



Native Title
Aboriginal
Corporation

APRIL UPDATES

NNTAC NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 21 • APRIL 2024

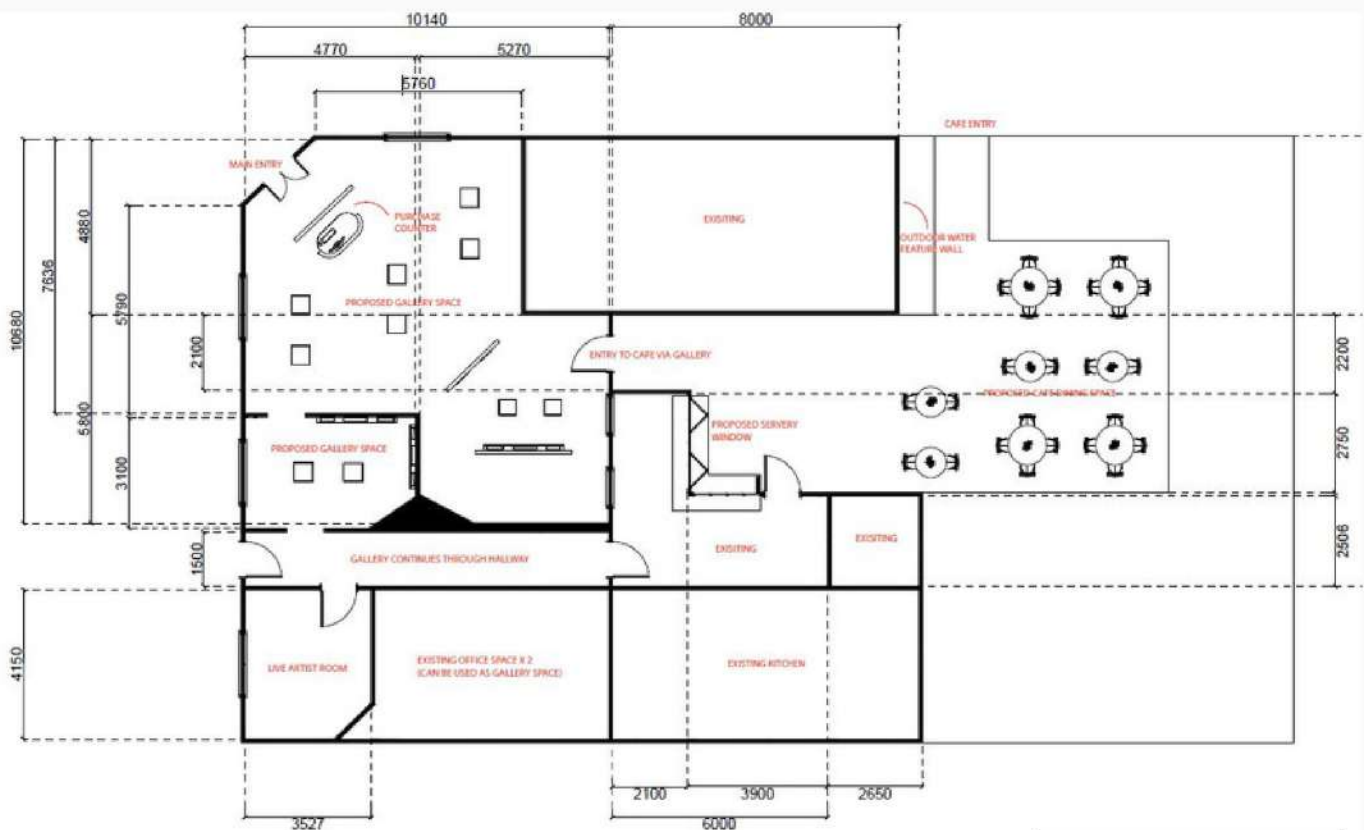
- Norseman Office - Cultural Centre and Café proposal
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EMPOWERING NGADJU COMMUNITY: NORSEMAN OFFICE CONVERSION PROJECT

In an exciting development that promises to bring culture, community, and commerce together, our Board of Directors is currently considering a transformative proposal: converting our Norseman office into a vibrant Cultural Centre and Café. This ambitious project is not just about repurposing a space; it's about creating a hub that celebrates and empowers the Ngadju people, offering a platform for cultural expression, economic opportunity, and deeper community engagement.

The envisioned Cultural Centre and Café will serve as a beacon of Ngadju heritage, showcasing the rich traditions, stories, and artistry of the Ngadju community. By providing a dedicated space for Ngadju members to sell their products and art, we aim to foster an environment that not only supports local artists and artisans but also introduces the broader community to the depth and diversity of Ngadju culture.

Artists in residence programs are at the heart of this proposal, offering Ngadju artists the opportunity to work within the Centre, creating and exhibiting their art in real-time. This initiative is designed to spark conversations, encourage cultural exchange, and provide artists with direct exposure to a wider audience. The presence of artists in residence will also add a dynamic element to the Centre, making it a living, breathing space where culture is not just observed but actively experienced and participated in.



NORSEMAN OFFICE REDESIGN
SCALE: 1:100 @ A3

PLEASE NOTE:
FLOORPLAN TO BE USED AS GUIDE ONLY.
DIMENSIONS ARE APPROXIMATE
AND ARE BASED ON ROUGH MEASURE.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS: SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE NORSEMAN OFFICE CONVERSION PROJECT



WE VALUE YOUR PERSPECTIVE

Your insights, ideas, and feedback are crucial to ensuring that this project truly reflects the Ngadju community's aspirations and needs.

We want to hear from you, whether you're an artist, a cultural enthusiast, or a proud member of the Ngadju community.

Please share your thoughts, suggestions, and any concerns you might have regarding the Norseman Office Art Center proposal. Your input will ensure the project accurately represents and serves the interests of the Ngadju people.

We believe that this project has the potential to enhance our community's cultural heritage, provide a platform for Ngadju people to share their art and knowledge, and encourage cultural exchange.

**PLEASE SEND
YOUR COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK TO
RECEPTION@NNTAC.ORG.AU**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM
YOU AND WORKING TOGETHER TO
BRING THIS VISION TO LIFE.**



ST IVES MINING AGREEMENT NEARING COMPLETION

NNTAC and Ngadju Negotiation Committee members have been negotiating a comprehensive native title agreement with St Ives (Gold Fields) for a number of years. These negotiations are nearly finalised.

Once in-principal agreement is reached, NNTAC and the Ngadju negotiation committee members will make more information available to the community about the outcome before it undergoes consideration at a meeting of the native title holders.

This agreement will be significant for Ngadju and will ensure a strong future.



NNTAC HERITAGE UPDATE 2024

Over the past few months, NNTAC has conducted seven heritage surveys. The most recent, being the seventh, encompasses monitoring activities for Phoenix Industrial, conducted simultaneously with a heritage survey. Unfavorable weather conditions necessitated the temporary suspension of some surveys scheduled for February, with these activities resuming in March. The NNTAC has successfully completed the initial phase of work for Telstra and Fulton Hogan, involving three expeditions across three surveys, supported by two Heritage Liaison Officers (HLOs). In March alone, a total of 36 Ngadju members participated in these surveys.



NNTAC IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE - IGO 2024

On Wednesday, March 27 2024, the NNTAC Implementation Committee—including Thelma Dimer, Natalia Harder, David (Dayboy) Graham, and Les Shultz—along with NNTAC CEO Graham O'Dell and Land Access Manager Rob Bitmead, engaged in a productive meeting with representatives from IGO at the Nova Mine site.

During the meeting, IGO shared updates on its current operational status and offered an insightful tour of the mine's facilities. It was highlighted that the Nova mine's operational life is anticipated to conclude in the next two to three years.

Given this timeline, NNTAC, along with the Implementation Committee and IGO, will enter discussions to review the existing mining agreement. The focus of these discussions will be on enhancing Ngadju's participation and identifying potential opportunities that may emerge during the mine closure process.

This meeting represents a significant step in our ongoing collaboration with IGO and emphasises our commitment to ensuring that the Ngadju community remains actively involved in decisions that affect our land and future opportunities.

PARTICIPANTS IN CURRENT MINING NEGOTIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEES

AGMT NC/IC	Committee	Affiliation
Avoca/Karora	Valma Saunders	Member
	Christine Donaldson	Board
	Les Schultz	EAG
	Natalia Harder	Board
FFI	Damien Green	Member
	Harold Graham	Board
	John W (Danny) Graham	EAG
	John 'Johnny' Graham	Member
Greenstone	Jennifer 'Jenny' Woods	Member
	Christine Donaldson	Board
	Grantley Flynn	EAG
	Natalia Harder	Board
IGO	David Scott Graham	Member
	Les Schultz	EAG
	Natalia Harder	Board
	Thelma (Sally) Dimer	Board
Lithco	Gavin Smith	EAG
	Pamela Kaye	Board
	Thelma (Sally) Dimer	Board
	Valma Schultz	Member
Lunnon	Barry Graham	Member
	Christine Donaldson	Board
	Laurence 'Laurie' Reid	Member
	Natalia Harder	Board
Mincor	Christine Donaldson	Board
	Grantly Flynn	EAG
	Jennifer 'Jenny' Woods	EAG
	Natalia Harder	Board
Pantoro	Grantley Flynn	EAG
	John 'Johnny' Graham	EAG
	Natalia Harder	Board
	Thelma (Sally) Dimer	Board

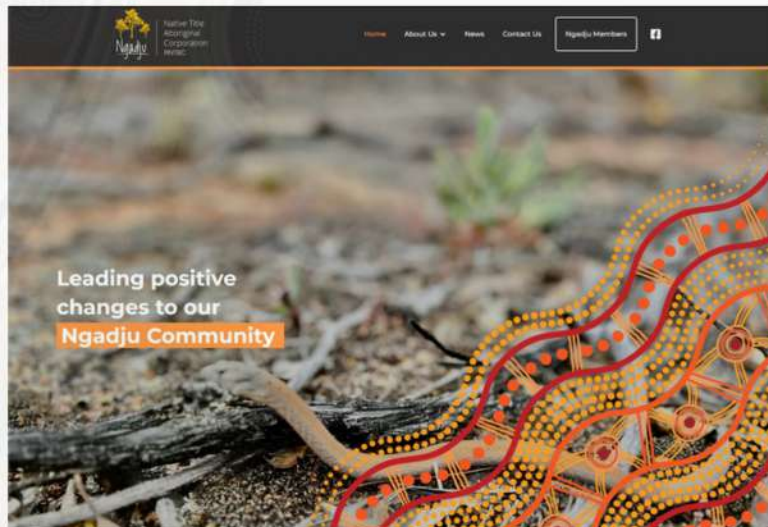
St Ives	Bronwyn Thompson	Member
	Christine Donaldson	Board
	Harold Graham	Board
	John W (Danny) Graham	EAG
	Natalia Harder	Board
State	Christine Donaldson	Board
	Harold Graham	Board
	John W (Danny) Graham	EAG
	Les Schultz	EAG
	Natalia Harder	Board
	Pamela Kaye	Board
	Thelma (Sally) Dimer	Board
Green Collar	Jennifer 'Jenny' Woods	Member
	Lurlene Graham	Board
	Thelma (Sally) Dimer	Board
	Valma Saunders	Member
David 'Golly' Pascoe	Natalia Harder Thelma (Sally) Dimer Diane ClinchNed Clinch	Board
TEC Desert		Board
Pastoralist ILUA		EAG
Optus ILUA		Member
Lukah Mining		



PROPOSAL FOR A CALL OF EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

NNTAC is dedicated to safeguarding the native title rights and interests of the Ngadju people, including through negotiations with mining companies. To ensure that the agreements presented to the community for approval are of the highest standard and align with the expectations of the Ngadju people, Negotiation Committees are formed for each set of negotiations.

If you are interested in serving on a future Negotiation Committee, please ensure that you submit an Expression of Interest form. These forms will soon be available on our website, and we will provide updates to keep you informed.



REMINDER FOR NGADJU MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

The deadline to submit your applications to become a member is approaching. All applications will be reviewed during the next Elders Advisory Group meeting on April 18 2024. Ensure your application is in before this date to be considered.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBERS



ROB BITMEAD LAND ACCESS MANAGER

We are thrilled to introduce Rob as the newest addition to our team, stepping into the pivotal role of Land Access Manager. With an impressive background that bridges legal expertise and a deep commitment to community development, Rob brings a wealth of experience and a unique perspective to our operations.

Holding both a law degree and a Master's in International Development, Rob's academic credentials lay a solid foundation for his professional journey. His work has predominantly centered around native title and community development, areas where his passion and dedication shine through. Rob has collaborated extensively with Indigenous communities, including the Yamatji, Wongai, and Martu groups, playing a critical role in native title matters, ranger programs, and mining negotiations.

Rob's expertise is not just in understanding the legal nuances of land access and native title issues but also in fostering meaningful relationships with the communities we engage with. His approach is deeply rooted in respect, empathy, and a genuine desire to achieve outcomes that benefit both the land and its traditional custodians.

In previous entries, we've discussed the critical importance of the Land Access Manager role in ensuring that our projects proceed in a way that is respectful of Indigenous rights and environmental considerations. Rob's appointment to this role is a testament to our commitment to these values. With his specialised knowledge in native title and a proven track record of successful community development initiatives, Rob is perfectly positioned to lead our efforts in navigating the complexities of land access with integrity and respect.

We are confident that under Rob's guidance, our engagements with Indigenous communities and stakeholders will continue to be marked by mutual respect, transparency, and collaboration. Please join us in welcoming Rob to the team. His expertise and leadership will undoubtedly make a significant impact on our work and the communities we serve.



JUANEESA CHAMPION

ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

We are excited to welcome Juanessa, a proud member of the Ngadju community, as our new Administration Assistant. Juanessa brings a wealth of experience and a diverse skill set to our team, underpinned by her extensive background in administration roles within the Justice Department.

Juanessa's resume speaks volumes of her resourcefulness, hard work, and trustworthiness. As a highly motivated individual, she excels in both independent initiatives and as part of a team, demonstrating exceptional organizational, time management, and communication skills. Her ability to adapt to challenging and changing environments and her professional level of customer service make her a perfect fit for our dynamic team.

With qualifications from Eastern Goldfields College and Kalgoorlie Boulder Community High School, Juanessa's education has equipped her with a solid business, sport, and recreation foundation, further enhancing her versatile skill set. Her work experience as a Clerical Officer in Adult Community Corrections showcases her proficiency in managing documents, handling communications, and utilising essential software like Microsoft Office and Excel, highlighting her computer and data literacy.

Juanessa's ability to communicate effectively with diverse groups, including her deep connection with the Ngadju community, enriches our team's understanding and respect for the Indigenous communities we work with. Her professionalism, attention to detail, problem-solving skills, punctuality, and respectfulness align seamlessly with our values and mission.

We welcome Juanessa to her new role and look forward to her contributions to our team. Her unique blend of skills, experience, and heritage as a Ngadju member will undoubtedly enhance our projects' success and our ongoing commitment to meaningful engagement with Indigenous communities. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Juanessa, whose expertise and dedication are a significant asset to our team.



HARRY GRAHAM

UPDATE FROM NNTAC CHAIR

As your current Chair of the NNTAC Board of Directors, I feel honoured and privileged to reach out to you through this newsletter. Reflecting on my journey, from my roots in Norseman to my extensive involvement in Aboriginal education and community leadership, I carry a profound sense of responsibility and a vision for our future. With over 20 years dedicated to empowering our students through education and practical skills training, my commitment to the Ngadju community remains firm.

My background, deeply rooted in education and community service, has shaped my approach to leadership. As a registered teacher and minister involved in Christian ministry among Aboriginal students and families, I've seen the transformative power of education firsthand. My work with the CAPS schools, Noongar Land Enterprises, and previously with the Esperance Aboriginal Land Development has reinforced my belief in the potential of our land and people to create sustainable, community-led enterprises.

These past few months have been a significant transition and opportunity for NNTAC under the guidance of our new CEO, Graham O'Dell. Together, we have embarked on a journey to strengthen our governance, improve our corporate reputation, and ensure that our operations reflect the values and needs of the Ngadju people. We are committed to transparent communication, effective teamwork, and working under pressure to achieve the best outcomes for our community.

Our collaboration with Graham has been instrumental in navigating the challenges and grasping the opportunities ahead. His update in this newsletter highlights the importance of leveraging our native title rights and interests, maintaining good governance, and fostering unity within our community. Our focus will remain on education, employment, and environmental sustainability as we move forward.

In recent months, we have made considerable progress in discussions with the State regarding a compensation settlement agreement. This negotiation is a critical step towards recognising and compensating for the extinguishment or diminishment of our native title rights and interests. We draw inspiration from the Tjiwarl People's comprehensive settlement agreement and look forward to bringing similar benefits to our community.

I encourage each of you to engage with us, share your insights, and participate in the upcoming information sessions. Your voice and involvement are essential as we strive to achieve our collective goals. Let's embrace the challenges and opportunities ahead, united in our commitment to the Ngadju people's well-being and prosperity.



10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF NATIVE TITLE DETERMINATION

With great pride and joy, the Ngadju community commemorates the 10-year anniversary of the Native Title Determination, a momentous event that underscores the enduring bond of the Ngadju people with their ancestral lands. This determination, finalised in two parts, with the last in 2017, acknowledged the Ngadju people's native title rights and interests across a vast area from the Nullarbor to the Great Western Woodlands.

This recognition affirmed the Ngadju's connection to their country and bestowed upon them the power to shape the future of resource exploration and exploitation in the region, acknowledging their pivotal role as key stakeholders.

The Ngadju Native Aboriginal Title Corporation (NNTAC), unwavering in its commitment to fostering the cultural, social, and environmental well-being of the Ngadju community, plays a central role in this ongoing journey. Through developing management plans for Ngadju, the NNTAC ensures that culturally sensitive areas remain protected and accessible to both current and future generations.

This includes the dedication of parts of the Ngadju country as an Indigenous Protected Area in 2020, making a significant contribution to conserving the Western Woodlands, which is crucial for its biodiversity and cultural heritage.

As we reflect on this decade-long journey since the Native Title Determination, it is a time not only to celebrate the achievements and resilience of the Ngadju people but also to recommit to the path of cultural preservation, environmental stewardship, and community empowerment. The Ngadju Native Title Aboriginal Corporation will be celebrating this momentous occasion, with further details to be announced, reinforcing the community's vibrant spirit and dedication to their heritage and rights. This anniversary is not just a reflection of the past but a beacon for the future, highlighting the importance of unity, culture, and the unwavering bond to country.



CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS



Harold Graham
Chairman



Thelma Dimer (Salah)
Deputy Chair (until May 2024)



Christine Donaldson
Director



Natalia Harder
Director



Pamela Kaye
Independent Director



CEO UPDATE

GRAHAM O'DELL

I'm pleased to provide my first CEO Update as Ngadju's new CEO.

It's been a busy first couple of months, getting to know the PBC's operations, Ngadju people and your beautiful country. It's a real honour to be your CEO and working together we can achieve some significant outcomes for Ngadju People. There are numerous opportunities to leverage your native title rights and interests to take advantage of the numerous opportunities that exist.

I am a CEO who believes in open and transparent communication and actions. The Board and I are committed to working for the benefit of ALL Ngadju People and I am always available to listen to your questions and concerns. All I ask is that we engage in a respectful and constructive manner so that we can all work together.

Ngadju have gone through some difficult times of late and I intend to bring some stability to my role but I can only do that with your help. I am very strong on good governance and corporate reputation. Maintaining both is the only way we can get the support of the Government and proponents who will only work with a stable and well-run Corporation. We need to put aside our differences and personal ambitions and work together for the better of Ngadju people for now and into the future. Corporate reputation is hard to gain but easily lost.

The Board is considering a number of opportunities at the moment, some of which are touched on in the newsletter. Be assured that the Board and Administration are working hard to maximise those opportunities and there will be a continuous release of news around what is being considered and achieved.

I recently conducted a series of information sessions in Kalgoorlie, Norseman and Esperance to provide NNTAC Members and Common Law Holders the opportunity to meet with me to hear about what the Corporation is doing and what Ngadju People would like to see happening. These information sessions will occur every 3-4 months so I look forward to seeing you along and one of the venues.

CEO UPDATE GRAHAM O'DELL

Our new Land Access Manager, Rob Bitmead and his team (Katarina Bevk – Land Access Officer and Jade Popovic – Heritage Officer) will be visiting Norseman in the coming weeks to meet with Heritage Liaison Officers and members of the Community to discuss heritage. Please come along to hear what they have to say and provide any constructive input you think would help

The Ngadju Mia Wamu (Norseman townsite) native title claim is nearing completion with the Applicant for the claim (represented by Native Title Services Goldfields) finalising the terms of the determination with the State. The group of people (descents of apicals) that the Determination will include is identical to your existing Ngadju determinations so will include all Ngadju people. It is proposed that NNTAC will be the PBC for that determination. All Ngadju common law holders will be asked to authorise the claim and nominate NNTAC as the PBC at an authorisation meeting sometime in the middle of the year. NNTAC will hold a General Meeting at that time to make some changes to the NNTAC Rule Book to accommodate the new determination.

While on the subject of the State, your Board is looking to commence negotiations with the State over a compensation settlement agreement for the extinguishment or diminishment of native title rights and interests from 1975 (commencement of the Racial Discrimination Act) to the present day. The negotiations will probably follow the same path that the Tjiwarl People undertook in their recent comprehensive settlement agreement with the State.

These are exciting times for Ngadju and many benefits will flow to the Community, we just need to stay focused and united.

Please contact me if you wish to discuss any matters and I look forward to seeing you at one of the information sessions in the future.