant of money from Indigenous Land Corporation to Yawuru to make capital improvements on the Station and the Export Depot

* Processes for agreement over Yawuru use of Roebuck plains for Yawuru cultural/ecological management, tourism and horticulture

Yawuru's partnership with the ILC is important in the management of a viable cattle operation and the protection and care of Yawuru country.

FUTURE ACTS AND HERITAGE

The Yawuru PBC works to protect Yawuru native title rights and interests, country and cultural heritage, especially when third parties such as mining companies want to carry out exploration and other activities on Yawuru country.

Over the past year the PBC has looked at many proposals and held negotiations and discussions with third parties to get the best possible outcomes to protect Yawuru country and heritage. Some of the new future acts notices the PBC has received over the past year include:

* Goshawk Oil & Gas – application for petroleum exploration permit STP-EPA-0094, 4.4% of which covers the northern part of the Yawuru determination area

* Gundara Enterprises – application for mining lease M04/458, located just north of the Broome tip

* Sheffield Resources – application for two exploration licences partially covering the north-eastern area of Roebuck Plains

* Western Australian Resources – application for three exploration licences over coastal areas around Roebuck Bay.

Sometimes the Yawuru PBC negotiates agreements with third parties and at other times the PBC opposes projects and asks third parties to change their project plans. This is often difficult because native title does not give Yawuru a right of veto. However, with Yawuru's right to negotiate and other procedural rights under the Native Title Act, together with Yawuru's authority as native title holders, many third parties have understood and respected Yawuru heritage and values and the need to be respectful.

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Dean Mathews, Johani Mamid and Cornell Tolentino

Important outcomes and achievements over the past year include:

- * Yawuru PBC carried out a detailed enquiry of Buru Energy's proposed fracking program at Yulleroo with the Yawuru community
- * After objections from Yawuru, a mining application next to Kunin was rejected by the WA Government as a matter of public interest
- * More than 15 Yawuru Cultural Advisors and Cultural Monitors were employed to monitor and look after Yawuru country
- * Many projects and works were monitored by Yawuru Cultural Monitors, both in Broome and out of town, and a number of heritage surveys were carried out. This work is important to ensure that cultural heritage is protected for Yawuru people and to facilitate services to the broader Broome community
- * After objections from Yawuru, applications for exploration licences over large coastal areas of Yawuru country were withdrawn
- * WA Government withdrew its plans to build a large boating facility at Broome Port, citing budgetary reasons. In this process, Yawuru expressed its concerns that the location of the facility would have damaged two significant heritage sites and engaged with the Government about ways to avoid or minimise impacts
- * Yawuru PBC made submissions and comments on important issues, such as the proposed changes to the Aboriginal Heritage Act, the WA Standing Committee Inquiry into Fracking, the Old Broome Development Strategy and the WA Government's legislative proposals for water management. Yawuru also commented on various smaller developments
- * Yawuru PBC negotiated further with Buru Energy about its Ungani production licence application. The licence would overlap the Yawuru determination area but the oil production is due to take place on Yakka Munga on the Nyikina Mangala determination area. Through the negotiations Yawuru is focusing on strong cultural heritage protection, environmental protection, financial benefits and other community benefits
- * A new standard and more effective Heritage Protection Agreement was developed

Buru Energy’s Yulleroo Project

Buru Energy holds exploration permits over its Yulleroo site on Roebuck Plains, where it wants to frack for unconventional gas. Yawuru holds exclusive possession native title rights over the area of the permits but does not have legal rights to stop Buru Energy’s exploration activities.

Yawuru PBC’s position is that fracking should not happen on Yawuru country unless it can be shown to be safe beyond doubt and only if Yawuru people provide their free, prior and informed consent.

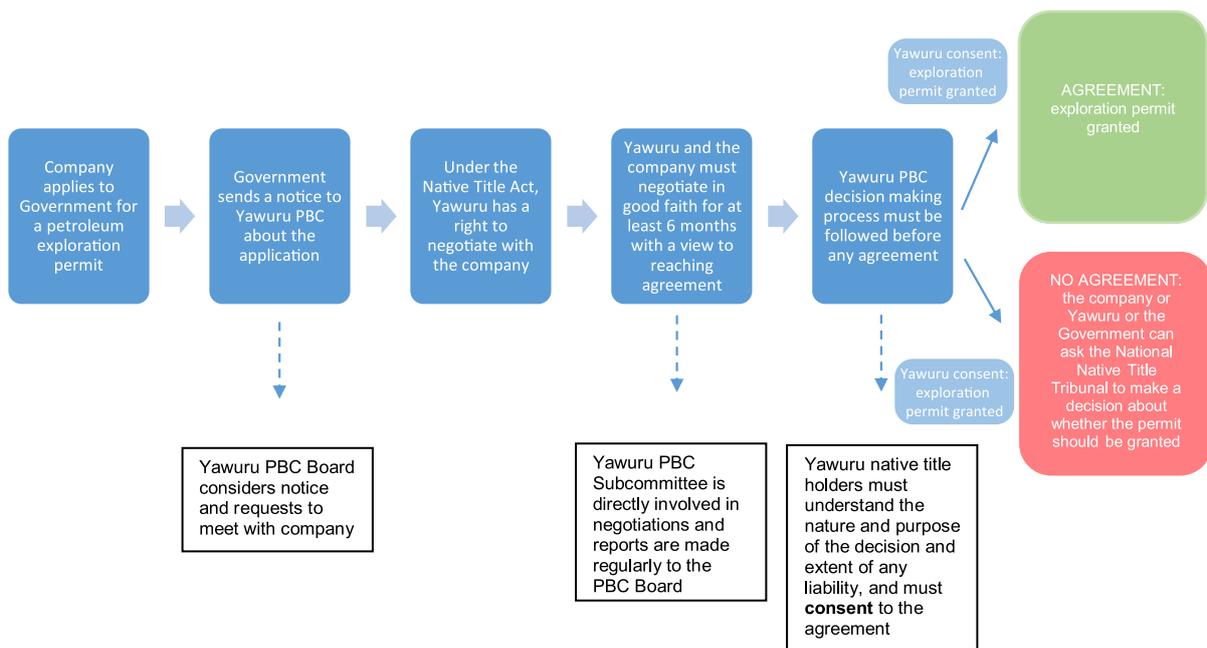
The Yawuru PBC carried out a detailed independent assessment of Buru Energy’s proposed fracking program at Yulleroo. Yawuru engaged independent experts from Curtin University, Environs and Dr Tina Hunter to review Buru Energy’s Environment Plan for Yulleroo and provide Yawuru with advice. Yawuru also worked with the Australian National University to create geo-spatial maps incorporating Yawuru cultural values to help explain the Yulleroo project to the community.

The PBC held Yawuru community information meetings in December 2013, February 2014 and June 2014, and a community site visit to the Yulleroo wells in May 2014. These meetings led to the PBC General Meeting on 18 July 2014 where Yawuru members had their say on the proposed fracking at Yulleroo. A large majority of members voted against fracking and resolved:

“Yawuru does not agree to the 2014/2015 fracking at Yulleroo, but if Buru Energy goes ahead with the fracking, Buru Energy must agree to meet environmental, cultural, social and economic conditions set by Yawuru.”

Even though Yawuru members said ‘no’ to fracking, Buru Energy can still go ahead with its fracking program and has indicated it will do so. In line with the Yawuru members’ resolution, the Yawuru PBC has developed conditions for the Yulleroo project and sent these to Buru Energy.

Yawuru’s conditions focus on minimising impacts to country, getting independent experts to observe and review Buru Energy’s operations, and having Yawuru people on country to monitor their activities. Yawuru will conclude negotiations with Buru Energy about these and other conditions in 2015.



Flowchart: Example of the future acts process for a petroleum exploration permit application.



Yawuru dancers at WANALA Conference



STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Rebuilding the social and cultural fabric of the Yawuru community is a fundamental objective of the PBC. The PBC makes sure that community development strategies in the Yawuru Strategic Plan are being implemented effectively. The key community development priorities that Yawuru have identified in its Strategic Plan are;

- * Revitalising the Yawuru Language
- * Support and care for our senior people
- * Building the capacity of our young people and creating pathways for emerging leaders
- * Support Yawuru culture in everyday Yawuru life and promote its significance to the wider community
- * Support Yawuru economic and civic participation through employment and enterprise community activities
- * Commitment to Mabu Liyan through measures that improve individual, family and community wellbeing

To achieve these objectives, Yawuru has established the Community Development Unit (CDU) and the Yawuru Ngan-ga Language Centre.

With the support of the CDU and Language Centre the following has been achieved over the past year;

Yawuru Language Revitalisation

- * Development and production of Yawuru language resources including a digital media project incorporating the development of an iPhone application, video animations, Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) Program and Facebook.
- * The delivery of language programs at three local primary schools, St. Marys, Broome Primary School, Cable Beach Primary School and daycare centres, providing access to Yawuru language to approximately 470 students on a weekly basis.
- * Yawuru hosting the biannual Western and Northern Australian Language Alliance (WANALA) conference which attracted 300 people and 39 different language groups to the event.
- * Increased number of staff in the language centre with 3 additional part time positions. There are now five Yawuru language workers in the Language centre.
- * Hiroko Shioji has graduated as a Yawuru Language teacher. We now have three qualified language teachers and three in training.
- * The ABC Open program did recordings of Yawuru language to use in their language promotion program and ABC Kimberley recorded interviews of Yawuru people talking about the importance of language for use on radio.
- * The Yawuru language holiday program activities in partnership with Department of Parks and Wildlife Yawuru rangers attracted 247 participants.
- * Provided advice regarding Yawuru names for the new housing estate at Palmer Road, Yawuru Conservation Estate Parks, KAMSC meeting room names, classroom names at St Mary's and Roebuck Estate Primary School, Broome North Industrial Estate .



WANALA Conference



WANALA Conference





Youth Development

- * Appointment of a new Youth Development Project Officer
- * Commenced a 3-5 year Youth Development strategy
- * Assisted 15 young people with sporting, educational, leadership development and cultural exchanges through Yawuru's Encouraging Excellence Fund.

Elder's Support

Yawuru continue to honour and support our senior people.

- * more than 30 Yawuru Elders have been assisted with house maintenance, gardening and help with government services
- * An Elders morning tea was held by Yawuru during NAIDOC week in recognition of the elders' status and contribution to the community
- * Elders are provided with constant "well-being support" by staff.

Cultural Enhancement and Development

- * Formed a partnership with WA Museum to develop the Lustre Exhibition on the significance of Aboriginal people's role and the history of pearling in Broome which will be open in Fremantle in 2015
- * The Yawuru in partnership with the WA Museum and Department of Culture and Arts has resulted in two Yawuru people being trained as professional museum curators who also had the opportunity to travel to various museums nationally and to work on the development of the Lustre Exhibition
- * Tourism training conducted with 8 Yawuru people who achieved vocational accreditation at the Kimberley Training Institute
- * The Yawuru Chinatown tour was piloted in September 2014 during the WANALA conference.

MABU LIYAN - WELLBEING

The PBC allocated pre ILUA funds of approximately \$750,000 to develop the proposed Yawuru Liyan Centre which will be constructed at Bernard Way next to the Yawuru Office.

The design of the Liyan Centre and landscape gardens is being developed through a community engagement process.

There have been 3 successful community engagement workshops held in September and October 2014.

The draft design master plan for the Liyan Centre will be presented to the Yawuru PBC at its December Board meeting.





Mabu Liyan Workshop

YAWURU CULTURAL FRAMEWORK INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITY PROJECT

The PBC and NBY Board's at their October 2014 meetings gave strong endorsement for Yawuru to pursue the development of three infrastructure projects as an inter-connected Yawuru Cultural Framework; Yawuru Liyan Centre (healing, wellbeing & community centre), Yawuru Knowledge Centre (combination of Yawuru traditional knowledge and western science) and Yawuru Cultural Centre (keeping place and a facility to display and celebrate Yawuru culture and history). The development of this agenda will be underpinned by a rigorous business case argument for funding from public and private sources.

BROADER COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

Yawuru received funding for the Broome North School Percent for Art Project which provides an opportunity for visual art interpretation of Yawuru language and culture to be embedded throughout the newly developed Broome North School which is to open in February 2015. Respect for Yawuru culture and protocols is growing.

This year there were more than 40 Welcome to Country ceremonies conducted by senior Yawuru people in language.

Since the 2013 AGM there have been 7 Yawuru Community Newsletters. The Yawuru Web site and Facebook Page has also been widely used.

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Yawuru have established a Social Enterprise Unit in response to PBC priorities to grow Yawuru economic participation through employment and enterprise development. A manager of the new unit has been appointed and will commence work in January 2015.





HOUSING

There are currently 26 Yawuru families housed through our Housing Schemes. Yawuru also provides advocacy and tenancy support to other Yawuru families.

There are currently four Yawuru housing programs and one program under development:

- * Housing Advocacy and Support
- * Rental Relief Scheme
- * Social Housing Rental Scheme
- * Tenancy Support
- * Home Ownership - Program under development.

HOUSING ADVOCACY & SUPPORT SERVICES

The Yawuru Housing Advocacy and Support Service is available to all Yawuru members. In the last year 37 Yawuru families have been assisted by this program.

Over the past twelve months Yawuru have assisted and supported:

- * Yawuru families with housing applications to the Department of Housing
- * Yawuru families with applications to the Department of Housing's priority waitlist and for priority transfers
- * Yawuru families who rent public housing with maintenance and tenancy issues
- * Yawuru families to obtain private rental accommodation
- * Yawuru families to access bond assistance and other government assistance.

RENTAL RELIEF SCHEME

The Rental Relief Scheme provides subsidies for Yawuru rental properties for Yawuru families whose income is over the threshold for public housing.

These subsidies are for 4 years, giving Yawuru tenants time to save a deposit to buy a home. Yawuru subsidises 20% of the market rent for the first two years and 10% for the last two years. For example if the market rent is \$500 per week, Yawuru would provide a subsidy of \$100 per week (the Yawuru family then pays \$400 rent per week), for the first two years.

The Yawuru subsidy reduces to \$50 per week for the third and fourth years (the Yawuru family to pay \$450 rent per week), provided the market rent remains unchanged.

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Yawuru Tenants BBQ



Yawuru Tenants BBQ



Yawuru Tenants BBQ



Rental Ballot April 2014



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There are 5 Yawuru properties which are rented under this scheme and since late 2012, 10 Yawuru families have been assisted under this program. In February 2014, 3 of these vacated properties were allocated to Yawuru families by public ballot.

Currently all properties are rented by Yawuru families.

In addition, a residential property is leased to a Yawuru elder.

SOCIAL HOUSING RENTAL SCHEME

The Social Housing Rental Scheme provides housing for Yawuru families who are on the Department of Housing's waitlist and do not have their own house. Rent for the properties is calculated at 25% of a Yawuru family's total household income in accordance with our policy under this scheme. Minimum and maximum income thresholds apply to this scheme. For example if the combined family income is \$700 gross per week, their weekly rent will be \$175.

Yawuru owns 20 properties of which 11 were constructed in the last year. All 11 properties were allocated to Yawuru families by public ballot in April 2014.

Currently all 20 properties are rented by Yawuru families.

TENANCY SUPPORT

The 26 Yawuru families who are housed through the Housing Schemes are supported by the tenancy support program which was implemented in 2014.

A tenancy support officer works closely with those tenants who are have difficulty with their tenancies.

The program includes a tenancy workshop for new tenants, house tours for all new tenants, 'start-up packs' for new tenants with basic household appliances, cooking utensils, cutlery and linen, advice and guidance on the management of electricity and water accounts and most recently a Yawuru tenant social event.

HOME OWNERSHIP

In March 2014 Yawuru and the Kimberley Development Commission (KDC) announced a \$750,000 investment to build eight new properties in Broome, to assist Yawuru families to co-own homes with Yawuru. This project is being developed and will roll out in early 2015.

Housing and IBA information Session with Yawuru

In March 2014 Yawuru housing hosted an Indigenous Businesses Australia (IBA) Information Session about home ownership and loans for Yawuru people. Eleven Yawuru families attended face to face appointments with IBA and were provided with information about home ownership and loans through IBA.

