

Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly Meeting No. 74 Minutes
Held 4 – 6 June 2019 in Cobar

Chair of the meeting	Des Jones
MPRA Members in attendance	<div> <u>Tuesday 4 June 2019</u> Des Jones (Chairperson) Maureen O'Donnell Allan Cobb Grace Gordon Stephen Forrester Garry Trindall Amanda King Pam Handy Anthony Knight Fay Johnstone Elaine Ohlsen </div> <div> <u>Wednesday 5 June 2019</u> Des Jones (Chairperson) Garry Trindall Allan Cobb Amanda King Pam Handy Stephen Forrester Anthony Knight Grace Gordon Fay Johnstone Elaine Ohlsen </div> <div> <u>Thursday 6 June 2019</u> Des Jones (Chairperson) Garry Trindall Allan Cobb Amanda King Pam Handy Stephen Forrester Anthony Knight Grace Gordon Fay Johnstone Elaine Ohlsen </div>
Apologies	<p>The following apologies were received from Callan Rogers</p> <p>Motion: That the apologies received be accepted. Moved: Allan Cobb Seconded: Grace Gordon Motion carried.</p>
Guest	Daniel Rose (Murdi Paaki Services) Jason Ford (Murdi Paaki Services) Lavenia Flick (Murdi Paaki Services) Ken Clark (Murdi Paaki Services) Eden Coughlan (Murdi Paaki Services) Tim Humphries (Family and Community Services) Teena Bonham (Family and Community Services) Gabrielle Mundine-Russell (Sydney University) Donna Jeffries (Marrabinya) Kate Baxter (NSW TAFE) Julie Blackhall (NSW Aboriginal Affairs) Steve Butler (NSW Aboriginal Affairs) Steve Hogan (NSW Aboriginal Affairs) Sarah Barton (NSW Aboriginal Affairs)

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	Rebecca Lannen (Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet) Tobias Beckmann (Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet) David Lindenbaur (Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet) Gordon Brouwer (APS Review) Bruce McQualter (Westpac) Judith Burns (Burns Aldis) Cliff Chenery (Burns Aldis) William 'Smiley' Johnstone (RAHLA)	
Minutes taken by	Kayla Cohen (MPRA Secretariat)	
Tuesday 4th June 2019		Action
Meeting opened at: 9.03 am		
Welcome Des Jones opened the meeting. A minute silence was observed.		
Conflict of interest Fay Johnstone declared a conflict of interest for agenda item 16 with her son Smiley Johnstone.		
Agenda for 4 - 6 June 2019		Motion: That the agenda for this meeting be adopted. Moved: Allan Cobb Seconded: Garry Trindall Motion carried.
Previous minutes from 5 – 7 March 2019		Motion: That the minutes from the MPRA meeting held 5 – 7 March 2019 be accepted. Moved: Grace Gordon Seconded: Pam Handy Motion carried.
Business Arising from Previous Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Assembly members questioned what the Department of NSW Aboriginal Affairs role is with Community Working Parties now that Murdi Paaki Services is functioning. Queries were made regarding who is assisting CWP's with submissions for funding grants. 		Action – Follow up with Maari Ma Health to see if the rent has been raised for the tenants located at 26 Mertin Street in Bourke.
Correspondence		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commonwealth Health Update Newsletter February 2019• Aboriginal Affairs 2019 NAIDOC Week Grants• PMC NAIDOC Grants• Maari Ma Report to CWP• Western NSW Primary Health Newsletter Issue 37• PHN Western NSW Regional Suicide Prevention Forum• Letter of invitation to Des Jones opening Cobar PHCC Extension• Public Service becomes a ministerial portfolio in NSW post-election reshuffle• Issues Paper 1 – Use Prevalence and Policy Framework• Issues Paper 2 – Justice• Issues Paper 3 – Health and Community• Issues Paper 4 – Data Resources and Funding• Letter Department Education regarding Fay Johnstone attending MPRA meetings• Jury Service Letter for Judith Burns• NSW Aboriginal Languages Gathering 2019 Expression of Interest• Flyer Introduction Indigenous Leadership	<p>Motion – That the MPRA members put a submission to the Special Commission of the Inquiry into the Drug ‘Ice’, and make it known that the legal representation of drug dealers is not supported by the MPRA.</p> <p>Moved: Anthony Knight</p> <p>Seconded: Grace Gordon</p> <p>Motion Carried.</p> <p>Action – Des to write a letter to Legal Aid and the Aboriginal Legal Service regarding the members concern over money/funding being spent on the legal representation of drug dealers.</p>		
Morning Tea			
CHAIRPERSON REPORT – Des Jones			
14 th March	Attend Lessons Learned workshop PMC	Canberra	
20 th March	Met with Shire General Manager	Wilcannia	
27 th March	MPS Meeting	Cobar	
1 st April	Ashley Albury/James McTavish re-cross border commissioner	Dareton	
4 th April	RAHLA teleconference	Wentworth	
10 th April	NSWALC Housing strategy representatives	Broken Hill	
23 rd - 25 th April	Admin duties	Cobar	
7 th -8 th May	Lesson Learned Workshop	Cobar	
9 th May	ACCORD Mark II workshop	Cobar	
15 th May	MPRA Accord meeting with NSW AA	Cobar	
16 th May	NSW Deputy Ombudsman	Sydney	
20 th May	NSW Deputy Ombudsman, Department Premier and Cabinet, Sydney	Sydney	
	University and Macquarie Group		
22 nd May	CWP Meeting	Dareton	
27 th -29 th May	NCARA Meeting	Sydney	Motion: That the Chairperson Report be accepted.

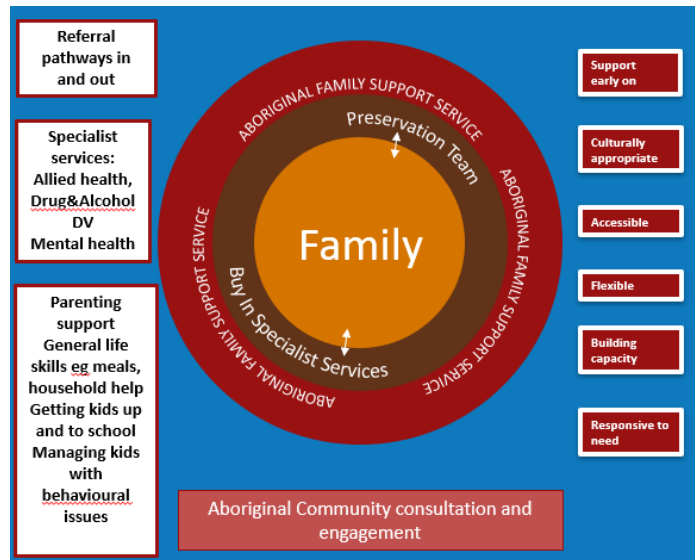
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3 rd June	MPS Board Meeting	Cobar	Moved: Garry Trindall Seconded: Anthony Knight Motion carried.
4 th -6 th June	MPRA Meeting	Cobar	
7 th June	RAHLA Meeting	Cobar	
MURDI PAAKI SERVICES – Daniel Rose, Jason Ford, Lavenia Flick and Ken Clark.			
<p>Daniel Rose, MPS CEO gave an update on each Community Working Party funds as of 30th April 2019 –</p> <p>Bourke – \$15,794</p> <p>Brewarrina – \$10,630</p> <p>Broken Hill – \$18,425</p> <p>Cobar – \$27,027</p> <p>Collarenebri – \$16,216</p> <p>Coonamble – \$23,657</p> <p>Enngonoia – \$31,409</p> <p>Goodooga – \$17,592</p> <p>Gulargambone – \$14,131</p> <p>Ivanhoe – \$20,954</p> <p>Lightning Ridge – \$19,385</p> <p>Menindee – \$17,532</p> <p>Walgett – \$23,047</p> <p>Weilmoringle – \$31,834</p> <p>Wentworth/Dareton – \$10,035</p> <p>Wilcannia - \$20,590</p> <p>Dan mentioned that there has been an issue with travel forms, phones, internet and laptops. He would like all Chairperson’s to advise him or Eden Coughlan if the phone and numbers that were allocated are still in use. MPS is paying for phones that are not currently being used or utilised. He highlighted the importance of having the internet and a working mobile device so we can communicate with each other. Daniel noted that each Assembly member knows the dates for the upcoming MPRA meetings and requested that travel forms be in at least one week prior to the meetings.</p> <p>Dan asked Ken Clark and Lavenia Flick, the Community Project Directors for an update on their work from the 18th of March 2019.</p> <p>Ken Clark – Noted that he has thoroughly enjoyed working for Murdi Paaki Services and servicing the communities of Wentworth/Dareton, Menindee, Enngonia, Broken Hill, Collarenebri, Coonamble and Gulargambone. Ken stated that the Collarenebri and Wenworth/Dareton Community Action Plans have been accepted and endorsed.</p>			

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<p>Lavenia Flick – Has been busy since the beginning of her employment. Lavenia is currently servicing Walgett, Cobar, Goodooga, Weilmoringle, Bourke and Lightning Ridge. Goodooga and Weilmoringle have accepted and endorsed their Community Action Plans. Lavenia believes that by the time the 30th of June comes around five out of six of the communities will have endorsed their Community Action Plans.</p> <p>Jason Ford – Has taken on Wilcannia and Brewarrina as an extension of his current role under the Sydney University partnership. These Community Action Plans are on track to be completed by the deadline of June 30, 2019. Jason has also been assisting with submissions, minutes and compiling agendas for meetings.</p>	
<p>FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES – Tim Humphries & Teena Bonham</p> <p>Proposed Aboriginal Family Support Service Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly 4 June 2019</p> <p>Aboriginal Family Support Service (AFSS) What is it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FACS is seeking to establish a culturally appropriate, locally based service to support Aboriginal people and families. • The service will offer practical in home supports to enable young people and families to remain living together in their local communities and on country. • The Service would cover such things as: • parenting supports • assisting with household routines • behaviour management strategies, and • practical life skills. • Locations across Western and Far West NSW <p>Why?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The AFSS aims to support families and reduce the number of children and young people entering care. • The Aboriginal Family Support Service will be a voluntary service. Families can identify what supports they need. • The Service will provide wrap-around services that support children and young people to remain safely at home with their family. • A specialist Family Preservation Team and an in home Family Support Service. • Staffed by Aboriginal workers, local people from communities. 	

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Discussion

- General comments/questions?
- What types of services would be most helpful for families?
- What is important for FACS to consider in setting up this service?
 - Cultural places for meetings
 - Flexible forms of engagement
- What do we need to be mindful of?
 - Culture
 - Drug Use
- How would we go about attracting local people as support workers?
- How does the Assembly and CWP want to be kept informed on progress?
 - Update at CWP meetings or the quarterly MPRA meetings.

Lunch

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY – Gabrielle Russell-Mundine and Jason Ford

Wilcannia and Brewarrina

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<p>Jason Ford has been working with the Wilcannia and Brewarrina CWP and communities and liaising with the University in regards to the progression of the priority projects. The update on the Wilcannia weir project is that the logistics are still being sorted out but students are planning on coming out in Semester 2. Students are planning on undertaking their visit to Brewarrina regarding the aged care project in September.</p> <p>Gabrielle mentioned that it has been an issue for the University and the students around trying to fit the program into a semester. She also noted that there is potential scope for two new projects over the next twelve months. It was requested by the University that the members take the existing priorities put forward from the 2016 engagement model and update at the September meeting.</p> <p>Partnership Videos</p> <p>Gabrielle showed video interviews of Jason Ford and Anthony Knight speaking about the changes the University has made in communities as well as the processes taken. Videos of Grace Gordon, Des Jones and Service-Learning Students are almost completed and once finalised will be distributed by Gabrielle.</p> <p>Gabrielle noted that the University has learnt a lot over the course of the partnership with the Assembly and acknowledges the constraints that being a University has on the communities and projects in the Region. Moving forward the University would like to involve the Young and Emerging Leaders.</p>	
<p>MARRABINYA PROGRAM – Donna Jeffries</p> <p>Marrabinya is an innovative service designed to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with a diagnosed chronic illness access specialist appointments and medical aids to assist in managing their illness.</p> <p>Marrabinya covers the Western Primary Health Network Region which is 433,379 square kilometres, 53.5% of NSW, which has a 10.5% Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population.</p> <p>Aboriginal health in outback NSW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chronic disease in Western NSW is considerably higher than the NSW and Australian average - The high incidence is attributed to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socioeconomic disadvantage • Geographical Isolation • Low Levels of access to health services • Poor health among Aboriginal People - Brewarrina, Central Darling, Walgett and Broken Hill shires are ranked 1st, 2nd, 4th and 9th as the most socially disadvantaged LGAs in NSW. 	

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- Communities within the Far West of NSW are ranked as the most disadvantaged in NSW in terms of relative socio-economic disadvantage
- The burden of chronic disease for communities increases with geographical remoteness where contributing factors are more extreme
- Access to appropriate health services is a key challenge to the prevention and management of chronic disease.
- Many residents living outside the main population centres have to travel long distances to access primary health care
- There is limited public transport, a low rate of motor vehicle ownership and the cost of accessing health services is a significant barrier.
- True burden of chronic disease is a serious problem for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- The rate of hospitalisation for chronic disease is up to 100% higher than the rate of non-indigenous populations in the Far West of NSW
- Compared with the rates for non-Aboriginal people, hospitalisation for Aboriginal people in NSW are:
 - 200% higher for diabetes
 - 70% higher for cardio-vascular disease
 - 100% higher for chronic respiratory disease

Brokerage services

Marrabinya operates as a brokerage service, the types of assistance provided includes payment of:

- Specialist fees,
- Diagnostic tests where fee applies,
- Travel and accommodation associated with attending out of town health appointments, and
- Purchase or hire of medical aids where there is no other publicly funded program to provide these items.

How does Marrabinya works

- Marrabinya is accessed via all of the General Practices in western NSW who care for Aboriginal people;
- A central 1800 number (1800 940 757) and a direct email contact have been communicated to all mainstream general practices and AMSS;
- Any practice with an Aboriginal client eligible for the service can refer to Marrabinya;
- The referral is assessed within 48 hours and feedback is provided to the referring GP;
- Accepted referrals are assigned to a care link worker who follows up directly with the client and keeps the referring GP informed of the support provided.

A Snap Shot

- Marrabinya started with 600 clients;

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Up until December 2018 5050 clients were services, which is an 840% increase on the start up numbers in just over two years of operations; - Over 80% of practices in the region are engaged and referring; - The model encourages comprehensive care with each referral requesting an average of up to 6 supplementary services – this means more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are spending more time with their GP planning their care and the supports required in the GP management plan. - Marrabinya has over 760 suppliers and in an average 3 month period their finance team will process more than 750 invoices which equates to approx.. \$370K in supplementary service for our clients. - All Marrabinya staff are Aboriginal. - Less than 4% of referrals are declines proving that the eligibility criteria for the program are well understood by general practice. - GP and client are in the drivers seat - The Marrabinya model reduces barriers of poverty and disadvantage to accessing appropriate primary care <p>Marrabinya received the news that they have been re-funded until the end of 2020.</p>	
Afternoon Tea	
Meeting Closed: 4.13pm	
Wednesday 5th June 2019	
Meeting open at: 9.07am	
<p>ACCORD DISCUSSION – Kate Baxter, Julie Blackhall, Steve Hogan and Steve Butler.</p> <p>Kate let the members know that priority agencies are getting ready for the negotiations. The representatives for the Governments side are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dean White, the Education representative; and - Is the Law and Justice representative. <p>They are waiting on a Health representative.</p> <p>Negotiations Protocols (will be reviewed as they the process proceeds)</p> <p>Kate is happy with the negotiation protocols put forward and believes it will be easy to adhere too.</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Accord negotiations need to proceed consistent with the principles of LDM, this includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) All engagement and negotiations are conducted respectfully, openly, honestly and in good faith; 2) Aboriginal cultural protocols are recognised and respected in the negotiation process; 	

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- 3) The parties recognise and respect the role of the independent facilitator;
- 4) Parties commit to making decisions by negotiation and agreement and to work co-operatively and collaboratively;
- 5) Parties commit to taking a proactive and innovative approach to finding creative outcomes and solutions;
- 6) Parties agree to actively participate in the process and that the goal is to reach substantial decisions by negotiation;
- 7) Parties agree to allow for and commit sufficient time to the negotiations;
- 8) Parties commit to setting and maintaining the ground rules for the negotiations; and
- 9) Both parties agree to the allowance of timeouts in the negotiation process.

Scheduling

Meetings will be scheduled in consultation with the lead negotiator for the NSW Government, the chair of the Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly, the facilitator and Aboriginal Affairs. Meetings will alternate between Dubbo and Cobar, giving consideration to the travel requirements of both the Assembly and the NSW Government representatives.

Meetings will only be scheduled once the Assembly and the NSW Government agree that they are ready and prepared for the next stage of negotiations.

Minutes

Aboriginal Affairs will provide a scribe to record a summary of each workshop, commitments to be considered/interim actions to be taken and responsible agencies or individuals. This summary will constitute the meeting record and will be circulated via email to the lead negotiator for the NSW Government, the Chair of the Assembly and the Facilitator. All meeting records will be validated by the facilitator.

The scribe is responsible for maintaining the list of Interim Action Items one meeting to the next in consultation with the lead negotiator for the NSW Government and the Chair of the Assembly. The Interim Action Items list will be attached to the agenda and will be reviewed at subsequent meetings.

Facilitation

The facilitator will encourage representatives from the Assembly and the NSW Government to follow the negotiations principles and protocols, and speak up if there is a problem during the meeting. All participants share responsibility for observing and enforcing the negotiation principles and protocols.

Agendas

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Aboriginal Affairs, in consultation with the lead negotiator for the NSW Government and the Chair of the Assembly, will prepare the agenda. The agenda will focus on planning, problem solving, and decision making in respect to the Assembly's priorities and subsequent commitments/interim actions.

The agenda will include:

- 1) A recap of negotiation principles and protocols, representatives' roles and the agenda;
- 2) Updates and follow up commitments to be considered/interim actions;
- 3) Agenda items in accordance with the Assembly's Statement of Claim; and
- 4) A review of the negotiation process and outcomes.

Principles

Together the Assembly and the NSW Government agree to:

- 1) Adopt the principle "we", and work together as one to achieve positive outcomes for Aboriginal people within the Murdi Paaki Region;
- 2) Commit to respectful engagement
 - a) Negotiate as equals;
 - b) Listen and take the time to reflect on the information provided, with the aim of resolution
- 3) Create a safe space to enable all representatives to ask questions and to be heard;
- 4) Consider what to do differently as individuals, and community and government representatives;
- 5) Marry resources with issues; and
- 6) Focus on long term foundation setting.

Further to this the parties agree to:

- 1) Commit to taking issues on notice where they are unable to provide initial informed advice;
- 2) Acknowledge and promote progress and outcomes negotiated
- 3) Take ownership of the Accord and the commitments negotiated; and
- 4) When required, request a time out to ensure a constructive dialogue.

Confidentiality

It is critical that the Assembly delegates and the NSW Government have adequate information to inform decision making. This may require the NSW Government Agencies to provide the Assembly with sensitive program information and data that is not publicly available.

Information and data shared in meetings may be distributed to the Assembly delegates and the NSW Government representatives only., unless consensus to do otherwise is reached. The MPRA delegates and NSW Government representatives are not to distribute any confidential information outside of negotiations, unless agreed to by all parties.

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Absenteeism

When an Assembly or NSW Government representative is unable to attend a meeting he/she is expected to notify either the Chair of the Assembly or the lead negotiator for the NSW Government in advance to the meeting. Representatives who are unable to attend negotiations should identify an individual within their agency/the Assembly with sufficient delegation and knowledge to attend on their behalf, fully briefed.

Negotiation Process for the MPRA Accord.

It is expected that accord negotiations will reflect the process below, as agreed by the lead negotiators for the Assembly and the NSW Government:

- Specific priority areas will be negotiated progressively with relevant schedules appended the accord as they are completed.
- The parties to this accord recognise that considerable work has already been undertaken to identify areas for further joint work and agree to work together to develop appropriate targets, strategies and timeframes.

Preparedness

All attendees will be provided with a meeting agenda and other materials, as appropriate. It is the responsibility of attendees to ensure that they have the appropriate information and delegation to undertake required planning, problem solving, and decision making as part of the negotiation process.

It is expected that NSW Government representatives will be prepared and equipped to discuss solutions for problems identified by the Assembly, and be willing to look beyond current program and initiatives.

Similarly, Assembly representatives will be expected to put aside their own local concerns and focus on addressing broader regional issues, drawing on their experiences and knowledge of the region. The NSW Government will commit to giving Assembly members the information they need to develop a comprehensive understanding of the issues, in advance of all meetings.

Inviting attendees

Representatives from both the Assembly and NSW Government must not invite attendees without first notifying and obtaining the consent of both the lead negotiator for the NSW Government and the Chair of the Assembly.

Negotiators

The secretaries for each relevant department have nominated representatives to act as negotiators for the NSW Government. MPRA members will all participate in negotiation meetings.

Following the pre-accord workshops the lead negotiators for the NSW Government and MPRA will reflect on their membership to ensure the right people are at the table for the formal Accord negotiation process.

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<p>Coordination/Secretariat Aboriginal Affairs will provide overall coordination of negotiation process including arranging meetings, and provision of a scribe to record a summary of each meeting, commitments to be considered/interim actions to be taken and responsible agencies or individuals. The meeting summary will constitute the meeting record and will be circulated via email to the lead negotiator for the NSW Government, the Chair of the MPRA, MPRA lead negotiator and the independent facilitator (cc's to MPRA secretariat/relevant executive assistants) within seven days of the meeting. All meeting records will be validated by the facilitator.</p> <p>Communications As a part of the Accord negotiation process negotiators from the Assembly and the NSW Government must ensure that they direct all communications through their lead negotiator. Both parties commit to using appropriate language and agree to avoid using overly bureaucratic language, including acronyms.</p> <p>Media protocols Joint communiques will be developed as appropriate to acknowledge and promote progress and good news stories arising from the accord process. These communiques will be developed by Aboriginal Affairs (as the secretariat) and signed off jointly by lead negotiators.</p> <p>Things MPRA needs to consider/do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engage independent facilitator - look at a logic framework to support the accord, start as soon as possible - will help inform the negotiations. This can be done in a couple of ways. Meet with the committee and 'think impact' they will talk about our priorities, what do we see as a success, help negotiate for outcomes not outputs. Follow up with a joint workshop with the MPRA committee and the government. - Consider the data that is required and how to ask for that. BE SPECIFIC. 	
Morning Tea	
<p>ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS NSW – Julie Blackhall, Steve Hogan, Steve Butler and Sarah Barton.</p> <p>NAIDOC Grants Some of the communities received funding for NAIDOC funding from the NSW Department of Aboriginal Affairs. Nominations tripled from across the region over the last couple of years.</p>	

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Aboriginal Affairs will be moving to the Department of Premier and Cabinet. There has been no obvious changes and it is currently business as usual.

Far West Womens gathering

- Tegan Hinchey-Gerard & Rebecca Suckling of Aboriginal Affairs are currently leading the discussion and planning of the Far West Women's Gathering.
- The purpose of the gathering is to recognise women in dual roles and hold a women's gathering in the Murdi Paaki Region.
- During the initial planning stages, it was agreed to split the region into 3 clusters and hold separate gatherings in Menindee, Bourke and Lightning Ridge. This will allow for maximum participation from each of the cluster groups and be more culturally appropriate and targeted.
- The first of the gatherings will be the Menindee Cluster and will be known as the Far West Women's Gathering.
- The gathering will focus on - Empowering our communities, building our capacity to empower and to work towards self-sufficiency and determination for the emerging generation.
- A **Planning meeting** of the Far West Women's Gathering was held on Wednesday 29th May 2019 in Menindee.
 - 10 members of the steering committee attended along with Tegan & Bec from AA.
 - Tegan & Bec undertook a site visit to Kinchega National Park to determine suitability as a venue prior to the meeting.
 - Dates – 7th & 8th September 2019 (weekend)
 - Currently accessing accommodation requirements and number of beds available. Accommodation could include various forms including share accommodation and camping (for those willing).
 - Alcohol and drug-free event.
 - Participants limited to 18 years and over.
 - The steering committee have drafted an agenda
 - Cultural Workshop component including:
 - Aunty Clair Bates will provide a weaving workshop.
 - Confirming cultural tour with Elders.
 - Barkandji Language Bingo.
 - Pamper packs.
 - Canvas signing.
 - Steering committee agreed to have Tegan & Bec MC the gathering.
 - Draft registration form and gathering flyer completed.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting to be held on 12th June 2019. • Funding – AA staff are currently seeking funding to resource the event including in-kind support. No funds have been committed to date. <p>Steve Butler let the Assembly members know that this Friday the 7th of July will be leaving Aboriginal Affairs and will be taking a medical retirement in July.</p>	
<p>DEPARTMENT OF PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET – Rebecca Lannen, David Lindenbaur, Tobias Beckmann and Gordon Brouwer.</p> <p>Have undertaken some changes since the last meeting when they were in care taker mode.</p> <p>Federal election</p> <p>Minister Ken white – Minister for indigenous affairs</p> <p>Announcement of the new Indigenous Australians Agency – own accountability becomes a part of the departments portfolio. Starts 1st July 2019. All business is per usual they just fall under the agency now.</p> <p>Mark Coulton was re-elected as the Member for Parkes and has had a change in his ministerial portfolio to Minister for Regional Services, Decentralisation and Local Government. He covers the majority of the Murdi Paaki Region.</p> <p>At the September meeting PMC will provide a graph of commonwealth organisational structures including the new agency. They will also bring along a presentation outlining the needs of the Regional Plan that they have met.</p> <p>The Assembly members questioned Prime Minister and Cabinet regarding CDP's in the communities. The members raised the issues that is present in each community and do not believe that the current CDP's are working effectively or efficiently. Prime Minister and Cabinet stated that each CDP across Australia undertakes a Providable process.</p> <p>APS Review</p> <p>The Independent Review of the Australian Public Service (APS review) was established to ensure the APS is fit-for-purpose for the coming decades. The Chair, David Thodey, leads the review, supported by an eminent panel of individuals with pubic and private sector experience. The panel will report to the government in the first half of 2019.</p> <p>Since June 2018, the review has sought to have conversations with as many people as possible to both set the direction of reform, and to test the suggested changes. We have received around 740 submissions, over 5000 survey responses, a further 740 comments on the vision and priorities, and hosted over 40 round tables with APS employees, the general public and key organisations across Australia.</p>	

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<p>The Priorities for Change document outlined four priorities for change, to ensure that the APS is trusted and united in serving all Australians. One of these priorities was to develop stronger internal and external partnerships.</p> <p>A key aspect was the need to reimagine the relationship between the APS and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as a genuine partnership and to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work profoundly differently; • Work collectively on community-led or place-based initiatives; • Work with greater humility; • Focus on building the strength and impact of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are able to participate meaningfully in matters affecting them; and • Support and develop the APS's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees. <p>Dr Gordon de Brouwer PSM</p> <p>Gordon has over 30 years experience in public policy and administration and was the Secretary of the Department of the Environment and Energy from 2013-17. This followed senior positions in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (2008-13, including as G20 Sherpa from 2010-13.) Treasury (2003-08), Australian National University (as Professor of Economics, 2000-2002) and Reserve Bank (1991-99).</p> <p>The APS Review is seeking to hear more voices from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. They raised the question with the Assembly members regarding their experiences with Government after hearing how well the community-led decision making has impacted the Assembly. The members let the presenters know that the Governments attendance and impact on the assembly has been driven by the Assembly's hard work and not the governments doing.</p> <p>The APS Review will be presented to the Prime Minister at the end of 2019.</p>	
<p>Lunch</p>	
<p>WESTPAC – Bruce McQualter</p> <p>Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly/Westpac Partnership 2016-2021 Progress Report 5th June 2019</p>	

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The Story So Far.....

Sept' 16 MPRA / Westpac Memorandum of Understanding executed for 5 year period to 9/2021
Mar' 17 MPRA Board meeting presentation in Cobar
May 17 Westpac engages formal Evaluation Framework with Collaboration For impact (Beth Stockton)
June 17 MPRA Board meeting presentation made at Cobar
July 17 Community meeting at Dharriwaa Elders Group Walgett and LALC at Dareton / Wentworth
Aug' 17 MPRA Emerging Leaders workshop at Dareton / Wentworth
Sept' 17 MPRA Board Meeting presentation at Cobar
Oct' 17 Visit to Broken Hill (incl MPRH, MPS & Maari-Ma Health, Coonamble, Walgett & Lightning Ridge re proposed workshops,
Nov' 17 Financial Wellbeing workshops held at Walgett, Lightning Ridge & Dareton / Wentworth
Dec' 17 Board Governance session delivered for MPRA Board at Cobar
Mar' 18 Financial Wellbeing workshop for MPRA Board at Cobar, TSEP Community Day at Goodooga
Sept' 18 MPRA Board presentation at Cobar
Nov' 18 Financial Wellbeing Workshops at Walgett AMS, Brewarrina AHS. Micro business workshop held at Gongolgon for Orana Haven
Dec' 18 MPRA Board Presentation in Dubbo
Mar' 19 MPRA Board presentation at Cobar
Apr' 19 Visits to Bourke, Wilcannia and Dareton / Wentworth
May 19 CWP Meeting at Wilcannia attended

The Data.....

FINANCIAL INFORMATION WORKSHOPS 12 workshops held with a total of 169 attendees,

- 30% report increased confidence in managing their money,
- 70% report increased confidence in how to build a money plan,
- 50% report increased understanding of how to save money for their future,
- 40% report increased understanding of importance of prioritising their financial responsibilities
- 90% report workshop would be helpful to their family & friends

MPRA BOARD PRESENTATIONS 8 Board meetings attended / presented to

- 71% reported increased confidence to deal with Banks / FI's
- 86% reported increased confidence to access their financial info without going into a bank,
- 57% understand how Westpac can support their community,
- 50% would contact Westpac if needed

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The Learnings So Far ... Successes

- Informing and sharing key financial wellbeing information to MPRA's CWP Chairs,
- Delivering tailored Financial Wellbeing Workshops across 6 different locations,
- Greater awareness of smarter ways to access money (eg Bank@Post),
- Developing deeper levels of trust where greater levels of local engagement exist,
- Adding value through provision of perspectives external to the MPRA geographical area

The Learnings So Far ... Challenges

- Inconsistent capturing of workshop data – pre and post,
- Shifting sands of Government projects / funding,
- Identifying and prioritising key areas of opportunity (linked to above point),
- Scepticism and potential distrust by some communities as to why Westpac is in their communities and why we are providing support – especially where Westpac has closed or have never been in their community,
- Lack of awareness of alternative methods to access money,
- Broader issues of technology uptake in general – handicapped by coverage, knowledge or willingness to learn,
- Physical distances to larger towns to arrange access to basic services,

What Works and to Improve On....

- Face-to-face connectivity with consistency and persistence,
- Respectful observation and listening,
- Provision of information without expectation,
- Flexibility and adaptability skills,
- Time must be invested to build trust and respect,
- Partner with local community services to run programs where community members are already familiar,
- Support communities to take ownership of design and planning of workshops sought.

Proposed Action Plan 2019/2020.... MPRA Quarterly Board Meetings

- attendance to all for observation and presentation

Local CWP Meetings

- attendance to help determine local financial wellbeing needs – *in addition to those listed below.*

Financial Wellbeing Workshops - to be held at following locations using MPRA as headline logo

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bourke – potential linkage with Clontarf and The Girls Academy at Bourke HS, • Brewarrina – follow-up micro business workshop for clients of Orana Haven • Brewarrina – follow up Financial Wellbeing workshop for staff of Brewarrina AHS staff • Dareton / Wentworth – potential community workshop • Walgett AMS – follow up financial wellbeing workshop for staff • Wilcannia – potential workshop aligned to REDI.E clients <p>Service NSW Mobile Services – lobbying for;-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • potential introduction across MPRA and • potential Westpac inclusion of Pop-Up Branches (based on NT Trials) <p>Government Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To Community by Community listing of all known projects to aid visit prioritisation. <p>For more information please contact: Bruce McQualter, Manager Indigenous Business 0487 438 663 or bmcqualter@westpac.com.au</p>	
Afternoon tea	
Meeting Closed: 3.30 pm	

Thursday 6th June 2019	Action
Meeting opened at: 9.00 am	
<p>LESSONS LEARNED – Burns Aldis</p> <p>Burns Aldis provided members with a draft of their MPRA Community Governance Lessons Learned Part A Document.</p> <p>Murdi Paaki Lessons Learned Report to Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly 6th June 2019</p> <p>Progress Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two workshops with the Assembly on 6th March and 7th and 8th May • Interviews with other key stakeholders • Drafted a narrative which incorporates input to date <p>Will form the core of the broader narrative</p>	

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<p>Themes drawn from workshops and from individual interviews</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft of Interim Part B (20 page <i>Lessons Learned</i>) prepared and submitted to PM&C on 24th May • PM&C feedback <p>20 pager to focus explicitly on lessons</p> <p>More like a tool or marketing product for MPRA</p> <p>Much more clarity now around form of presentation expected</p> <p>Interim 20-pager – themes (not in any particular order)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Murdi Paaki Model • Voice and representation • Strategy and planning • A sense of continuity: succession planning • Good governance • Motivation • Community leadership qualities • Murdi Paaki values • Culture, place, identity • Working in partnership • Regional social and economic infrastructure • The importance of recognition • The future • A focus on evidence and outcomes • Success factors for CWPs <p>20-pager format</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure: <p>Introduction</p> <p>Background</p> <p>Timeline</p> <p>Individual one-page ‘lessons’ based around themes</p> <p>Conclusions</p> <p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visits to CWPs <p>No more than 8 CWPs - How to select them?</p>	
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<p>Scope of discussion: focus on local engagement MPS has kindly offered to co-ordinate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media <p>Page on MPRA website to follow</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other matters? <p>There was discussions around which Community Working Party's that Burns Aldis should visit due to timing and cost restrictions. The communities that have been decided on by the members are Wentworth/Dareton, Ivanhoe, Broken Hill, Menindee, Walgett</p>	
Morning Tea	
<p>RAHLA UPDATE – Smiley Johnstone</p> <p>Next Meeting The next meeting for RAHLA will be held on the 7th of June in Cobar. The two big agenda items on will be the proposals on the planning process and the setting up of the consortium. There will be an update on the Weilmoringle Solar program, which will ideally be the pilot project that will eventually roll out across the Region. Smiley noted that the reason why they haven't been able to get to Weilmoringle for energy research is an issue with the local energy provider, Essential Energy.</p>	
Lunch	
<p>GENERAL BUSINESS</p> <p>A motion was moved at the Walgett CWP meeting about a letter being written to the minister regarding the usage of water and that there is enough water left in the dam to keep the rivers flowing. Garry would like to put an individual letter in from the Walgett CWP and suggested that one be put in on behalf of the whole Assembly. Garry suggested that these issues may be better addressed by Roy Butler, the member for Barwon.</p> <p>Members would like Des and MPS to chase up the commitment of members for Assembly members, Young Leaders, MPS Board Directors, Accord committee members and RAHLA MPRA members.</p>	<p>Action – Invite Roy Butler to the September MPRA meeting.</p>
Meeting Closed: 12.30 pm	