



CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2015–16





Creative Commons licence

With the exception of the Commonwealth Coat of Arms and where otherwise noted, all material presented in this report is provided under a <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/licence>.

The details of the relevant licence conditions are available on the Creative Commons website at:

<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/legalcode>.

The document must be attributed as the *Central Land Council Annual Report 2015–16*.

Third party copyright for publications

This organisation has made all reasonable effort to:

- clearly label material where the copyright is owned by a third party
- ensure that the copyright owner has consented to this material being presented in this publication.

ISSN 1034-3652

All photos Central Land Council, unless otherwise credited.



CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

23 September 2016

Senator Nigel Scullion
Minister for Indigenous Affairs
Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*, the *Native Title Act 1993* and the *Public Governance and Accountability Act 2013*, I am pleased to approve and submit the 2015-16 Annual Report on the operations of the Central Land Council.

I am authorised by the Central Land Council to state that the Accountable Authority is responsible under section 46 of the PGPA Act for the preparation and content of the report.

Yours faithfully

Mr Francis Kelly
Chair
Central Land Council

OVERVIEW OF THE CLC		
	Chair's report	3
	Director's report	5
	About the CLC	7
	CLC Executive committee & Council members	13
	CLC governance	16
	Organisation structure	20
	Performance report	21
OUTPUT GROUP 1		25
Land & natural resource management	1.1 Permits	26
	1.2 Land & natural resource management	28
OUTPUT GROUP 2		43
Land claims & acquisition support	2.1 Land claims	44
	2.2 Land acquisition	45
OUTPUT GROUP 3		46
Economic development & commercial services	3.1 Land use agreements	47
	3.2 Employment, education & training	52
	3.3 Mining	60
	3.4 Commercial assistance	71
OUTPUT GROUP 4		73
Advocacy services	4.1 Public awareness & education	74
	4.2 Advocacy & representation	78
	4.3 Cultural & heritage support	84
	4.4 Community development support	88
OUTPUT GROUP 5		98
Administration & support services	5.1 Distributions	99
	5.2 Administer land trusts	101
	5.3 Dispute resolution	104
OUTPUT GROUP 6		105
Native title	Native title	106
CORPORATE MANAGEMENT		114
Annual Performance statement		125
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		129
GLOSSARY		189
COMPLIANCE INDEX		192

CHAIR'S REPORT

It is an honour to lead the Central Land Council as we celebrate 40 years of land rights in the Northern Territory.



Francis Kelly

When I thanked the members for returning me as the chair in April I felt proud that the Council has been running so much better in the last couple of years. We have been working hard at our governance. Just before the Council elections old and new CLC members came together for a very enjoyable induction day.

My first visit after the election was to our rangers at their annual camp at Blue Bush Station, north of Tennant Creek. They were even more confident than at last year's ranger camp. They teach each other about what works well and they keep our country healthy and our communities and languages strong.

I don't need a government report to know this but it is good to hear that independent experts have been

telling the federal government the same story. I hope it will listen up and help us start more ranger groups. I was very happy when the Labor party promised more money for rangers if they win the election.

Many bush voters also want to change the broken housing system. The CLC has helped a group of lawyers and volunteers to survey houses in our communities. They collected proof that the Northern Territory Department of Housing failed to repair and maintain the houses properly. Some communities have already taken legal action against the department and my home town of Yuendumu will be next.

Yuendumu is not the only place where people use community lease money in a way that helps everyone



CLC Chair Francis Kelly calls for more ranger jobs at Kalkaringi.



Francis Kelly and Sammy Butcher were re-elected at the CLC meeting at Yulara Pulka outstation.

but it is a good example of how we invest in projects that can keep going after the lease money stops.

The new outstation resource centre we funded with the support of the CLC's community development program, the Yapa Kurlangu Ngurrara Aboriginal Corporation, now has 28 outstations and 22 Aboriginal workers on its books. YKNAC has plenty of contract work in infrastructure and housing maintenance, construction and cleaning. They are using affected area compensation income from The Granites mine to tow broken cars and recycle their parts. This new project is not just great news for all us bush mechanics – we also hope it will create more real jobs for locals.

We need proper jobs to develop our communities, not the work for the dole program. The government now calls it community development program (CDP), just like our successful program, but we can tell which is the gammon one. CDP is punishing people and hurting communities. Proper community development is what we do for ourselves, not something forced on us by the government.

Our community development program is something the Northern Land Council now has in common with us. I hope we will start to share ideas during the first joint land council meeting in a very long time – in Kalkaringi, near one of the birthplaces of land rights.

When we last met there together, in 1998, we released the Kalkaringi Statement. It set out our hopes and worries about constitutional development and governance of the NT, ahead of the defeated statehood referendum.

As we begin to talk about another referendum, this time about recognising us in the Australian constitution, it is important to understand that our commitment to the principles in the Kalkaringi Statement stays strong. We are happy to look at constitutional reform that brings us meaningful and lasting benefits. When we discuss constitutional reform in Aboriginal meetings in the NT later this year we will also make sure that it does not endanger our rights to negotiate treaties to finally achieve self determination.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT



David Ross

Congratulations to the Central Land Council's chair Francis Kelly and deputy chair Sammy Butcher on being returned by the newly elected Council. It has been an absolute pleasure to work for and with such a knowledgeable group of people and I relish the opportunity to continue our collaboration for the next few years.

One of the recurring themes that CLC members raise is their desire to exercise more control over the Aboriginals Benefit Account. They say their land generates the ABA's income and they should therefore determine how it is spent. The new Council remains implacably opposed to the proposed changes to the ABA advisory committee and more determined than ever to achieve a transparent ABA process that is accountable to Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory.

Four decades since the Australian Parliament passed the *Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) 1976 Act* is surely an opportunity to reflect, even though this milestone comes in a year packed with anniversaries and celebrations.

In September 2015 the CLC delegates and supporters gathered at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station to mark the 40th anniversary of the CLC with the launch of our oral history collection *Every hill got a story*. The book and its associated study guide are proving popular with people of all ages who want to know about the views and achievements of our leaders, as told in their own words and many languages.

Barely a month later, Anangu elders and children proudly danced in the dry creek bed at Tjitjingatji, west of Uluru, at the declaration of the Kaṯitji Petermann Indigenous Protected Area. Australia's newest IPA completely surrounds and dwarfs the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park. A small band of CLC rangers in Kalṯukatjara, at the western edge of the IPA, protect this stunning 5 million hectare region from wildfires, weeds and feral animals. They operate on the smell of an oily rag.

As a recent government review acknowledged, ranger groups achieve impressive social, economic, cultural and environmental returns on our tax dollars. They help to smash disadvantage, and create meaningful employment and an incentive to go to school in remote communities where there are few other real jobs. The Kalṯukatjara rangers rejoiced when, during the 30th anniversary celebrations of the Uluru handback, the Hon. Senator Nigel Scullion promised to support a new Aboriginal ranger group at the other end of their IPA, in Muṯitjulu. Eight months later, the rangers and Muṯitjulu are still waiting.

As we prepare for the 50th anniversary of the Wave Hill Walk Off it is worth remembering that, when we finally won land rights a decade after Vincent Lingiari led the Gurindji families off Wave Hill Station, our new rights came under attack almost immediately. A succession of governments has undermined them since. Forty years on we are still spending our energies and resources on defending our land rights instead of driving our own development. When we celebrate half a century of land rights in 2026, will my successor still be wondering when governments will start to work with us rather than doing things to us?

After several years of advocating for an alternative to the Commonwealth's township leasing model it seems we have gained some traction in Muṯitjulu, the community inside the UKTNP that, incredibly, is still classed as an outstation. The CLC's model, where a community lease can be held by an Aboriginal corporation rather than by a public servant, also generated some interest in the Top End, where the Minister signed an agreement with the Gumatj clan to progress a similar model.

If the Aboriginal corporations that will hold these long-term leases are to successfully develop their communities, we must do so much more to support their governance and build the capacity of their leaders.

This is why the Aboriginal Peak Organisations of the NT set up the Aboriginal Governance and Management Program. The initiative has provided practical assistance and advice to struggling Aboriginal organisations since 2013. It made solid progress towards transforming itself into an independent centre for Aboriginal governance and management support for the hundreds of struggling Aboriginal organisations in the Territory. A federal funding injection in June 2016, while most welcome, was insufficient to maintain more than half of the small program team and its presence in the CLC region.

The CLC's community development program has helped communities and groups in our region to invest more than \$58 million of their royalty, compensation and rent income in hundreds of community projects. More and more of them successfully apply land use agreements to drive their own development priorities, on their own terms.

In June I experienced firsthand one of the curious contradictions of Australian policy: that one arm of government strongly supports community driven development abroad while at home the other enforces the exact opposite – a top-down approach.

The Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) invited my team and I to Vietnam to present about our successful program at an international conference on community driven development, which it co-funds and organises with the World Bank every year. It was the first time Australia was able to showcase a homegrown success story at this forum and I was pleased to see our community development model resonate strongly with decision makers and practitioners from 15 countries. DFAT's acknowledgement that the CLC's model is highly relevant to indigenous communities around the world has prompted me to invite the World Bank to Central Australia to give us feedback on our community development program.

The Giles government's review of the *Sacred Sites Act* by PwC Indigenous Consulting failed to consult custodian groups and was a missed opportunity to strengthen and streamline sacred site protection. Many of the sensible recommendations put forward by the CLC have been ignored, and we will be raising



this issue with whoever wins government in the NT at the coming election.

The CLC continued to participate in the Council of Australian Governments' 'urgent' 2015 investigation into Aboriginal land tenure and administration which, like the government of its instigator, now appears to be destined for political oblivion. I thank the members of the COAG Indigenous Expert Working Group for their consultation report.

Thanks are also due to the Australian Senate for ensuring that land council members remain in control of decisions to delegate land council functions to Aboriginal corporations and will be able to revoke them if these entities fail to carry out these functions effectively and accountably. My thanks also go to the CLC's staff for their dedicated work over the past 12 months.

ABOUT THE CLC

The Central Land Council (CLC) is a Commonwealth corporate entity operating under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (Cwlth) (the Land Rights Act, or the ALRA) and is a Native Title Representative Body under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cwlth) (the Native Title Act).

It has performed its statutory functions with outstanding success. Over 417,000 square kilometres of land are now Aboriginal freehold under the Land Rights Act.

In 1983, as land began to be returned, the CLC invested more in land management to enable traditional owners to benefit from opportunities on their land and deal with threats to its cultural and natural values. In response to their aspirations the CLC has increasingly supported them with pastoral activity, feral animal control, fire management and biodiversity conservation.

The CLC now also leads the country with its community development program. Constituents increasingly use income from land use agreements to build and maintain infrastructure and to fund programs that benefit their communities.

The CLC is one of four Northern Territory (NT) land councils operating under the Land Rights Act. It carries out its statutory functions in the entire southern half of the NT – an area of some 780,000 square kilometres. Its members belong to more than 15 language groups.

A 90-member council governs the CLC. These representatives are elected from Aboriginal communities across its region and meet three times a year in various bush locations. Council delegates many of its functions to a nine-member Executive elected by the members and headed by the chair and deputy chair.

The CLC consults with Aboriginal landowners on mining, land management, tourism, employment and other development proposals for their land.

It operates under the *Commonwealth Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act*

2013 (the PGPA Act) and is audited by the Australian National Audit Office every year.

The CLC's sources of revenue reflect the evolution of its operations. Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) funding comprised \$17.5 million of total revenue of \$39.6 million in 2015–16. Total operating expenses were \$39.7 million, and capital expenditure of only \$2.7 million. The CLC is one of the largest employers of Aboriginal people in the NT, employing a staff of 228 full-time-equivalent people, of whom 49% are Aboriginal.

HISTORY

The CLC's roots reach deep into the Aboriginal struggle for justice in Central Australia; for example, the famous strike and walk-off by the Gurindji people at Wave Hill cattle station in 1966. In response to Aboriginal demands, the Whitlam government set up a royal commission into land rights in the NT in 1973. It recommended that Central and Northern land councils be established in order to present the views of Aboriginal people.

A 1975 meeting of representatives of Central Australian Aboriginal communities elected Charlie Perkins and Wenten Rubuntja as chair and vice-chair respectively, and the Central Australian Aboriginal Legal Aid Service assigned a lawyer to work with them.

Later that year the Land Commissioner began hearing claims about the needs of Alice Springs town camp residents. The Whitlam government drew up an Aboriginal Land Rights Bill; however, the government was dismissed before the bill could be passed. In June 1976 the new Liberal–Country Party government passed the legislation but omitted provisions for land

claims based on need and various other features of the original bill. In the same year, the CLC published the first edition of *Land Rights News*, now Australia's oldest Aboriginal-owned newspaper.

The Land Rights Act came into operation in January 1977. It gave Aboriginal people title to most of the Aboriginal reserve lands in the NT and the opportunity to claim other land not already owned, leased or used.

One year later the CLC celebrated its first successful land claim. Like almost all claims that followed, the Warlpiri and Kartangarurru-Gurindji land claim was won against the bitter opposition of the NT's Country Liberal party government.

The CLC's constituents began to set up outstations on their country but some were unable to return because they lacked water and other essential infrastructure.

In 1983, in line with the recommendations by HC Coombs, members elected a new regionally based Executive. Kimberley priest Patrick Dodson was hired to manage what would become the CLC's directorate and regional services section, while two research officers started the land management section.

In the same year custodians set up a protest camp at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station to stop an NT Government proposal for a recreational lake that would have flooded sacred sites. The Commonwealth followed up on its promise to protect sacred sites with the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984 (Cwlth)* but left the protection of sites to ministerial discretion.

In 1984 traditional owners gave the Alice to Darwin railway the all clear. It was not completed until 2003. Two years of attempts to establish a Central Australian Women's Council failed.

In 1985 the Governor General handed back the title for the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park to the traditional owners, who leased it back to the



Traditional owners of Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park dance at the 30th anniversary celebrations.

Commonwealth for joint management. Patrick Dodson became the CLC's first director and the CLC opened its first regional office in Tennant Creek, followed by seven more offices in remote communities in subsequent years.

In 1986, in response to a mining industry campaign, the Commonwealth abandoned its commitment to national land rights legislation and tried to weaken the Land Rights Act.

The following year the CLC helped Ipolera outstation near Hermannsburg to become the first community to open a small tourism business, and the Commonwealth inserted a 1997 deadline on all land claims in the Land Rights Act.

In 1988 the CLC and traditional owners signed an exploration agreement for the area around the Granites in the Tanami desert – the first agreement negotiated from scratch under the Land Rights Act.

Later that year CLC members joined a convoy to the bicentenary protest march on Australia Day in Sydney. CLC chair Wenten Rubuntja and Northern Land Council (NLC) chair Galarrwuy Yunupingu presented Prime Minister Bob Hawke with the Barunga bark petition calling for a treaty.

In 1990 the NT Government tried again to dam the Todd River, against the will of the traditional owners, and damaged sacred sites near Junction Waterhole. After a long CLC campaign, the Commonwealth in 1992 declared the sites protected for 20 years.

The Barrow Creek Telegraph Station, site of an 1874 massacre of Kaytetye people, was handed back in 1992 to the traditional owners, despite NT Government obstruction.

The CLC became a Native Title Representative Body in 1994 following the passage of the Native Title Act. It lodged its first, and ultimately successful, native title claim over the town of Alice Springs. It also won a



Director David Ross (right) and his predecessor Patrick Dodson observed the presentation of the Barunga Statement in 1988.

settlement of the long-running Lake Amadeus land claim.

In 1997 the sunset clause in the Land Rights Act came into effect. The CLC managed to lodge several claims before the deadline, especially over parks and reserves.

Lands rights came under siege again in 1998 when the Howard government launched reviews of both the Land Rights Act and the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act*, and sought to weaken the *Native Title Act* following an unprecedented scare campaign.

The CLC's mining and employment unit commenced operations in 1999. Five years later, 20% of the mining workforce in the Tanami was Aboriginal. Also in 1999, the NT Government gained control of parts of the Native Title Act and replaced the right of Aboriginal people to negotiate with a limited right to be consulted and to object. The House of Representatives launched an inquiry into the review of the Act, which sparked an outcry with its recommendation to dismantle the land councils.

The Lajamanu Ranger Program – the first of the CLC's ranger programs – started in 2001, in part funded by royalty payments.

In 2004 the CLC and the NT Government negotiated joint management arrangements for 20 national parks and reserves. Sixteen were to be handed back to their traditional owners and leased to the NT Government for 99 years, with four jointly managed under Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs).

Following requests by Aboriginal educators in the Tanami the CLC established its Community Development Program in 2005. The first program initiatives, the Warlpiri Education and Training Trust (WETT) and the Uluru Rent Money Project, saw Aboriginal groups plan and implement community benefit projects with their collective income from royalty and rent payments.

The Howard government amended the Land Rights Act again in 2006, allowing the delegation of core CLC functions to Aboriginal corporations who may not be traditional landowners and/or lack the capacity to carry out CLC functions.

The first Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) in the CLC region, the Northern Tanami IPA, was declared in 2007. This was followed by the 10 million hectare Southern Tanami IPA in 2012, the largest protected area in the country, and its newest, the *Katitj* Petermann IPA. Declared in 2015, it completely surrounds and dwarfs the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park.



Members of the WETT Advisory Committee with a painting which explains the WETT programs.

In 2008 the CLC commemorated the 80th anniversary of the 1928 Coniston massacre. The community development unit started the Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation (GMAAAC) project, which invests compensation income in community benefit projects throughout the Tanami region.

In 2009, Indigenous Affairs Minister Jenny Macklin opened the CLC's new building, where all sections could be located together for the first time since 1986. Minister Macklin also handed back seven national parks at this time.

The CLC delegates elected Tennant Creek's Gina Smith as the first female deputy chair in 2010 and decided to use all rent income from jointly managed national parks for community benefit projects through the CLC's new NT Parks Rent Money Project.

In 2012 the CLC delegates voted unanimously to spend the majority of the Commonwealth's compensation for the compulsory community leases it took out during the Northern Territory Emergency Response on community benefit projects with the support of the Community Development Program.

Following the Strong Aboriginal Governance Summit in Tennant Creek, organised by the Aboriginal Peak Organisations NT (APONT), the Commonwealth in 2013 invested in a new Aboriginal Governance and Management Program to assist Aboriginal organisations.

In 2014 the handback of Yurrkuru (Brooks Soak) concluded a 22-year struggle for justice. The CLC celebrated the opening of a new operational and training centre in Alice Springs, supporting its 11 ranger groups.

The Community Development Program celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2016. With its support, Aboriginal

Land Rights

1978

The Warlpiri Kartangaruru-Gurindji claim becomes the CLC's first successful land claim.



1975

Charlie Perkins and Wenten Rubuntja elected CLC's first chair and deputy chair.



1976

The Australian parliament passes the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act* and the CLC publishes the first issue of *Land Rights News*.



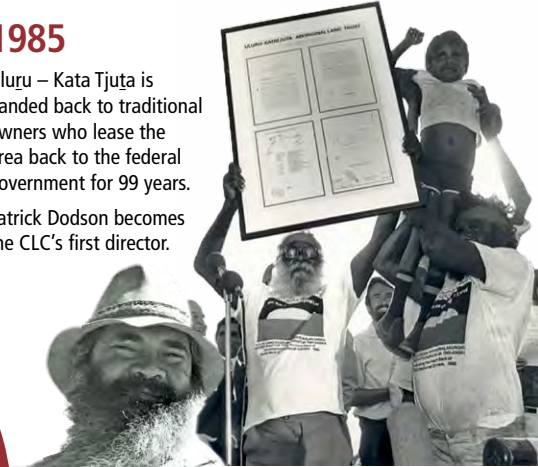
1983

Aboriginal custodians protest against a dam that would have flooded sacred sites north of Alice Springs.



1985

Uluru – Kata Tjuta is handed back to traditional owners who lease the area back to the federal government for 99 years. Patrick Dodson becomes the CLC's first director.



1988

Wenten Rubuntja (CLC) and Galarrwuy Yunupingu (NLC) present Prime Minister Bob Hawke with the Barunga Statement calling for a treaty. Mr Hawke promises a treaty by 1990.

A convoy of NT Aboriginal leaders drives to Sydney to protest against the Bicentennial celebrations.



1993

The Australian parliament passes the Native Title Act.

One year later, the CLC becomes a Native Title Representative Body.

1997

The sunset clause in the Aboriginal Land Rights Act takes effect.

No more new land claims can be lodged.



1976–2016

2005

The Warlpiri Education and Training Trust and the Uluru Rent Money projects kick off the CLC's community development program.

Since then, the program has helped Aboriginal groups to drive their own development by investing \$58 million of their royalty, compensation and rent income in many hundreds of community projects.



2004

The CLC negotiates the joint management of 20 national parks leased back to the NT government.

Since 2012 members have invested all rent income from the park leases in community development projects.

2000

Lajamanu's Wulain Rangers (now North Tanami Rangers) become the CLC's first ranger group.

Today the CLC's Ranger Program supports 10 ranger groups managing more than 300,000 square km of Indigenous Protected Area and other Aboriginal land.



2015

The CLC marks its 40th birthday with the launch of the oral history collection *Every Hill Got A Story*.

It celebrates winning back more than 417,000 square km of Aboriginal freehold land.



2016

A joint meeting of Territory land councils at Kalkaringi celebrates 40 years of Land Rights and half a century since the Wave Hill Walk-Off.

2008

Traditional owners commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Coniston Massacre.



groups in 31 communities have driven their own development by investing \$58 million of their royalty, rent and compensation Income in many hundreds of community benefit projects.

STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

The statutory functions of the CLC are described in s.23 (1) of the Land Rights Act. Although they are determined by the Act, the CLC is first and foremost a representative organisation for the Aboriginal people in its area.

The functions of a land council are:

- to ascertain and express the wishes and the opinion of Aboriginals living in the area of the land council as to the management of Aboriginal land in that area and as to appropriate legislation concerning that land
- to protect the interests of traditional Aboriginal owners of, and other Aboriginals interested in, Aboriginal land in the area of the land council
- to assist Aboriginals in the taking of measures likely to assist in the protection of sacred sites on land (whether or not Aboriginal land) in the area of the land council
- to consult with traditional Aboriginal owners of, and other Aboriginals interested in, Aboriginal land in the area of the land council with respect to any proposal relating to the use of that land
- where the land council holds in escrow a deed of grant of land made to a Land Trust under s.12:
 - i. to negotiate with persons having estates or interests in that land with a view to the acquisition of those estates or interests by the Land Trust; and
 - ii. until those estates or interests have been so acquired, to negotiate with those persons with a view to the use by Aboriginals of the land in such manner as may be agreed between the land council and those persons
- to negotiate with persons desiring to obtain an estate or interest in land in the area of the land council:
 - i. where the land is held by a Land Trust — on behalf of traditional Aboriginal owners (if any) of that land and of any other Aboriginals interested in the land; and
 - ii. where the land is the subject of an application referred to in paragraph 50 (1) (a) – on behalf of the traditional Aboriginal owners of that land or on behalf of any other Aboriginals interested in the land
- to assist Aboriginals in the area of the land council to carry out commercial activities (including



Custodians Jeffrey Oliver and Alan Drover celebrated the Simpson Desert portion handback.

resource development, the provision of tourist facilities and agricultural activities) in any manner that will not cause the land council to incur financial liability or enable it to receive financial benefit

- to assist Aboriginals claiming to have a traditional land claim to an area of land within the area of the land council in pursuing the claim, in particular, by arranging for legal assistance for them at the expense of the land council
- to negotiate and enter into agreements, as necessary, for the purposes of ss.70 (4)
- to compile and keep:
 - i. a register recording the names of the members of the land council; and
 - ii. a register recording the names of the members of the Land Trusts holding, or established to hold, Aboriginal land in its area and descriptions of each area of such Aboriginal land
- to supervise, and provide administrative or other assistance for, Land Trusts holding, or established to hold, Aboriginal land in its area.

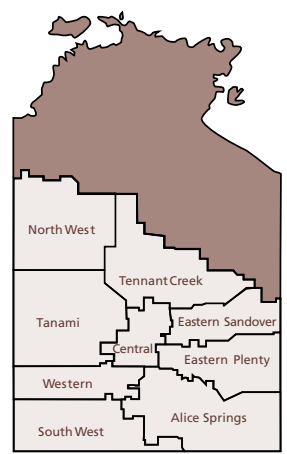
ACCOUNTABLE AUTHORITY

The Accountable Authority of the CLC is comprised of Francis Kelly (Chair) and David Ross (Director). Mr Kelly is a Warlpiri elder, filmmaker and a leading figure in the Aboriginal media industry. He has been a health worker, mechanic, machine operator, council supervisor and community advisor. A former Deputy Chair of the CLC, Mr Kelly has been a delegate for 14 years. Mr Ross has been a CLC staff member since 1979. He has also worked for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission and was the inaugural Executive Chair of the Indigenous Land Corporation. He holds an Associate Diploma in Business Management. The Accountable Authority met 12 times during the reporting period.

CLC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & COUNCIL MEMBERS

The CLC covers nine regions, with 90 members representing 75 communities. Its chair is Francis Kelly and its deputy chair is Sammy Butcher. ABA members are Valerie Martin, Kelvin Morrison, Harry Nelson, Barbara Shaw and Phillip Wilyuka.

Membership of the Council, Executive committee and ABA Advisory Committee changed at the Council election held in April 2016. All names listed here are current from April 2016, prior to that the membership was the same as that listed in the 2014–15 annual report.



CLC CHAIR



Francis Kelly

ABA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Valerie Martin



Kelvin Morrison



Harry Nelson

CLC DEPUTY CHAIR



Sammy Butcher



Barbara Shaw



Phillip Wilyuka

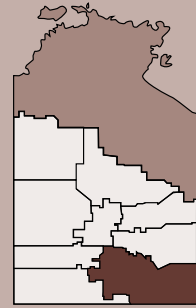
REGION 1 • ALICE SPRINGS



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Ngarla Kunoth-Monks

(alternate: Bernard Abbott)

Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa): Raymond Palmer
Titjikala: Phillip Wilyuka **Wallace Rockhole:** Bernard Abbott
Amoonguna: Rosanne Ellis **Uruna:** Rayleen Silverton
Yateman's Bore outstations: Patrick Oliver **Alice Springs town camps:** Barbara Shaw **Alice Springs native title holders:** Ngarla Kunoth-Monks, Raymond Peters **Alice Springs outstations:** Amelia Turner **Iwupataka:** Sidney Campbell Snr **Ntaria (Hermannsburg):** Mark Inkamala **Ntaria (Hermannsburg) outstations:** Mildred Inkamala, Conrad Ratarata, Eric Fly



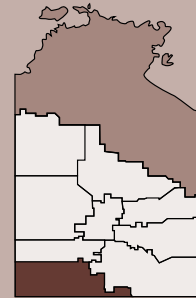
REGION 2 • SOUTH WEST



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Sammy Wilson

(alternate: Louis Clyne)

Walatjata outstation: Colin Paddy **Imanpa (Mount Ebenezer):** David Wongway, Sandra Armstrong **Utju (Areyonga):** Gordon Tiger **Aputula (Finke):** Jeffrey Doolan **Kaltukatjara (Docker River):** Clive Shaw **Kaltukatjara (Docker outstations):** Sidney James **Mutitjulu:** Sammy Wilson **Kings Canyon outstations:** Louis Clyne **Ukaka (Tempe Downs):** Bruce Breaden



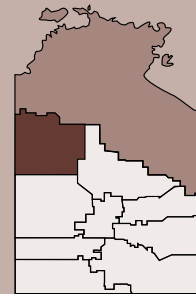
REGION 3 • NORTH WEST



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Norbert Patrick

(alternate: Desley Rogers)

Bamboo Springs: Desley Rogers **Mistake Creek:** Ray Clyden **Daguragu:** Howard King **Daguragu outstations:** Michael George, Jimmy Wavehill **Lajamanu:** Geoffrey Barnes, Willy Johnson **Lajamanu outstations:** Norbert Patrick



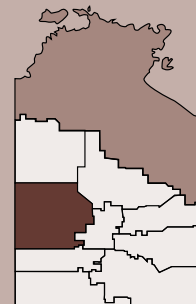
REGION 4 • TANAMI



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Teddy Long

(alternate: Harry Nelson)

Nyirripi: Jacob Spencer **Yuendumu:** Harry Nelson, Francis Kelly **Yuendumu outstations:** Valerie Martin, Tommy Watson **Tanami Downs:** Peggy Granites **Willowra:** April Martin, Teddy Long **Mount Barkly:** Ashley Martin **Mount Denison:** Roslyn Jones



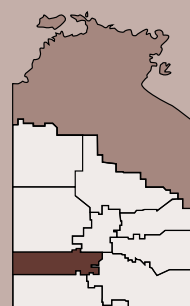
REGION 5 • WESTERN



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Sid Anderson

(alternate: Douglas Multa)

Papunya: Sammy Butcher **Papunya outstations:** Sid Anderson
Ikuntji (Haasts Bluff): Gordon Butcher **Ikuntji (Haasts Bluff) outstations:** Douglas Multa **Amundurrngu (Mount Liebig):** Neil Peterson **Amundurrngu outstations:** Roderick Kantamara
Walungurru (Kintore): Joe Young **Walungurru (Kintore) outstations:** Raymond Maxwell **M'Bunghara:** Terry Morris



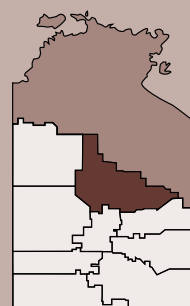
REGION 6 • TENNANT CREEK



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Owen Torrens

(alternate: Kelvin Morrison)

Mangalawarra: Dianne Stokes **Ngurratiji (Nguyarrmini):** Geoffrey Murphy **Kunayungku:** Ronald Brown **Karlanjarriyi:** Kelvin Morrison **Wutunurrurga (Epenarra):** Owen Torres
Tennant Creek: Heather Rosas, Michael Jones **Tennant Creek native title holders:** position vacant **Canteen Creek:** Adrian Mick **Wunara:** Tony Willy **Alekareng:** Peter Corbett, Ethan Wilson **Imangara (Murray Downs):** Phillip Dobbs



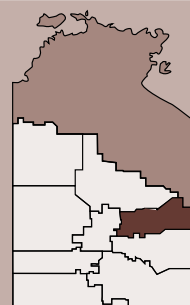
REGION 7 • EASTERN SANDOVER



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Michael Liddle

(alternate: George Club)

Alpurrurulam (Lake Nash): Maurice Drover **Ampilatwatja:** Peter Morton **Utopia Homelands:** George Club, Casey Holmes **Arlparra:** Michael Liddle, Rosco Loy **Irrultja:** Elton Ross **Areyn (Derry Downs):** Kenny Woodman **Atnwengerrpe:** Darren Long



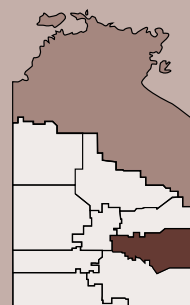
REGION 8 • EASTERN PLENTY



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Leo Petrick

(alternate: Kay Martin)

Bonya: Andrew Reiff **Urlampe outstations:** Shirley Dempsey
Alcoota: Kenny Martin **Irrerlirre (McDonald Downs):** Leo Petrick **Mount Eaglebeak:** Herbert Bloomfield **Akarnenhe Well:** Michael Williams **Atitjere (Harts Range):** Raymond Webb



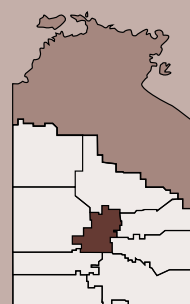
REGION 9 • CENTRAL



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Jasper Haines

(alternate: Ron Hagan / Kim Brown)

Adelaide Bore (Woola Downs): Ross Purvis **Yuelamu (Mount Allan):** David Stafford, Ron Hagan **Pmara Jutunta (Ti Tree Six Mile):** Kim Brown **Nturiya (Ti Tree Station):** Jasper Haines
Wilora (Stirling): Harry Moore **Laramba (Napperby):** Peter Stafford **Barrow Creek outstations:** Timothy Price, Tommy Walkabout



CLC GOVERNANCE

The CLC operates under the Commonwealth *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (previously the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*).

ENABLING LEGISLATION

The CLC's enabling legislation is the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (Cwlth) (the Land Rights Act, or the ALRA).

RESPONSIBLE MINISTER

The responsible Minister is Senator the Hon. Nigel Scullion, Minister for Indigenous Affairs.

STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

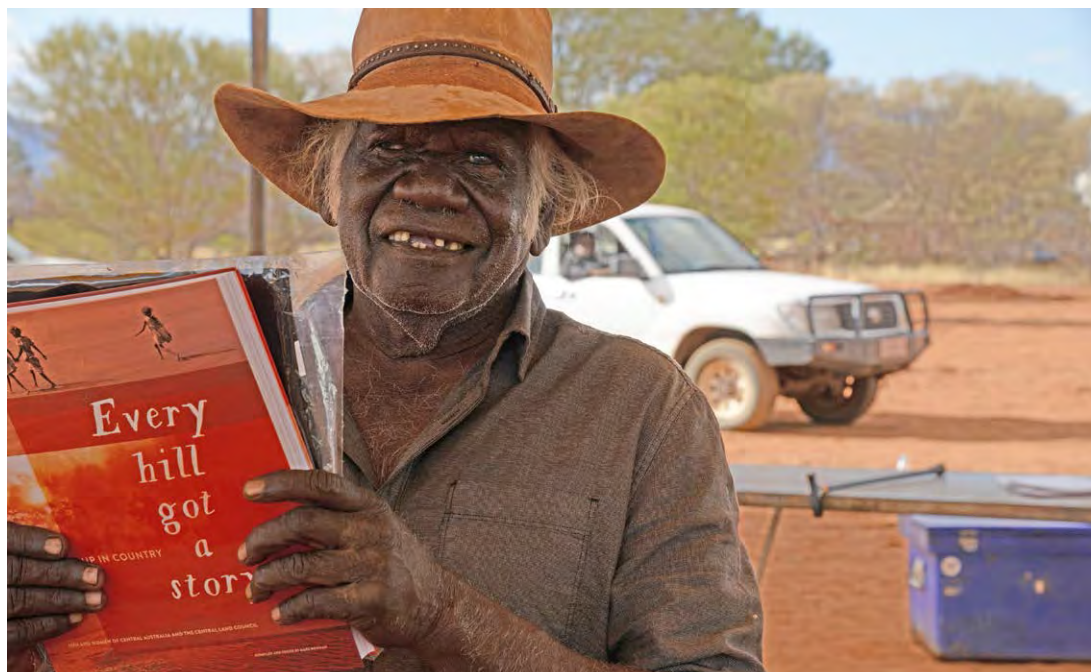
The statutory functions of the CLC are described in s.23(1) of the Land Rights Act and are detailed on page 12 above.

COUNCIL

The CLC is a council of Aboriginal people from across the southern half of the NT. Its 90 members represent 75 remote communities and outstations. Any Aboriginal person is eligible for membership provided they are living in or are traditional owners of land within the CLC area, and meet the eligibility requirements set out under the Land Rights Act. Council elections are held every three years.

COUNCIL ELECTION PROCESS

The process for choosing Council members is determined by the Council and is subject to approval by the Minister. The method of choice sets out the list



Frankie Holmes is one of the authors of the CLC's oral history collection, *Every hill got a story*.



Barbara Shaw addresses the Yulara Pulka April 2016 council meeting.

of communities and outstations that can nominate members and the allocation of representatives from each community. Small communities and outstations meet to nominate their representatives, while larger communities vote for their representatives at community meetings convened by the CLC. In a small number of cases representative Aboriginal organisations are invited to nominate representatives at a properly convened meeting.

During this reporting period the Council reviewed and amended the method of choice. This was provided to the Minister and was approved in February 2016, in time for Council election meetings held in the first quarter of 2016.

The new Council held its first meeting on 19–21 April 2016 at Yulara Pulka. At this meeting the Australian Electoral Commission held elections for the positions of chair, deputy and CLC representation on the ABA Advisory Committee. Members also met in regional groups to elect their nine Executive Committee members. The results of these elections are set out on pages 13–15.

COUNCIL GOVERNANCE PROCESSES

During this reporting period the CLC put considerable effort into reviewing and amending a number of critical Council governance documents. Work included:

- undertaking a review of the effectiveness and member satisfaction with Council meeting processes, and working with Council to discuss recommendations and implement findings
- confirming Council policy priorities
- reviewing the rules for Council meetings
- reviewing the rules for Executive meetings
- reviewing the method of choice and Council membership
- reviewing the Council’s code of conduct

- commencing discussions about a Council succession plan
- revising and reprinting the CLC governance manual to ensure it reflects the requirements of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

Ministerial approval was achieved for the revised method of choice and rules for meetings, and Ministerial noting was made for the rules for Executive meetings and the code of conduct.

A Council induction and governance workshop was held in April 2016 prior to the convening of the first meeting of the new term. This workshop was facilitated by an expert independent governance trainer, and focused on ensuring that Council members fully understood the role and functions of the CLC, their obligations under the ALRA and the PGPA Act, the rules for Council meetings and the code of conduct. This was followed by a further induction governance workshop with the Executive committee in May 2016, which focused on the role of the Executive and the rules for meetings.

COUNCIL MEETINGS 2015–16

Meeting dates	Location	Resolutions passed
25, 26, 27 August 2015	Haasts Bluff	7
10, 11, 12 November 2015	Arlparra	5
19, 20, 21 April 2016	Yulara Pulka	4

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The 11-member Executive committee is a committee of the Council, pursuant to s.29A of the Land Rights Act. The Executive comprises nine members representing the CLC’s nine administrative regions plus the chair and deputy chair.

The Executive held nine meetings in this financial year, all in Alice Springs.

Pursuant to s.28 of the Land Rights Act the Council has delegated all its powers capable of delegation (except those powers which have been delegated to the director, chair and financial controller) to the Executive. In practice this means that the majority of matters requiring formal resolution, such as land use agreements and Part IV mining matters, are brought to the Executive, leaving the Council to make decisions about policy.

Membership of the Executive changed at the April 2016 Council election meeting.



Council members in regional group discussions at the Arlparra council meeting in November.



Ngarla Kunoth-Monks speaks up at the April 2016 council meeting at Yulara Pulka.



EXECUTIVE MEETINGS 2015–16

Executive meetings	Resolutions passed
30 June 2015 and 1 July 2015	8
29, 30 July 2015	10
24 September 2015	21
22, 23 October 2015	18
16, 17 December 2015	18
18 February 2016	9
23 March 2016	27
New Executive membership commenced from April 2016	
25 May 2016	6
29 June 2016	9

ROLE OF THE CHAIR

The chair is elected by members of the Council for a three-year term. The chair is also a member of the accountable authority in accordance with the PGPA Act. The previous chair, Mr Francis Kelly, was returned at the April 2016 election for a further term, along with the deputy chair, Mr Sammy Butcher.

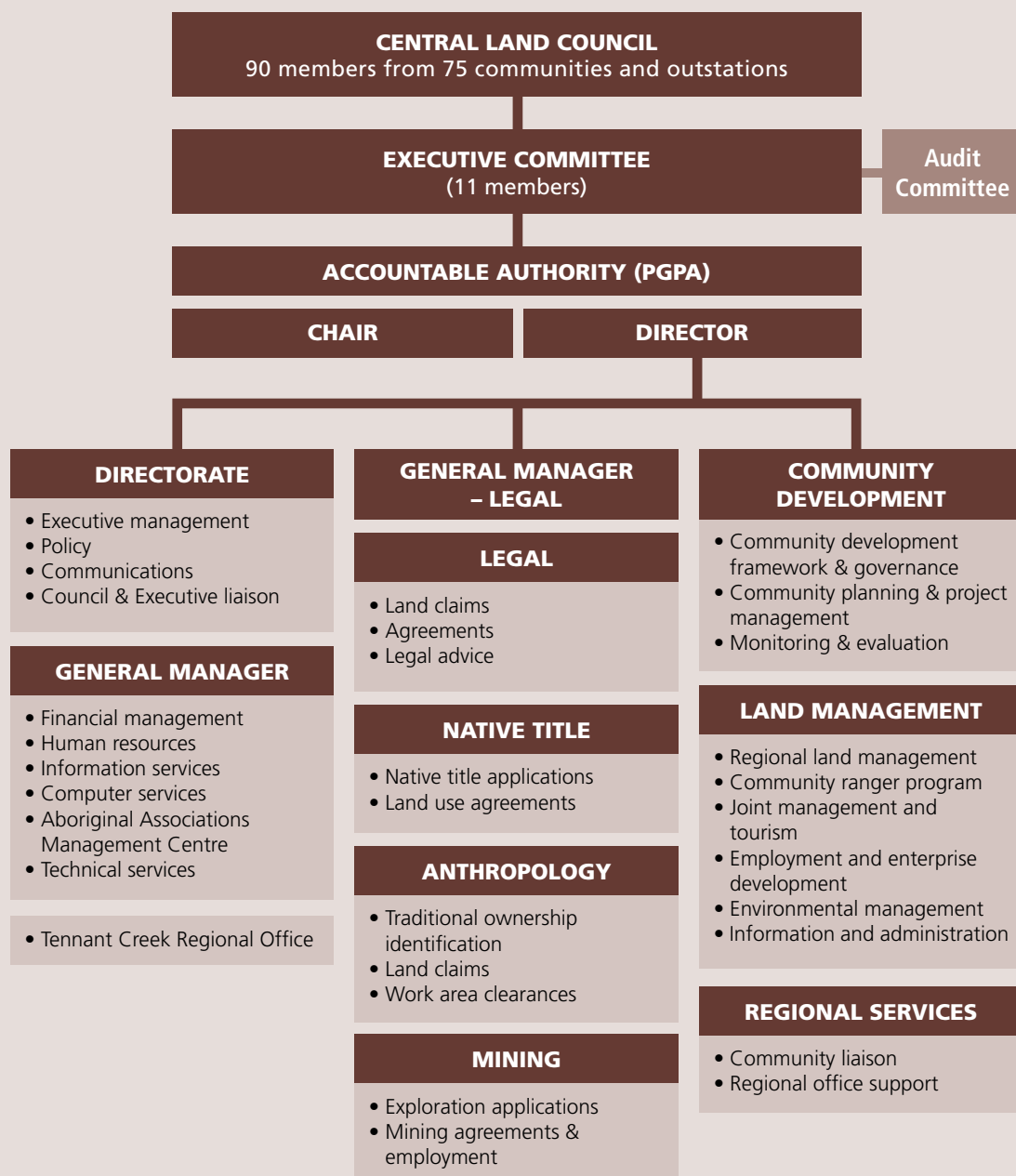


Delegates Raelene Silverton, Ngarla Kunoth-Monks and Rosanne Ellis participated in a one day induction session ahead of the council elections.



Newly elected CLC delegates at the council meeting at Yulara Pulka outstation.

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE



PERFORMANCE REPORT

LAND & NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

OUTPUT	1.1	PERMITS
	1.2	LAND & NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

LAND CLAIMS & ACQUISITIONS SUPPORT

OUTPUT	2.1	LAND CLAIMS
	2.2	OTHER LAND ACQUISITION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & COMMERCIAL SERVICE

OUTPUT	3.1	LAND USE AGREEMENTS
	3.2	EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION & TRAINING
	3.3	MINING
	3.4	COMMERCIAL ASSISTANCE

ADVOCACY SERVICES & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

OUTPUT	4.1	PUBLIC AWARENESS & EDUCATION
	4.2	ADVOCACY & REPRESENTATION
	4.3	CULTURAL & HERITAGE SUPPORT
	4.4	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT SERVICES

OUTPUT	5.1	DISTRIBUTIONS
	5.2	ADMINISTER LAND TRUSTS
	5.3	DISPUTE RESOLUTION

NATIVE TITLE

OUTPUT 6	NATIVE TITLE
----------	--------------

OUTCOMES

Enhanced social, political and economic participation and equity for Aboriginal people in the Central Land Council's area as a result of the promotion, protection and advancement of their land rights, other rights and interests.

CORPORATE PLANNING, PERFORMANCE INFORMATION FRAMEWORK AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The corporate planning methodology integrates longer-term objectives, and an outputs- and outcomes-driven performance information framework including long-term financial planning. A corporate plan, guiding future activities and priorities for the four-year period from 2015–16, was published and provided to the Minister in accordance with the PGPA Act. Action planning ensures that the CLC's aspirations over the life of the plan are achieved. The PGPA Act requires that the CLC, as a Commonwealth corporate entity, must revise its corporate plan annually.

An appropriate system of risk oversight and management, as required by s.16 of the PGPA, requires the Accountable Authority of a Commonwealth corporate entity is maintained including a regularly updated risk management plan. The annual review of the plan was completed in accordance with Comcover better practice

requirements. It included a revised risk profile and action plan aligned to the corporate plan and an updated risk appetite assessment. The Comcover annual best practice benchmarking is used as a basis for continuous risk management improvement.

Price Warehouse Risk Assurance were engaged to assist with the development of a business continuity plan. A draft plan has been compiled and will be finalised and tested in next year.

PERFORMANCE

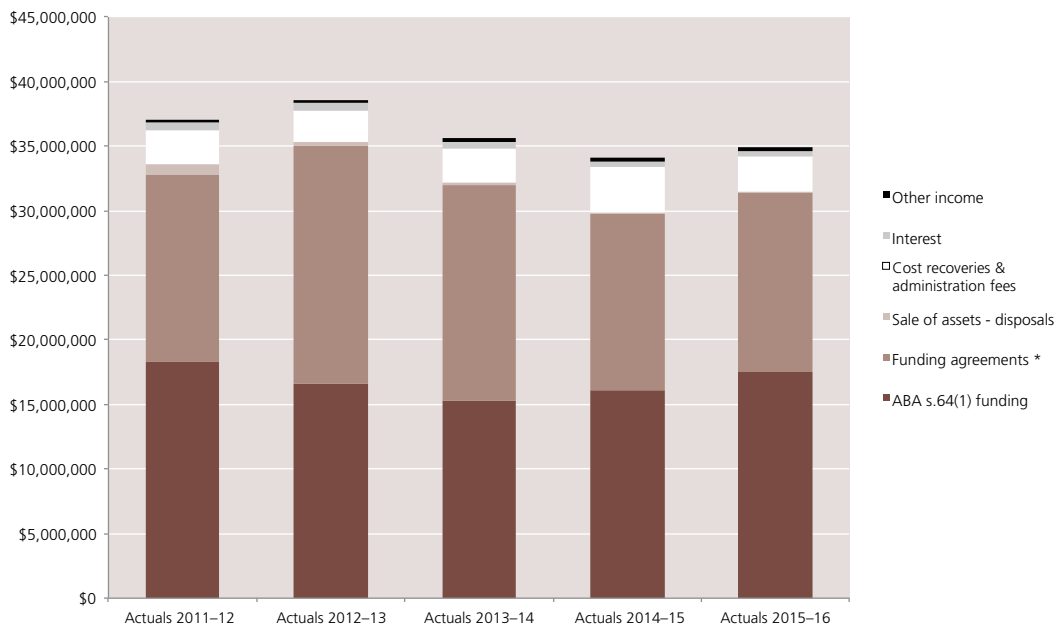
Key organisational achievements are described in the respective output chapters. In summary these include:

- working with traditional owners to manage their land and resources, protecting sacred sites and economic development (Outputs 1.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and 4.3)
- pursuing traditional owners' native title interests (Output 6)
- supporting traditional owners and residents to realise their community development aspirations (Output 4.4)

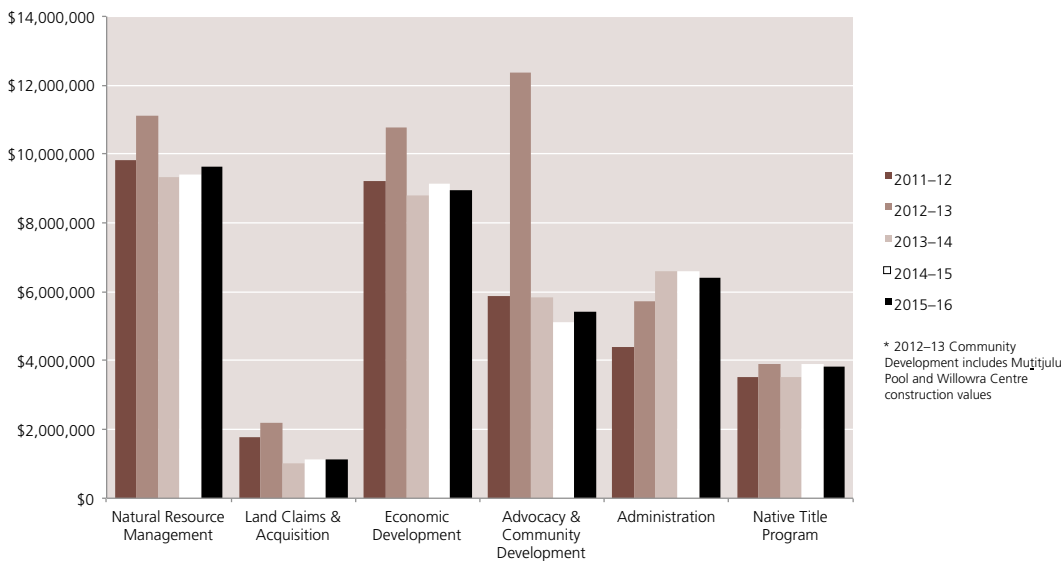


Jillian Brown with Lynn Simms and Michael Watson on a work area clearance at Tanami Downs.

SOURCES OF REVENUE CHART



EXPENDITURE CLASSIFIED BY CLC OUTPUT GROUPS



- negotiating commercial agreements with parties interested in using Aboriginal land and managing income arising from land use agreements
- representing the land interests and aspirations of Aboriginal people in Central Australia
- managing community based ranger groups to deliver a range of land management services.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The CLC is funded on a cash basis, with the annual estimates of revenue less expenditure forecast on a breakeven basis. The actual deficit for the financial year ended 30 June 2016 was \$60,000 compared to a deficit of \$570,000 in the previous year.



Martin Darr, Manager of the Regional Services Unit at the Central Land Council.

Operational sources of revenue are detailed below. Continuing the trend of recent years, there was success in further improving outputs and outcomes in a funding constraint environment.

Outputs classified under natural resource management of \$9.2 million, or 25%, were the largest expenditure, a similar expenditure level to the previous year (\$9.4 million). As well as achieving land management objectives, significant program elements relate to employment, education and training (Output 3.2). Funding for this program is only secured until 2018, and there has been not been any flexibility for growth, despite significant increased demand for additional ranger groups.

Economic development and commercial services incorporating land use agreements, employment, education and training, mining and commercial assistance was the next largest expenditure output group \$9.0 million, or 26% of total expenditure. This includes core statutory mining and land use agreement assistance functions; applications for consent to explore on Aboriginal land; employment unit costs; tourism development; and pastoral development projects.

Advocacy and community development of \$5.5 million, or 14%, was similar to the previous year due to budget constraints. There continues to be unmet demand for community development

resources. Further details of work performed within the output groups are contained elsewhere in this report.

Cost recovery opportunities are proactively identified to mitigate any reduction in the level and/or quality of service delivery. Productivity improvements have been proposed during the enterprise bargaining process, to be progressively implemented when the final agreement is approved.

The financial statements adhere to Australian Accounting Standards including stipulating that all receipts for special purpose programs are recognised as current year revenue, although services may remain unperformed and matching expenditure will occur in future years. The CLC is not funded on an annual basis for non-financial asset depreciation or leave liabilities accrued. The schedule of commitments provides further detail of obligations against recognised revenue, which will be met in future years. Net comprehensive income of \$1.6 million is attributable to the Australian Government, which is 4% of operating expenditure.

OUTPUT GROUP 1

LAND & NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

OUTPUT	1.1 PERMITS
	1.2 LAND & NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



OUTCOMES	Enhanced social, political and economic participation and equity for Aboriginal people in the Central Land Council’s area as a result of the promotion, protection and advancement of their land rights, other rights and interests.
-----------------	--

OUTPUT 1.1 PERMITS

Access to Aboriginal land is managed effectively and efficiently.

The permit system is authorised by s.73 of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (Cwlth) and contained within the Aboriginal Land Act (NT). The system provides all visitors, workers and researchers with a system of regulated access to Aboriginal land administered by the land councils. Traditional owners use the permit system to manage access to their land and uphold their responsibilities towards visitors. The CLC offers entry, transit, media (news of the day), mining and special purpose permits.

In 2007, amendments were made to the system so that permits are not required for public areas in main communities. Permits to visit Aboriginal land outside community 'common areas' are still required. However, as traditional owners requested, many visitors to communities still apply for permits to areas

where permits are not required in order to have peace of mind about the consent of the residents. The CLC appreciates these shows of goodwill.

Nonetheless, the CLC believes that changes to the permit system have led some people to assume that they are free to visit Aboriginal land outside communities as well. Traditional landowners are particularly concerned about theft of equipment (most commonly solar panels and bore equipment) and damage to sacred sites.

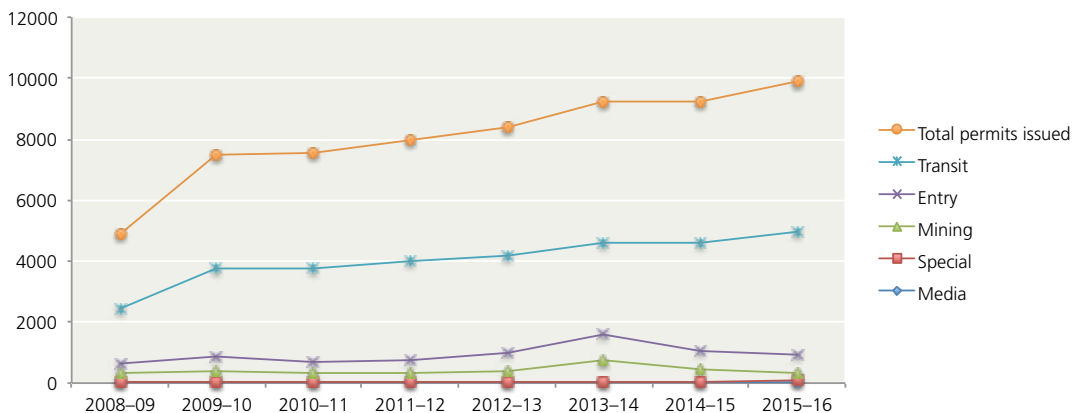
ENTRY AND SPECIAL PURPOSE PERMITS

Despite the small number of entry and special purpose permits issued, the work required takes up a significant amount of staff time and resources. The

PERMITS DATA FOR 2015–16

Permit applications for the last eight years

Permits	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16
Total permits issued	2,450	3,755	3,779	3,997	4,194	4,619	4,627	4,952
Entry	302	438	390	453	594	876	633	611
Media	15	14	5	6	2	2	4	7
Mining	299	372	273	270	349	710	405	266
Special	26	23	32	36	38	35	33	60
Transit	1,808	2,908	3,079	3,232	3,211	2,996	3,552	4,008





Anangu elder Pantjiti McKenzie guides CLC rangers during a prescribed burn near Tjukurla.

CLC undertook traditional owner consultations and proponent negotiations for numerous special purpose and entry permit applications.

The applications received and consulted upon in 2015–16 were, as ever, extremely diverse in nature. They included use of parts of Arletherre ALT for a rogaining event and car rally; dingo research by University of Technology Sydney; the Uluru Run between Uluru and the South Australian border; and the Endeavour Rally from Uluru to the Lasseter Highway.

Discussions were held with traditional owners concerning the development of a new permit system for visitors wishing to drive the Madigan track, which traverses across the Atnetye ALT.

Efforts to reduce the incidence of illegal entry onto Aboriginal lands focused on the installation of additional restricted entry signs. Traditional owners identified multiple sites where such signs were needed on Urrampinyi Iltjiltjarri, Haasts Bluff and Warti-yangu ALTs. At Kunjarra, regular patrols were conducted during the tourist season to enforce camping restrictions.

Aboriginal land under joint management received 31 permit applications through the Parks and Wildlife

Commission of the NT (PWCNT) for NT Parks and Reserves.

Tourism-related permit consultations and negotiations included applications for a special purpose permit application for filming and cultural activities at Patji; from Tourism NT for the Landrover Experience Tour; a special purpose application by the Mutitjulu Foundation for a fund raising tour to Lake Amadeus; and from NITV for commercial filming at Patji with Uluru Family Tours.

OUTPUT 1.2

LAND & NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Traditional owners are assisted to manage their land and natural resources in a sustainable manner.

More than half of the CLC's region is Aboriginal freehold land under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act. The CLC's constituents also live under a number of different land tenure arrangements, including townships, community living areas and pastoral leases. The land continues to be of immense cultural and spiritual significance to its Aboriginal owners. A fundamental aspiration of traditional owners is to maintain that cultural and spiritual connection to their country and ensure that future generations have the same opportunity.

The region also contains landscapes of national and international significance supporting a number of threatened species and habitats of high conservation value. However, there are a number of threats to both the natural and cultural integrity of the land, including the impacts of feral animals, inappropriate fire regimes, invasive plant species and other threats to biodiversity.

Traditional owners aspire to sustainably manage and generate livelihoods from their land. The CLC supports them to build the capacity of people and to manage and protect environmental and cultural values.

The CLC provides advice and helps traditional owners to sustainably manage their land. It achieves this through land use and management planning, fire management, cultural heritage protection, feral animal and weed management, and traditional owner involvement in the management of protected areas.

Most of the 119 positions in the CLC's land management section are indigenous rangers. The rangers are the eyes and ears of the bush and respond to natural and cultural resource management issues (see the CLC's a separate comprehensive report on the Ranger Program).

1 REGIONAL LAND MANAGEMENT

Land resource information and planning

The CLC contributes to a National Ecosystem Data Resources Working Group which reviews ecosystem



Warlpiri rangers Christine Michaels Ellis, Magda Curtis and Luke Dingle trapped their first fox at Newhaven Wildlife Sanctuary near Nyirripi.

science data infrastructure and resources. It also co-ordinates the Indigenous Desert Alliance (IDA) data working group. Key resources shared with the working group include the CLC CyberTracker database and manuals, and the ranger work plan and reporting tool. The CLC is developing a data-sharing policy to protect sensitive data while also sharing with external experts for improved planning and management. It hired consultants to implement maintenance of the Tanami Regional Biodiversity Monitoring database, which will enable sharing of this complex and unique dataset. The CLC presented its approach to data management issues and potential solutions to the IDA meeting in Perth 2015 and at the 2016 Kiwirrkurra Bilby Festival (see box on page 36).

The CLC updated the CyberTracker database following feedback from ranger groups, adding data collection applications for threatened species monitoring and camera trapping activities. A site assessment and planning tool to support management planning activities by ranger groups and regional land management staff was also developed and is being trialled by ranger groups.

Compilation of fauna data is on track for completion in 2016–17. A draft assessment of bilby records from

ranger surveys was presented at the Bilby Festival. The CLC plans to further review the methodology with the bilby recovery team. It has compiled data from black-footed rock wallaby surveys and will use it to determine survey and monitoring locations.

The CLC continues to review and store new data collected by ranger groups. A basic data report was developed to enable collation of metrics on key data collection activities for weeds, fire and water.

The CLC continued to progress the development of a number of strategic land management plans during this period, including:

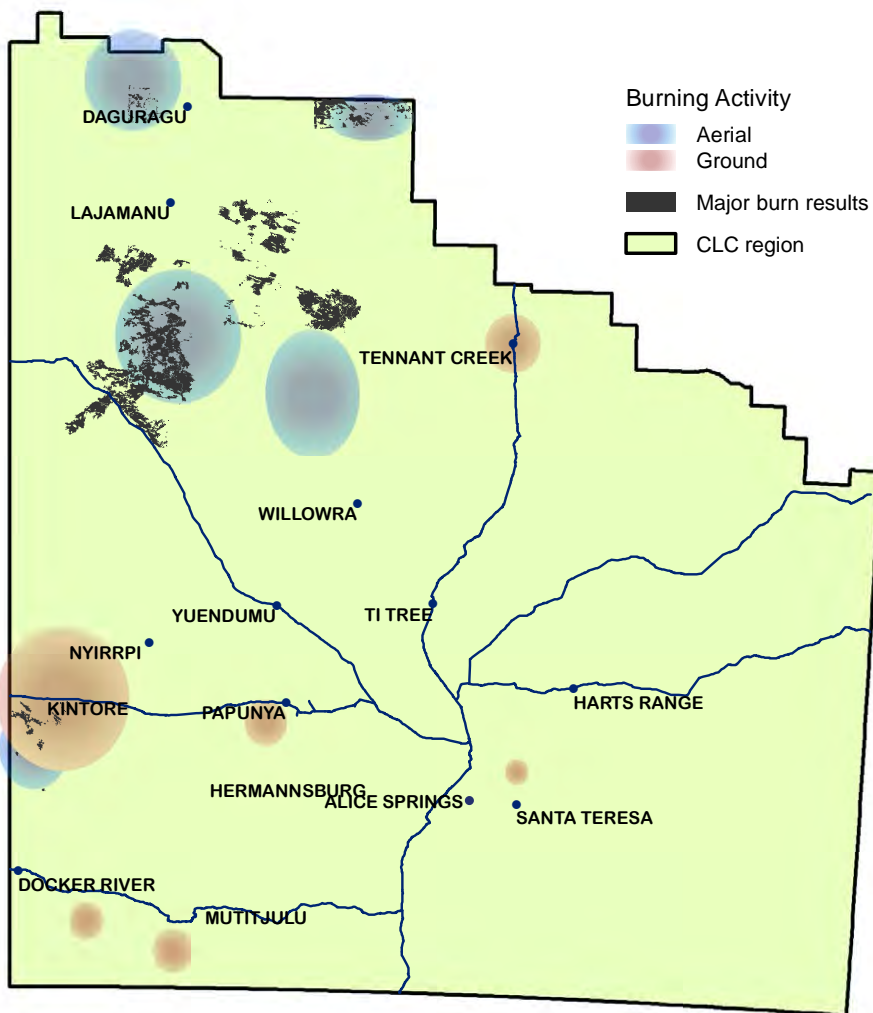
- Convening meetings, involving 40 traditional landowners, at Haasts Bluff Aboriginal Land Trust

(ALT). The meetings were used to introduce the concept of a management plan for the ALT and documenting traditional owner aspirations for the region.

- Obtaining traditional owner endorsement of the draft management plan for the Daguragu and, a portion of, the Hooker Creek ALTs.
- Convening separate men’s and women’s meetings and trips and the collection of visitor-related information to finalise the management plan for Kunjarra (Warti-yangu ALT).

Work continued on the digital storybook version of the Southern Tanami IPA plan of management. Spoken Warlpiri recordings and videos make it accessible to people with little or no numeracy and

CLC FIRE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY 2015–16





Fire management operations under way at Karlu Karlu.

literacy skills. The CLC developed the storybook with the traditional owners of the IPA and the Southern Tanami IPA co-ordinating council oversaw the project.

Staff reviewed the management plan for the Edna Beryl mine on the Phillip Creek Mission block. Follow-up support for traditional owners included liaising with the mine owner in relation to road access matters on the block.

Fire management

Resourcing, representation and awareness

A four-year Biodiversity Fund project, Extending Traditional and Contemporary Fire Management across Central Australia, completed its third year and continued to increase fire management capacity in Central Australia. Fire management efforts focused on the Kaṯiṯi Petermann, Haasts Bluff, Daguragu and Karlantijpa North ALTs. The project also delivered training and planning capability to CLC staff working with ranger groups and traditional owners, allowing the compilation of a draft fire management strategy for the Kaṯiṯi Petermann IPA and increased presence at IPA management committee meetings and Traditional Owner Ranger Advisory Committee (TORAC) meetings.

The CLC ensured that traditional owners' land management aspirations were adequately represented in a review of the *NT Bushfires Act*. It also applied for membership of the NT Bushfires Council and Savannah, Barkly and Southern regional bushfires committees in order to better represent the aspirations of the two regional Aboriginal fire management (Warlu and Waru) committees.

The CLC supported two meetings of these committees. The annual Warlu committee met in Lajamanu in October 2015 and attracted 40 ranger and traditional owner representatives from the Tanami region. The annual Waru committee meeting in Docker River in February 2016 was attended by 38 ranger and traditional owner representatives from the south-western NT, Northern SA and eastern WA. Bushfires NT sought approval for fire management works at the meetings – a sign that the committees' influence is growing.

The CLC drafted the updated Fire Management Strategy for the Kaṯiṯi Petermann IPA 2016–21. It consulted with 200 traditional owners and will incorporate their fire management and conservation priorities in the Kaṯiṯi Petermann IPA plan of management. It also worked



The Waru committee met with the CLC's fire management team at Kaltukatjara to plan burning activities.



Francina Corby sets off a burn at Ngunman.

with government agencies and neighbouring landholders to ensure that fire operations don't adversely impact them. Staff negotiated shared firebreaks, joint prescribed burns and other collaborative fire planning exercises.

Climate change and carbon economies

Most of in the CLC region lacks an approved carbon abatement methodology. The CLC started to work with scientists, the Nature Conservancy, Bushfires NT, the NT Office of Aboriginal Affairs and the Indigenous Land Corporation on a proposal to trial the viability of fire management for carbon abatement in the Australian deserts, where average annual rainfall is less than 600 mm.

Water resource management

The CLC assisted traditional owners to manage culturally and ecologically significant water sources on their lands. Staff provided technical and planning advice to the Annurete and Mungkarta ALTs about setting up water quality monitoring sites associated with proposed feral donkey removal programs and helped traditional owners to plan the restoration of Amerle Atwatye, a culturally significant spring on the Iwupataka ALT.

The CLC also organised traditional owner meetings at Tennant Creek and Alekarengge and a site inspection on behalf of the NT Department of Land Resource Management (DLRM), which is reviewing the water allocation plan for the Western Davenport water control district.

BURNING ON COUNTRY FOR CARBON ABATEMENT

The Karlantijpa North ALT had been rarely visited and had experienced hot dry-season bushfires. Poor fire regimes had also impacted neighbouring pastoral properties. For the past three years, the CLC visited the area with the traditional owners to burn country, carry out biological surveys and monitor weeds as part of the Department of Environment's Biodiversity Fund project.

Part of the region is suitable for savannah burning for carbon abatement and there is the potential

to sell carbon credits generated by improved fire management. In 2016, traditional owners formed the Karlantijpa North Kirawarra Nyura-mala Aboriginal Corporation to administer and develop with the help of the CLC the first carbon abatement project in the region.

The funds generated by their fire management work will enable them to visit country, take up employment and improve biodiversity conservation. Carbon credits are expected to be available for sale in early 2017.



The Karlantijpa North Kirawarra Nyura-mala Aboriginal Corporation was established in 2016 to administer and develop the first carbon abatement project in the region.

Invasive species management

Feral animals

The CLC helped traditional owners to manage feral herbivores and finalised a firearms policy which may allow ranger groups to cull them.

It conducted aerial surveys of feral herbivores and secured funding through PWCNT's Red Centre Biodiversity Fund Project, part of the Australian Government's Biodiversity Fund program, for a comprehensive multispecies survey across 25,000 square kilometres west of Alice Springs. It also worked on an aerial survey of feral herbivores with PWC around Tennant Creek.

The Urrampinyi Iltjiltjarri ALT continued to be a key focus of feral herbivore control efforts. Discussions with traditional owners resulted in the removal of cattle from the ALT, the employment of traditional owners and the upgrading of roads. On the Haasts Bluff ALT an aerial cull removed 712 camels and 189 feral horses.

The CLC responded to a number of commercial proponents wishing to harvest and/or purchase feral donkeys on Aboriginal land. Traditional owners met in Areyonga, Willowra and Hatches Creek to discuss this matter. However, the CLC received no business propositions of substance.

Weeds

The CLC continued to promote traditional owner interests through involvement in the Alice Springs and Barkly regional weeds advisory groups. CLC ranger groups continued to do most of the weed management work on Aboriginal land.

A significant achievement was the compilation of a weed dataset. The CLC has collected more than 3,000 records of 25 weed species over the last eight years; 29 regional weed maps are now available across the CLC region. At least 460 records identified weed control implemented by ranger groups. Its rangers prioritise the control of weeds of national significance. In a number of regions they recorded weed species not identified in the NT government weed dataset.

Soil erosion control

A soil conservation expert advised on erosion mitigation measures associated with road works required to conduct the planned muster of wild cattle on the Urrampinyi Iltjiltjarri ALT. The consultant inspected the track maintenance and upgrade works completed last financial year along the road between

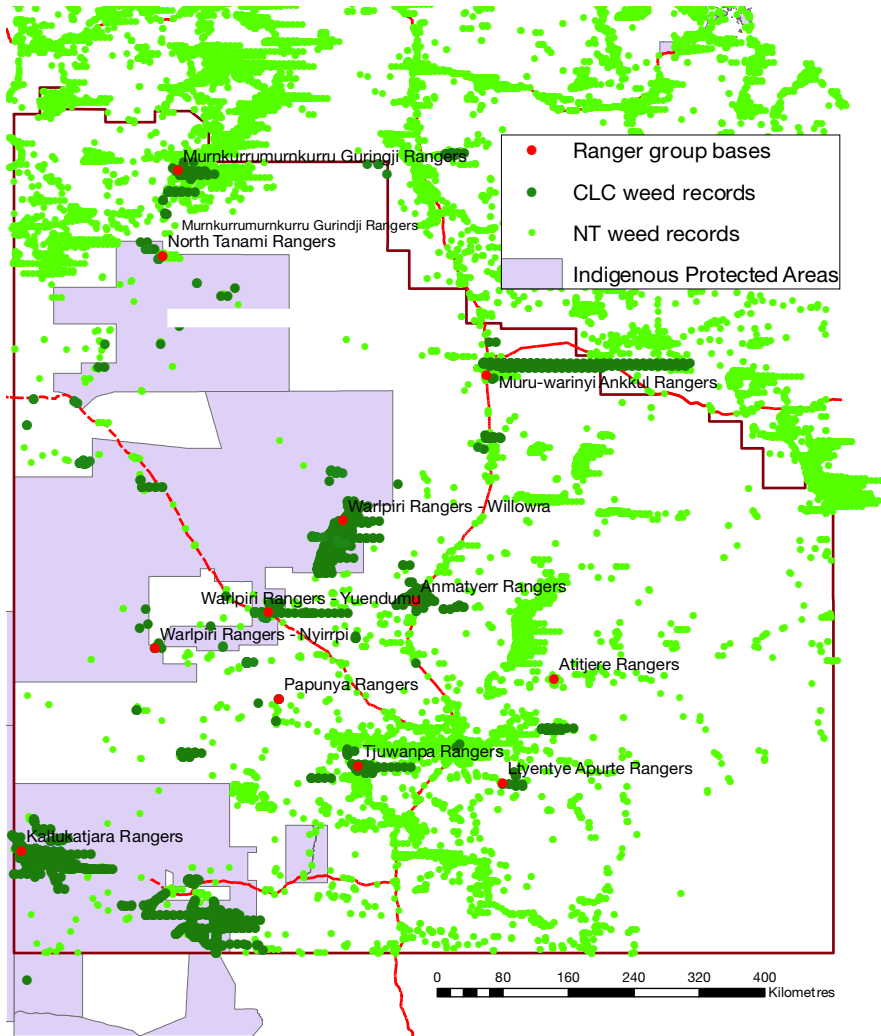


Blackstone ranger Angela Lyons joins the CLC team for aerial burning in the NT/WA cross-border region.

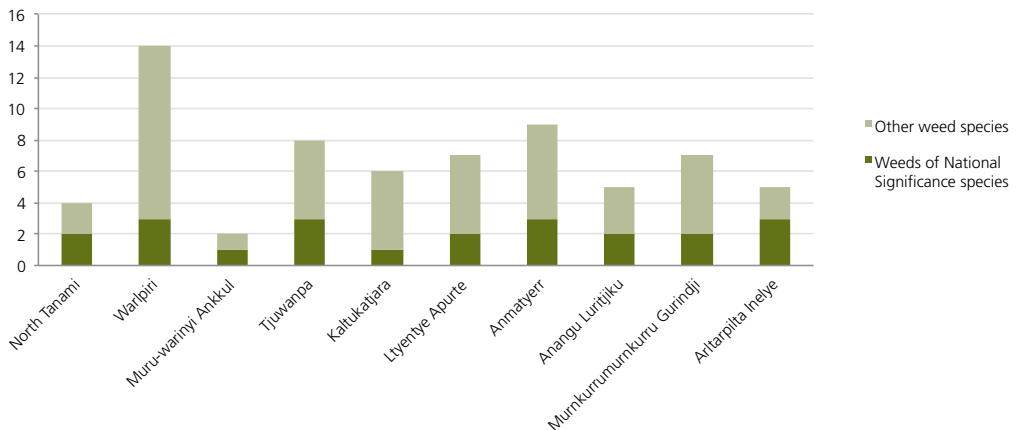


Ranger Carl Manfong tests a prototype granular herbicide spreader fabricated by the Muru-warinyi Ankkul ranger group.

WEEDS RECORDED ACROSS THE CLC REGION COLLECTED BY CLC AND HELD BY THE NT GOVERNMENT.



NUMBER OF WEED SPECIES RECORDED IN EACH RANGER GROUP REGION BY THE CLC OVER THE LAST EIGHT YEARS.



Lajamanu and the Duckponds outstation in the Central Desert ALT.

The CLC and the NT Department of Infrastructure determined rehabilitation requirements for 21 borrow pits in the Yuendumu ALT and advised Telstra about the trenching of a fibre optic cable between Yuendumu and The Granites through parts of the Central Desert ALT.

Biodiversity management

The CLC conducted biodiversity surveys and monitoring projects guided by traditional owner interests and priorities identified by scientific specialists. These included extension of the central rock rat project through the placement and retrieval of motion sensor cameras on the Amundurrgua Range on the Haasts Bluff ALT. It conducted two greater bilby monitoring exercises in the Northern Tanami IPA and a rare plant and reptile survey at Lake MacDonald on the Haasts Bluff ALT.

2 STRUCTURED COMMUNITY-BASED LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

In the sixth year of consolidated funding from the *Working on Country* and ILC Real Jobs programs, the CLC continued to support 11 ranger groups to manage cultural and natural resources on Aboriginal land. Four groups manage IPAs contributing more than 195,000 square kilometres to the national reserve system (see the separate CLC Ranger Program report for details).

A significant body of evidence demonstrates the benefits of indigenous ranger programs. Not only do they successfully tackle broad-scale environmental issues such as wildfires and weed infestations, they also provide demonstrable social benefits such as improved health and wellbeing, increased individual confidence and better role models for young



Ltyentye Arrpurte rangers undertake fire management at Mt Undoolya outstation.

people. The program also is critical in contributing to the maintenance of cultural knowledge and the protection of important sites.

The CLC's Ranger Program employs and trains people in remote communities where real jobs are scarce. That Aboriginal communities value the program is demonstrated by the large numbers of people applying for a limited number of ranger jobs. Traditional owners play a critical role in directing and overseeing the work of the rangers, strengthening

intergenerational knowledge transfer and community engagement.

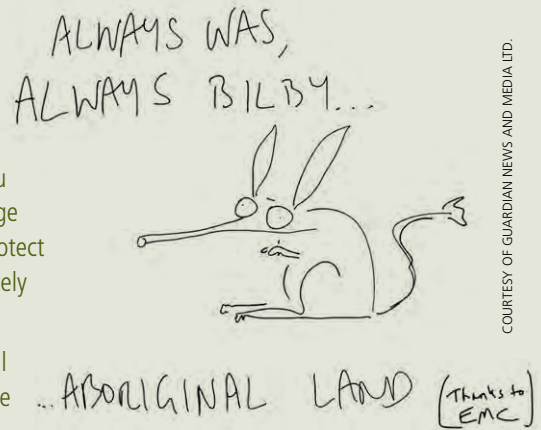
The CLC's employment model emphasises training and mentoring and provides a pathway for career development both within the program and into other employment. One of the program's four Aboriginal ranger co-ordinators began as a CLC ranger. The skills and capacities rangers develop are transferrable to other forms of employment and community leadership roles.

NINU HABITAT: ITS FUTURE IN INDIGENOUS HANDS

In June 2016 more than 120 indigenous rangers, wildlife scientists and government representatives gathered in Kiwirrkurra community in Western Australia for the first Ninu Festival. They shared traditional and contemporary knowledge about the bilby (*ninu*) and heard from people working to protect this threatened species. Indigenous rangers spoke passionately about their efforts to protect the species.

The habitat of the bilby is now largely confined to Aboriginal land in the greater desert region of WA and the NT. Its future is now well and truly in the hands of indigenous rangers.

The Indigenous Desert Alliance, of which the CLC is a member, organised the highly successful event. The alliance promotes collaboration among indigenous land managers from the deserts of the NT, WA and SA and aims to keep desert country healthy and its people strong.
















COURTESY OF GUARDIAN NEWS AND MEDIA LTD.

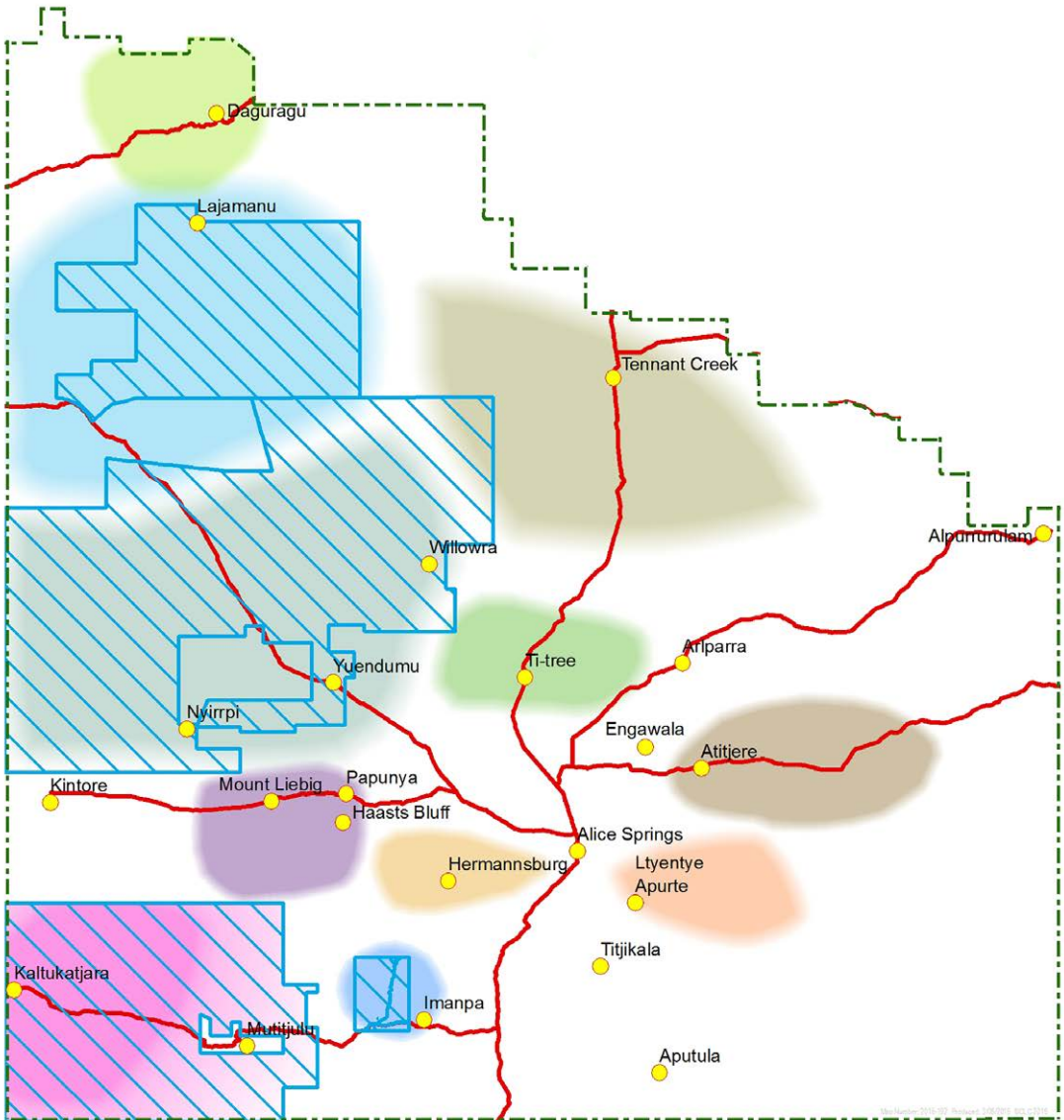


PHOTOGRAPH: KATE CROSSING

Indigenous ranger groups map bilby habitats during the first Ninu Festival at Kiwirrkurra.

CLC RANGER GROUP WORK AREAS

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Anangu Luritjiku Rangers |  Murnkurrumurnkurru Rangers |
|  Angas Downs Rangers |  Muru-warinyi Ankkul Rangers |
|  Anmatyerr Rangers |  North Tanami Rangers |
|  Arltarpilta Inelye Rangers |  Tjuwanpa Rangers |
|  Kaltukatjara Rangers |  Warlpiri Rangers |
|  Ltyentye Apurte Rangers |  Declared IPA |
| |  CLC boundary |



The 11 ranger groups, and their areas of operation are presented below.

Ranger group	Area of operation
North Tanami (formerly Wulain) Rangers	Lajamanu and Northern Tanami IPA
Warlpiri Rangers	Yuendumu, Nyirrpi, Willowra and Southern Tanami IPA
Muru-warinyi Ankkul Rangers	Tennant Creek region
Tjuwanpa Rangers	Hermannsburg ALTs and adjoining national parks
Kaltukatjara Rangers	Docker River and Katiti Petermann IPA
Ltyentye Apurte Rangers	Santa Teresa ALT and surrounds
Anmatyerr Rangers	Ahakeye ALT (Ti-tree) and wider Anmatyerr region
Anangu Luritjiku Rangers	Papunya and surrounding Haasts Bluff ALT
Murnkurrumurnkurru Rangers	Daguragu ALT and surrounds
Arltarpilta Inelye Rangers	Harts Range region, Huckitta Station and surrounds
Angas Downs Anangu Rangers (under review)	Angas Downs IPA, Imanpa community

Of the CLC's 79 rangers eight were employed full-time, 58 were part-time and 13 were employed as casuals. Eleven ranger co-ordinators and nine program staff support the groups.

Community demand for ranger employment is high and there is scope to expand the capacity of existing groups and to develop new groups. The CLC tried to source funding to meet this demand and expand the program from the Australian Government's Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) and the ABA. In October 2015, the Indigenous Affairs Minister committed the Australian Government Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) to work with the CLC to establish a ranger group at Mutitjulu. Subsequent negotiations between the CLC, PM&C and Parks Australia stalled due to the federal election.

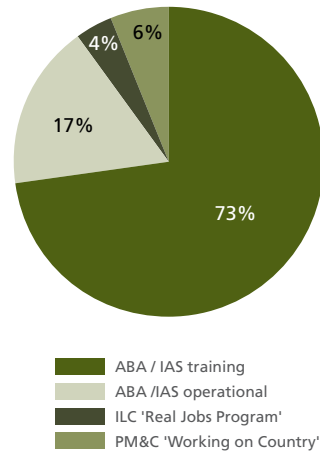
The CLC remains unable to satisfy constituent demand for new groups.

Funding

Funding for all 11 ranger groups was secured until 30 June 2018 under a number of arrangements.

A review of the Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC) Real Jobs (Rangers) agreement led to an extension

RANGER PROGRAM FUNDING 2015–16



of the contract until June 2018; however, this did result in a reduction of available ranger positions from 25 to 18. In October 2015 the CLC received separate additional operational funding for all 11 ranger groups. A successful three-year IAS application ensured operational funding for the Angas Downs Anangu ranger group until June 2018. However, due to current issues in the host community of Imanpa, the CLC and the PM&C are reviewing this group.

A five-year Working on Country agreement (2013–18) with PM&C continued to provide salaries, and capital, operational and administrative resources to support 51.2 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions across the North Tanami, Warlpiri, Muru-warinyi Ankkul, Anmatyerr, Tjuwanpa, Anangu Luritjiku and Kaltukatjara ranger groups. A five-year 'Caring for our Country' agreement with PM&C supports the operations of the Northern Tanami IPA. This covers wage support for the North Tanami ranger co-ordinator and operational funding for some of the IPA management activities undertaken by the North Tanami Rangers.

Ranger group effectiveness, recruitment and retention remain heavily dependent on critical work health and safety (WHS)-compliant infrastructure for co-ordinator housing, ranger office and workshop facilities. Persistent funding shortfalls continue to leave some groups operating in substandard facilities, but progress was made in providing permanent infrastructure solutions for a number of groups with capital funds remaining in the Getting on with Business ABA grant agreement.

Attempts to secure additional funding through separate IAS and ABA applications to remedy

other infrastructure shortfalls continued to be unsuccessful.

Work program development

The program develops not only individual rangers but also the capacity of traditional owners through their involvement in the development and oversight of work plans through TORACs and IPA management committees. This governance framework enables the custodians to incorporate their land management aspirations in the cultural and natural resource management objectives of the program.

In order to sustain and grow the program the CLC focused its efforts on partnerships and options for generating alternative sources of revenue. CLC rangers undertook a number of fee-for-service activities, such as fire and weed management, feral animal control, fencing and dust monitoring.

3 WOMEN'S LAND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

The CLC is increasing the involvement of women in land management. It supported female rangers to develop skills in project management and enabled women to lead planning and implementation of women's priorities. It provided project planning support to female rangers from Ltyentye Apurte, Daguragu and Ti Tree, delivered an action planning workshop, and helped female rangers to establish networks with other organisations.

4 MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS

Joint management of NT national parks and reserves

The CLC has statutory consultative and representative functions under the *Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act* in respect to joint management of 20 NT national parks and reserves scheduled in the *Parks and Reserves (Framework for the Future) Act 2003*. Sixteen of these are held by traditional owners as either Aboriginal freehold or NT Parks freehold and leased back to the NT Government to be jointly managed with the PWCNT. The other four are subject to joint management under ILUAs registered with the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT). Each of these parks and reserves require a joint management plan to be prepared and tabled in the NT Legislative Assembly by the Minister for Parks and Wildlife.

The CLC has maintained the capacity to consult traditional owners and support their involvement in

joint management of these 20 parks and reserves since 2004. A Joint Management Officer (JMO) is funded by the PWCNT and in-kind through the CLC.

Park management planning and governance

The CLC consulted and engaged with traditional owners in order to ensure their effective involvement in management, planning and decision making in several NT parks and reserves. Work ranged from consultations with traditional owners about a feral horse cull in the Tjoritja (West MacDonnell) National Park and facilitating joint management committee meetings about oil and gas applications in the Watarrka National Park to conducting a women's country trip to assess areas for future burns and cultural heritage management in the Iltwelepenty (Davenport Range) National Park.

Park permits and concessions

In 2014–15, the CLC helped to develop permit guidelines for 12 of the jointly managed parks and reserves. This has resulted in permits to proponents satisfying standard terms and conditions. However, a number of permit applications that fell outside standard permit conditions required consultation and review. The CLC conducted the following park permit consultations:

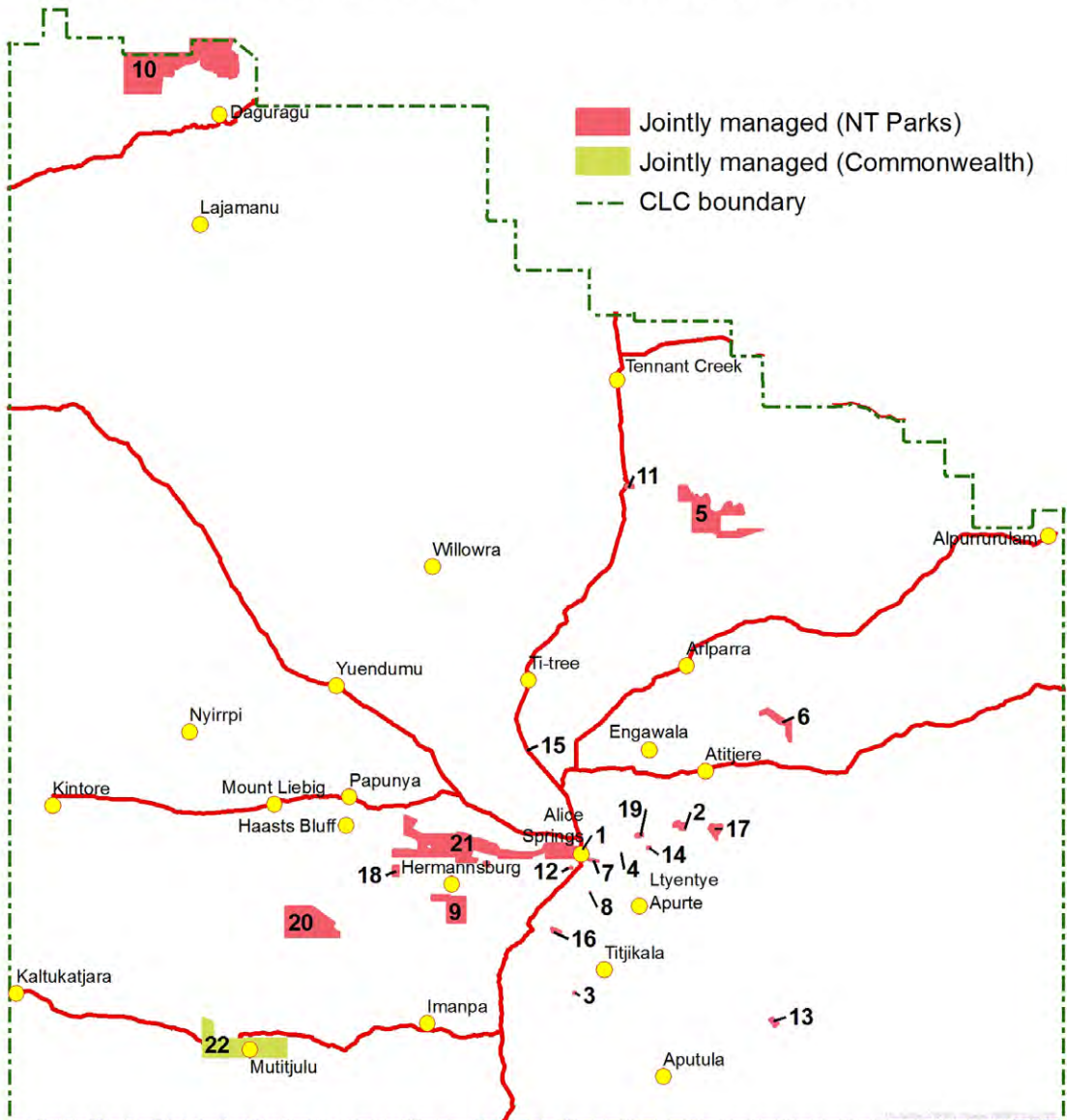
Park / reserve	Number	Type
Tjoritja/West MacDonnell National Park	18	Research, transit, bushwalking, camping, commercial film and photography, and application from Trek Larapinta for an exclusive use camp site
Watarrka National Park	9	Research, photography, filming, infrastructure
Finke Gorge National Park	2	Research, bushwalking
Iltwelepenty (Davenport Ranges) National Park	1	Research
Rainbow Valley Conservation Reserve	1	Filming

ULURU – KATA TJUṬA NATIONAL PARK

Since 1985 the CLC has carried out statutory functions in respect to the management of Uluru – Kata Tjuṭa National Park (UKTNP) under the terms of the lease to

JOINTLY MANAGED NATIONAL PARKS AND RESERVES IN THE CLC REGION

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historic Reserve | 12 Kuyunba Conservation Reserve |
| 2 Arltunga Historical Reserve | 13 Mac Clark (Acacia peuce) Conservation Reserve |
| 3 Chambers Pillar Historical Reserve | 14 N'Dhala Gorge Nature Park |
| 4 Corroborree Rock Conservation Reserve | 15 Native Gap Conservation Reserve |
| 5 Iytwelepenty / Davenport Range National Park | 16 Rainbow Valley Conservation Reserve |
| 6 Dulcie Range National Park | 17 Ruby Gap Nature Park |
| 7 Yeperenye / Emily and Jessie Gaps National Park | 18 Tnorala (Gosse Bluff) Conservation Reserve |
| 8 Napwerte / Ewaninga Rock Carvings Conservation Reserve | 19 Trepkina Gorge Nature Park |
| 9 Finke Gorge National Park | 20 Watarrka National Park |
| 10 Judbarra / Gregory National Park | 21 Tjoritja / West MacDonnell National Park |
| 11 Karlu Karlu / Devils Marbles Conservation Reserve | 22 Uluru - Kata Tjuta National Park |



the Director of National Parks (DNP). It has maintained a dedicated staff capacity to consult traditional owners and support their involvement in joint management since 2002. The employment of a joint management officer under an agreement with the DNP was extended for the first six months of 2016–17, pending negotiations for a long-term agreement.

The CLC continued to support the UKTNP board of management and consulted and planned with traditional owners about the 30th anniversary of the handback of UKTNP in October 2015.

The Joint Management Futures Project, an initiative of the DNP to improve joint management outcomes, was completed. The CLC is working with Parks Australia to ensure that the actions identified by traditional owners are implemented without delay.

INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AREAS

The CLC continued to support traditional owners to develop and manage IPAs. IPAs are voluntary agreements between the landowners and the Australian Government to manage the land for its

natural and cultural values. They do not affect the land tenure. A PM&C report demonstrated that the IPA program has significant social, economic, cultural and environmental outcomes, with exceptional levels of engagement amongst indigenous Australians.

A major highlight was the declaration of the Katiti Petermann IPA, incorporating the entire Petermann and Kaṭiṭi Aboriginal Land Trusts – an area of more than 50,000 square kilometres. The declaration was held at Tjitjingaṭi, west of Yulara. There are now four IPAs in the CLC region, with a total area of approximately 195,000 square kilometres. The CLC also convened the IPA advisory committee for three IPAs for the first time in several years. The committee provides specialist advice to the IPA management committee. It includes representatives of the PM&C and the NT Department of Land Resource Management.

The CLC drafted a management plan for the Northern Tanami IPA and held two meetings of the IPA management committee in order to prioritise the actions the draft contains.



A major highlight for the CLC in 2016 was the declaration of the Kaṭiṭi Petermann IPA, incorporating the entire Petermann and Kaṭiṭi Aboriginal Land Trusts – an area of more than 50,000 square kilometres. The declaration was held at Tjitjingaṭi, west of Yulara.



Meetings of the Southern Tanami IPA co-ordinating council and the Nyirripi, Yuendumu and Willowra IPA management committees reviewed progress on the IPA management plan and determined priorities for the forthcoming year. Work continued on the Warlpiri language digital storybook version of the plan of management, due for completion in late 2016.

Cross-border collaboration

CLC staff attended the annual meeting of the IDA in Perth. The IDA brings together seven indigenous land management organisations that work across the desert regions of the NT, SA and WA. As a result of this meeting, CLC staff were involved in a number of steering committees tasked with progressing the cross-jurisdictional priority projects such as a bilby management workshop, and supporting indigenous ecological knowledge and fire management practices.

5 PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT

The CLC supported traditional owners to undertake sustainable pastoral activity and participated in the Indigenous Pastoral Program (IPP). In addition to its primary objectives, viable pastoral activity and Aboriginal employment, the IPP aims to contribute to the sustainable management of Aboriginal land.

The CLC's employment and enterprise and regional land management units facilitated greater awareness of natural resource management issues among Aboriginal pastoralists. They advised and supported

traditional owners on land condition monitoring and invasive species control and worked closely with IPP property and program managers, NT Government agencies and training providers delivering technical advice, expertise, training and capacity building support on sustainable pastoral development and related issues.

The CLC helped Yuendumu ALT members to remove 200 feral cattle and 200 feral horses in December 2015. It also assessed the pastures of Tanami Downs in June 2016 as part of planning with the traditional owners for the future of the station.

OUTPUT GROUP 2

LAND CLAIMS & ACQUISITION SUPPORT

The Central Land Council aims to provide Aboriginal landowners with information, advice and support to enable them to manage their land in a sustainable and productive way.

OUTPUT

2.1 LAND CLAIMS

2.2 OTHER LAND ACQUISITION

OUTCOMES

Enhanced social, political and economic participation and equity for Aboriginal people in the Central Land Council's area as a result of the promotion, protection and advancement of their land rights, other rights and interests.

OUTPUT 2.1

LAND CLAIMS



WAKAYA ALYAWARRE

In-principle agreement was reached between the NT Government and the CLC (on behalf of traditional owners and Aboriginal residents of Canteen Creek) to enable the grant of freehold land under the Land Rights Act for the bulk of the claim area, together with NT title for an Aboriginal corporation for Canteen Creek.

Revisions to surveys for the settlement of the claim (and particularly the tenure for the community of Canteen Creek) were provided by the NT Government, requiring redrafting of ILUA documents in early 2015. Consultations with traditional owners and community members were undertaken by the CLC and instructions taken for the establishment of a landholding corporation for Canteen Creek. The claim will be finalised once the ILUA documents are registered and titles handed back in 2017.

FRANCES WELL

The Frances Well Land Claim was lodged by the CLC on behalf of traditional owners in 1981. The report of the Aboriginal Land Commissioner, Justice JR Mansfield AM, was delivered to the Minister for Indigenous Affairs and to the Administrator of the Northern Territory in June 2016. The Commissioner recommend that the whole of the land comprising NT Portion 1229 and NT Portion 4258 be granted to a single land trust for the benefit of Aboriginal people entitled by Aboriginal tradition to the use or occupation of that land as the traditional Aboriginal owners of that land (excluding existing public roads over area).

The CLC will seek to resolve the issues of detriment commented upon by the Commissioner and press for a survey to enable the prompt grant of the land.

OUTPUT 2.2

LAND ACQUISITIONS

Pursue all other appropriate avenues to achieve the acquisition of land for the benefit of Aboriginal people.

LAND ACQUISITION NTP 4208: SIMPSON DESERT

On 6 June 2016 the Minister for Indigenous Affairs handed title to Lot 4208 to the Uleperte and Uleralkwe traditional owners. The land granted to the Atneye ALT under the Land Rights Act is an area of 110,000 hectares on the edge of the Simpson Desert that was not recommended for grant in the Land Commissioner's Report for the Simpson Desert Land Claim provided to the Minister in April 2009. The portion had been part of the earlier North-West Simpson Desert claim, but was not recommended for grant due to a lack of evidence during the initial hearing. The area was not included in the repeat claim; however, during the course of research for the repeat claim (and at a time when no further claims could be lodged), the accurate location of a sacred site on the land was determined and evidence on the site was provided to the Commissioner by traditional owners.

As a result, although the Commissioner could not formally recommend the area for grant as it was not

a part of the repeat claim; Justice Olney therefore suggested that the portion might be included within a schedule to the Land Rights Act. The CLC wrote to the Minister in May 2009 and requested that NTP 4208 be handed back by including it in Schedule 1 to the Land Rights Act and, following many years of CLC correspondence with the NT and Commonwealth governments, the Minister agreed to the handback of Lot 4208 in 2015.

The Madigan track across the Simpson runs through this block and the CLC has permit instructions from traditional owners for visitors wanting to travel on Aboriginal Land along the Madigan Track; the hand back of NTP 4208 will assist traditional owners to control visitor access.



Traditional owners of Santa Teresa at the Simpson Desert portion handback in June 2016.

OUTPUT GROUP 3

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & COMMERCIAL SERVICES

OUTPUT	3.1	LAND USE AGREEMENTS
	3.2	EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION & TRAINING
	3.3	MINING
	3.4	COMMERCIAL ASSISTANCE



OUTCOMES	Enhanced social, political and economic participation and equity for Aboriginal people in the Central Land Council's area as a result of the promotion, protection and advancement of their land rights, other rights and interests.
----------	--

OUTPUT 3.1 LAND USE AGREEMENTS

The CLC has statutory functions to help traditional owners manage their land and to negotiate, on their behalf, with people wanting to use Aboriginal land.

NATIONAL NUCLEAR WASTE REPOSITORY

On 13 November 2015, the Hon. Josh Frydenberg MP, Minister for Resources, Energy and Northern Australia, announced that six sites had been shortlisted for further evaluation and public consultation for a permanent national radioactive waste management facility pursuant to s. 9 of the *National Radioactive Waste Management Act 2012* (the NRWM Act). One of the six short-listed sites was located on freehold land within the CLC region: the AridGold date farm south of Alice Springs (known as 'Hale') was nominated by its non-indigenous owner. This site is adjacent to the Mpwelarre ALT and the Oak Valley and Walkabout Bore outstations, and nearby the Aboriginal communities of Titjikala and Santa Teresa.

As required under NRWM Act the Minister invited people with a right or an interest in nominated land to provide comment by 11 March 2016.

Officials from the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science (DIISR) met with staff from the CLC to discuss details of the national nomination process and establish an agreed process for conducting

consultations with affected communities. The CLC undertook traditional owner identification and preliminary sacred site identification for the area and arranged a series of meetings for communities and traditional owners.

The community meetings at Oak Valley, Titjikala and Santa Teresa were attended by CLC staff, officials from the DIISR, the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation and by the owner of AridGold, Mr Tim Mickleham. At the close of meetings the CLC sought instructions and Aboriginal landowners with interests in the nominated AridGold site and community members living in close proximity to the site advised that they were strongly opposed to the nomination. Meeting participants were concerned about:

- the need to protect the groundwater supplies and the potential for contamination
- risks of exposure to radioactive material
- transport of the materials and the potential for accidents
- the lack of a considered plan for the long-term disposal of the intermediate level waste
- the need to protect country and culture for future generations.



The Titjikala community show their concern about a proposed nuclear waste dump near their community.



Harold Nelson takes the floor during the council meeting in Arlparra.



During 2015–16 the two outstanding community housing leases for Santa Teresa and Engawala were finalised. The Australian Government currently holds 40 year leases over housing in 25 communities on Aboriginal land in the CLC region.

The CLC provided a detailed submission to the Minister in March 2016. On 29 April 2016 the Minister announced that the government had shortlisted only one site – in Barndioota, South Australia – for further consideration as a National Radioactive Waste Management Facility. The Hale site is therefore no longer under consideration and the CLC advised traditional owners and community members of this outcome.

NAMATJIRA DRIVE ROAD SWAP AGREEMENT

On 6 June 2016 the Minister for Indigenous Affairs delivered a deed of grant to the Ltalaltuma Aboriginal Land Trust for the small parcel of land involved in the Namatjira Drive 'road swap'. The NT Government had sealed and partially realigned the section of Namatjira Drive from Glen Helen through to the section near the turn off to Tnorala (Gosse Bluff). Whilst part of this 'new' road section was within the 100-metre-wide road corridor which passes through the Ltalaltuma ALT, the realignment required a swap of land to ensure that the road corridor reflected the actual path of the roadway.

LAND USE AGREEMENTS

During 2015–16 the CLC received a reduced number of applications for leases and licences on Aboriginal land. This is because the majority of infrastructure

existing within communities is now subject to lease and there has been little development of additional serviced lots. Nevertheless, there continues to be a significant amount of activity required of the CLC as a result of leasing on Aboriginal land.

The CLC met with the traditional Aboriginal landowners of 15 communities to seek instructions concerning the allocation of rent from leases granted by the relevant ALTs pursuant to s.19 of the ALRA. The instructions the CLC received may apply for up to five years. With many leases having been granted for a term of up to 40 years, seeking instructions for the allocation of rent will be an ongoing requirement for CLC operations.

Leasing income that traditional Aboriginal landowners have instructed be applied for the benefit of the community will be incorporated into existing plans and priorities facilitated by the CLC's Community Development Unit. The CLC, through the Aboriginal Associations Management Centre (AAMC), will manage the distribution of leasing income when instructed that this money be applied for the benefit of the traditional Aboriginal landowners.

In accordance with the terms of the relevant lease agreements, the CLC continues to receive into its Land Use Trust Account rental payments owed to 10 Aboriginal corporations and associations which hold the community living area (CLA) titles. The CLC

provides community development and legal assistance to these entities to allow the funds to be used in accordance with their rules for the benefit of the communities.

Australian Government

The Australian Government holds leases over 1,233 lots in 26 communities on Aboriginal land granted under the Land Rights Act or in CLAs throughout the CLC region. This number includes lots leased by the Australian Government for the purpose of providing community housing and delivering services.

During 2015–16 the two outstanding community housing leases for Santa Teresa and Engawala were finalised. The Australian Government currently holds 40-year leases over housing in 25 communities situated on Aboriginal land throughout the CLC region.

The CLC continues to receive reports about the poor quality of community housing on these leases and local surveys indicate that the NT Department of Housing has failed to attend to repairs and maintenance in communities throughout the region in a timely manner as required under the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the RTA). In 2016 the residents of Santa Teresa and Papunya brought claims under the RTA against the Department of Housing for its failure to repair damage and maintain conditions in their tenants' homes to a habitable standard. The claims are currently before the NT Civil Administrative Tribunal.

When negotiating the community housing leases, the Australian Government committed to making investments to improve community housing under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing (NPARIH). In an effort to hold the Australian Government accountable for the representations made, the CLC will continue to seek information from the Australian Government about the levels of funding committed and acquitted under NPARIH.

NT Government

The NT Government holds leases over 316 lots in Land Rights Act communities and a further 64 lots in CLAs throughout the CLC region. Consent was granted to the NT Government for leases over a further 12 lots during the year.

The CLC looks forward to the completion of the NT Government's Remote Indigenous Communities Cadastre Survey Project, which will formalise land boundaries in remote Aboriginal communities and satisfy the requirements under the *Planning Act* to enable leases to be readily entered into for periods in excess of 12 years. The lack of adequate cadastre in

communities has been a significant detriment to land development in the past.

Discussions are progressing with the NT Government to finalise the leasing of airstrips and reticulated services within communities and to ensure the ongoing management and compliance with extant leases.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

There are four regional councils (Central Desert, MacDonnell, Barkly and Victoria Daly) with the responsibility of providing local government services to communities throughout the CLC region.

These regional councils collectively hold land use agreements, including leases and licences, over 206 lots in communities on Aboriginal land in the CLC region. Consultations with traditional Aboriginal landowners and affected communities concerning applications lodged by the regional councils have been a major focus during the period once template agreements were settled with each council. The CLC consults traditional Aboriginal landowners and communities about any outstanding land use application and engages with the councils about the ongoing management of the negotiated land use agreements.

NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS (NGOs)

NGOs operating in communities, which largely consist of Aboriginal organisations such as art centres and stores, currently hold leases over 202 lots on Aboriginal land throughout the CLC region. These organisations continued to demonstrate a commitment to obtaining secure tenure over assets situated on Aboriginal land through negotiations for land use agreements and the CLC has integrated the few outstanding applications from NGOs into its 2016–17 consultation meeting program.

Applications received: 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016

Lessee / Licensee	CLAs	ALRA communities
Australian Government	0	0
NT Government	3	2
Local government	1	4
Non-government	3	15

The number of applications for a lease and a licence received by the CLC during the period dating 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

Consultations conducted: 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016

Lessee / Licensee	CLAs	ALRA communities
Australian Government	0	24
NT Government	20	214
Local government	29	150
Non-government	0	117

The number of consultations conducted by the CLC concerning applications to lease and licence and/or the management of a lease or licence agreement during the period dating 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

Consents obtained: 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016

Lessee / Licensee	CLAs	ALRA communities
Australian Government	1	0
NT Government	6	6
Local government	10	33
Non-government	3	29

The number of leases and licences to which consent to the grant has been provided during the period dating 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

Total number of current leases and licences

Lessee / Licensee	CLAs	ALRA communities
Australian Government	311	922
NT Government	64	316
Local government	45	161
Non-government	9	193

The total number of current leases and licences held throughout the CLC region as at 30 June 2016.

PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT

The CLC supports traditional Aboriginal landowners in negotiations with proponents seeking grazing licences over Aboriginal-owned land, and provides ongoing monitoring of licence conditions.

Key areas of these negotiations include ensuring that training and employment opportunities are created for traditional owners and residents of remote communities, that grazing levels compatible with cultural and natural resource values are met, and that pastoral infrastructure is developed for the future benefit of traditional owners.

Grazing licences occur on landholdings being developed under the collaborative Indigenous Pastoral

Program (IPP) and other areas of Aboriginal land. Typically, they are issued for a term of 5+5 years but may be longer. Grazing licences or sub-leases are also issued to Aboriginal pastoral companies to enable them to operate commercially on Aboriginal-owned land.

The CLC continued to monitor the terms and conditions of the 10 grazing licences/subleases over Aboriginal owned land. Consultations were held with traditional owners associated with the sub-lease to Bluegloss Pty Ltd over Ooratippra Station and the Irrmarne ALT with regards to infrastructure developments and land condition assessment. The CLC also consulted traditional owners with regards to the proposed transfer of a grazing licence on part of the Atnetye ALT and proposed changes to the grazing licence on part of the Haasts Bluff ALT.

This period saw the issuing of one new grazing licence (bringing the total to 11) for the former Atula Station portion of the Atnetye ALT. The CLC provided assistance to this licence holder in order to facilitate the resolution of the remaining cattle from the previous operation. Consultations were also conducted with regards to a grazing licence proposal over a portion of the Angarapa ALT and the Alkwert ALT formerly known as Waite River.

Commercial feral animal harvest

Traditional owner consultations, proponent negotiations and other related actions were undertaken to facilitate the commercial harvest of feral herbivores in Haasts Bluff ALT (712 camels and 189 feral horses removed), Hooker Creek/Central Desert ALTs (two feral horse culls resulting in the removal of a total of 144 animals) and Urrampinyi Itjiltjarri ALT (a commercial mustering contractor was engaged to remove wild cattle).

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

The CLC continued to promote its statutory responsibilities and processes with tour operators and potential partners and facilitated a number of matters preparatory to the development of tourism proposals on Aboriginal land. These included traditional owner consultations and negotiations for the Landrover Experience Tour and an ATV Adventure Tours proposal. Larapinta Creative was issued with permits for ongoing commercial use of the Old Ranger Station campsite in Finke Gorge National Park, and the National Indigenous Training Academy for trainees to participate in ongoing tours at Patji.

OUTPUT 3.2 EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Assist as appropriate in the economic advancement of Aboriginal people through employment, education and training, particularly in relation to land use proposals.

The CLC continued to maximise sustainable Aboriginal employment and training outcomes through advocacy with government and industry, direct job placement, and workplace support for employee retention. Among the advantages the CLC brings to the task of addressing employment aspirations in the challenging context of remote Australia are its capacity to broker employment opportunities arising from land use agreements, relationships, and a reputation for placing people from disadvantaged communities in resource industry employment. It also offers land management and enterprise development partnerships, strong community networks and familiarity with constituent aspirations and circumstances.

MINING AND EXPLORATION

The CLC provided pre-employment support for placements at The Granites gold mine. It visited Nyirripi, Willowra and Yuendumu communities and maintained a register of Aboriginal people seeking employment in mining and related industries. It added 75 people to the register, and assisted with 76 employment applications and/or referrals.

The CLC and the Circle Advisory Indigenous Participation Co-ordinator continued to prepare for

Aboriginal employment uptake once the Jemena Northern Gas Pipeline project begins its major construction phase.

It helped to recruit and retain 24 Aboriginal people in employment at The Granites, the Jemena Pipeline and civil construction projects.

It also explored employment and training opportunities for CLC rangers within environmental services (see separate Ranger Program report for details).

PASTORAL

The CLC continued to support pastoral employment and training through the Pastoral Futures and Real Jobs Pastoral (RJP) Program, initiated under the Indigenous Pastoral Program. The RJP placed and retained 15 FTE trainees in Aboriginal pastoral enterprises. The CLC mentored participants and helped station managers to co-ordinate training.

It supported cattle handling training through the Rural Operations Vocational training-in-schools Program and facilitated first aid training at Huckitta Station. It also helped Huckitta and Blue Bush Station staff to attend a stock-handling course at Mistake Creek.



Muru-warinyi Ankkul rangers get ready for weed management on Elkedra Station.

NATIONAL PARK JOINT MANAGEMENT

The CLC continues to secure employment and training for Aboriginal people in national parks: in Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park (UKTNP) through Parks Australia; and in NT national parks and reserves through the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT (PWCNT). Employment in both types of jointly managed parks continued to be extremely limited and well below the expectations and aspirations of traditional owners.

It participated in the UKTNP Employment, Education and Training Committee which aims to increase Anangu employment at Mutitjulu. A ranger group in Mutitjulu working across the UKTNP and the surrounding Kaṯiṯi Petermann IPA – a long-term aspiration of traditional owners – moved a step closer in October 2015, when Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion announced the government would work with the CLC to establish such a group.

The PWCNT has implemented a special measures plan for employing Aboriginal people short-term on specific projects. The CLC supported 21 such people who had applied for ranger positions in three parks and reserves.

CULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: COMMUNITY RANGER PROGRAM

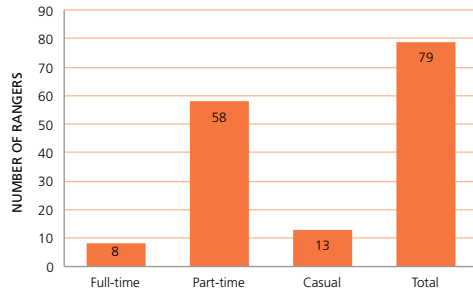
The CLC’s Ranger Program remains one of the most successful and popular models for Aboriginal employment and skills development (see separate Ranger Program report for comprehensive details).

In 2015–16, the CLC employed 131 rangers across 11 ranger groups permanently or casually through Working on Country and ILC Real Jobs (Ranger) funding for 66.4 FTE positions.

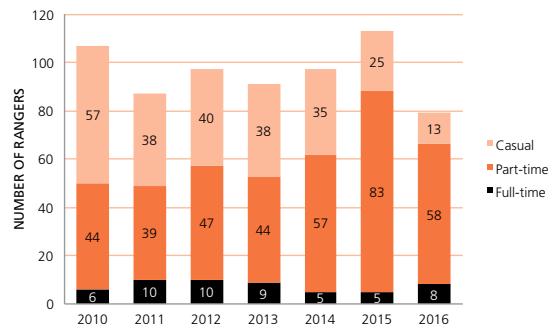
As ILC Real Jobs (Ranger) funding fell by 33% the CLC cut the number of positions from 25 to 18 (28%). However, it increased permanent and reduced casual employment.

The CLC occasionally employs rangers casually at entry level to build capacity and interest among young Aboriginal people with little or no previous experience. It uses this employment for projects requiring greater effort. Casual rangers often progress to permanent positions when they have gained experience.

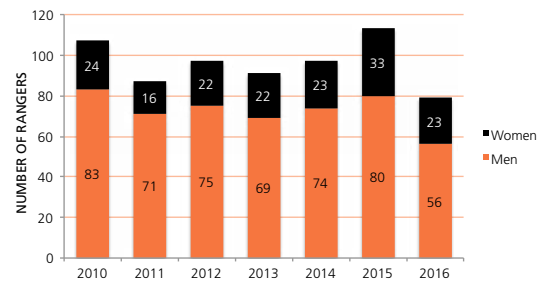
RANGER EMPLOYMENT SNAPSHOT AT 30 JUNE 2016



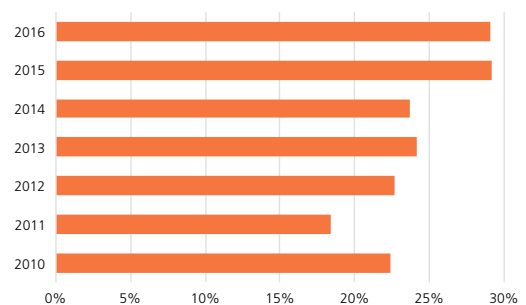
RANGER EMPLOYMENT TYPE 2010–16



MALE AND FEMALE RANGERS, 2010–16



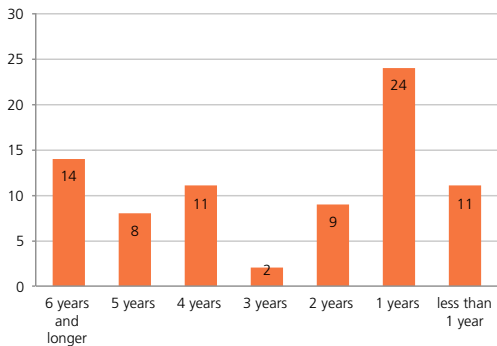
PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN RANGERS



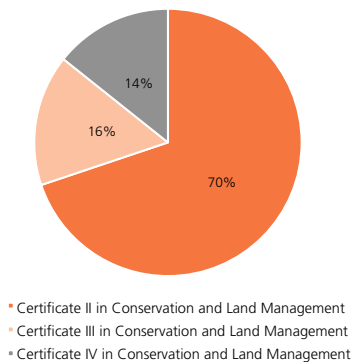
Ranger Jeffrey Foster receives training on Raindance, an aerial incendiary system used in fire management.



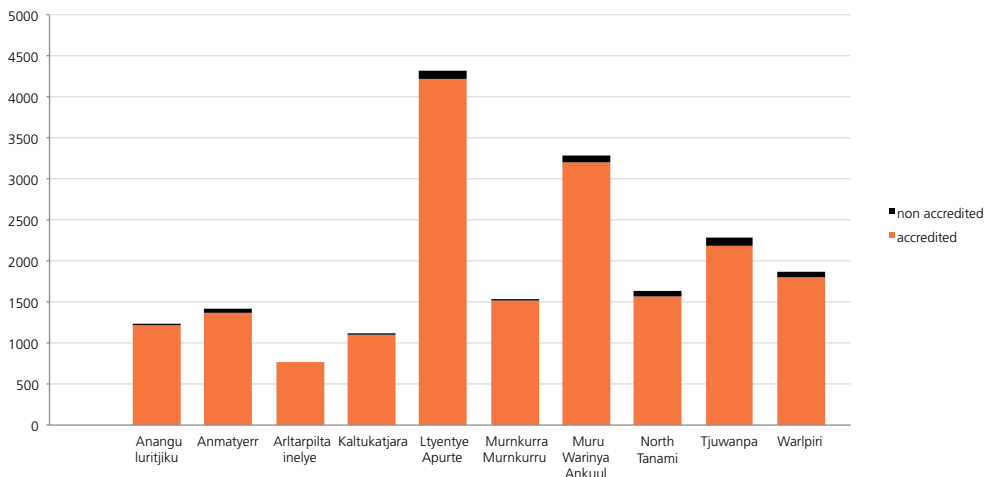
RANGER RETENTION IN YEARS AT 30 JUNE 2016



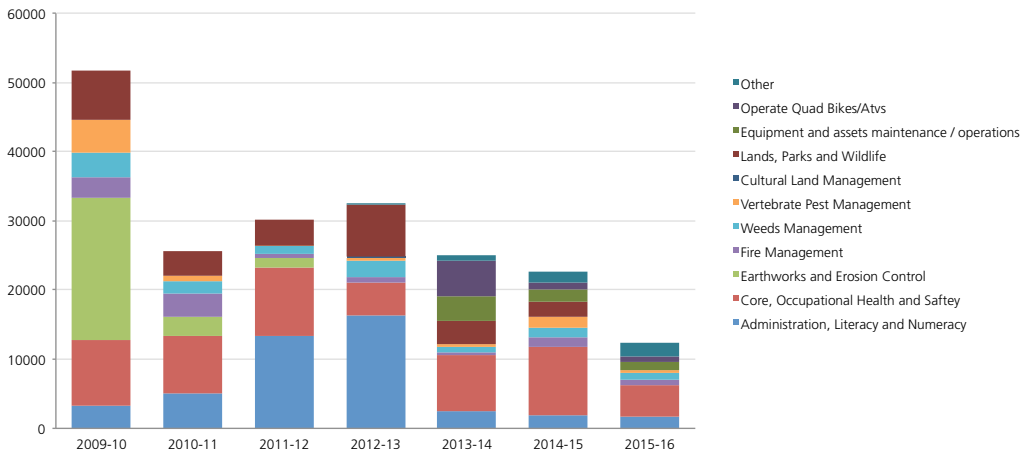
RANGER ACCREDITED TRAINING (BY CERTIFICATE LEVEL) 2015–16



TRAINING HOURS BY RANGER GROUP 2015–16



AREAS OF RANGER TRAINING OVER THE LIFE OF THE PROGRAM



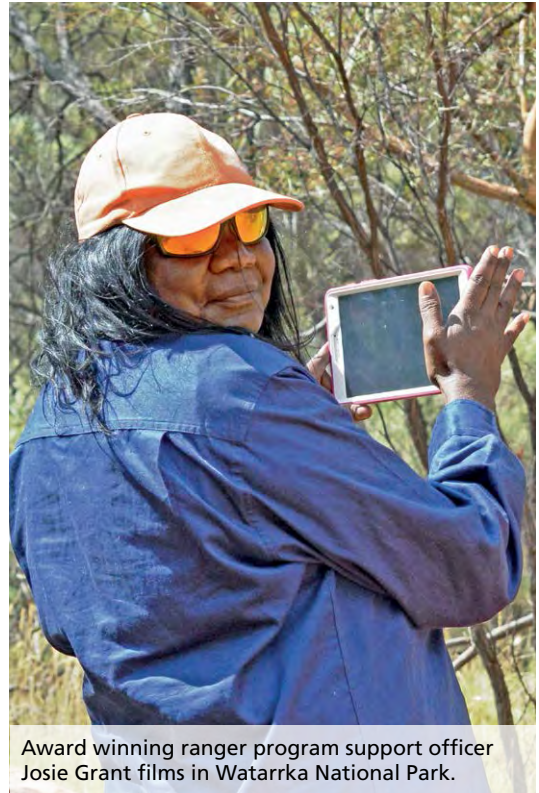
Employment outcomes and ranger retention

As of end of financial year, 79 Aboriginal rangers were engaged in the 11 groups. Eight worked full time, 58 worked part time and 13 were casuals.

From 2010–16 a total of 595 Aboriginal people worked as CLC rangers. They were aged between 20 and 67 years, with a wide range of knowledge and skills. The number of rangers in permanent positions fell from 88 in 2015 to 66 in 2016. However, even though the program lost seven FTE positions because of funding changes, this smaller cohort still contained 4% more FTE positions than in 2015. Thus, on average, each ranger worked a longer week, moving towards full-time employment.

The CLC maintained the significant increase in the proportion of female rangers (from 23.7% up to 29.2%) it achieved in 2014–15, and maintained 33 female rangers. This is due to two key factors: the employment of a number of women rangers who are role models; and a greater effort to recruit young women.

It maintained the level of female employment despite fewer positions overall. This year it also employed the first female Ranger Program support officer. She rose



Award winning ranger program support officer Josie Grant films in Watarrka National Park.



The CLC's all terrain vehicle trailer gets some attention at the CLC's workshop.



CLC rangers Helen Wilson and Christine Ellis Michaels learn how to assemble and maintain a chainsaw.

through the ranks and aspires to become the CLC's first Aboriginal female group co-ordinator.

Ranger recruitment and induction

The CLC recruited for positions in six ranger groups. It interviewed 35 of 88 applicants and appointed 18 rangers, seven of them women. The new rangers completed a comprehensive two-day induction program.

Quality targeted training and professional development

The program continued to build competencies and career pathways through professional development and targeted training, focusing on work-readiness skills. More-established rangers took part in training

addressing skills gaps, career aspirations and specialist skills such as chainsaw use, advanced welding, heavy machinery and aerial incendiary operations.

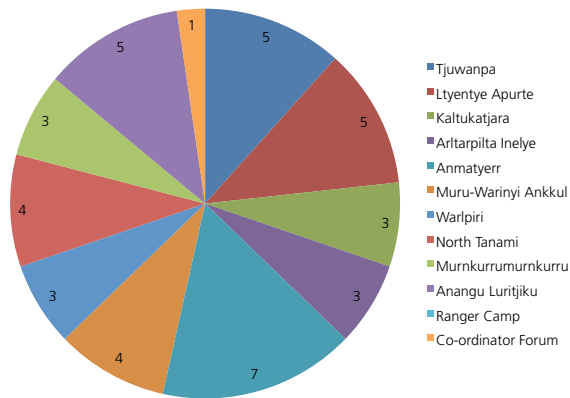
Rangers participated in 60 separate events – or a total of 19,504 hours of training. Sixty-three rangers enrolled in nationally accredited Conservation and Land Management (CLM) training; this included 2,060 hours of accredited training in working safely with chemicals and a further 2,442 in work health and safety (WHS).

Eight rangers completed Certificate II CLM. Six completed Certificate III, a prerequisite for taking leadership or support officer roles. Two rangers graduated in Certificate IV, which is a prerequisite for co-ordinators.

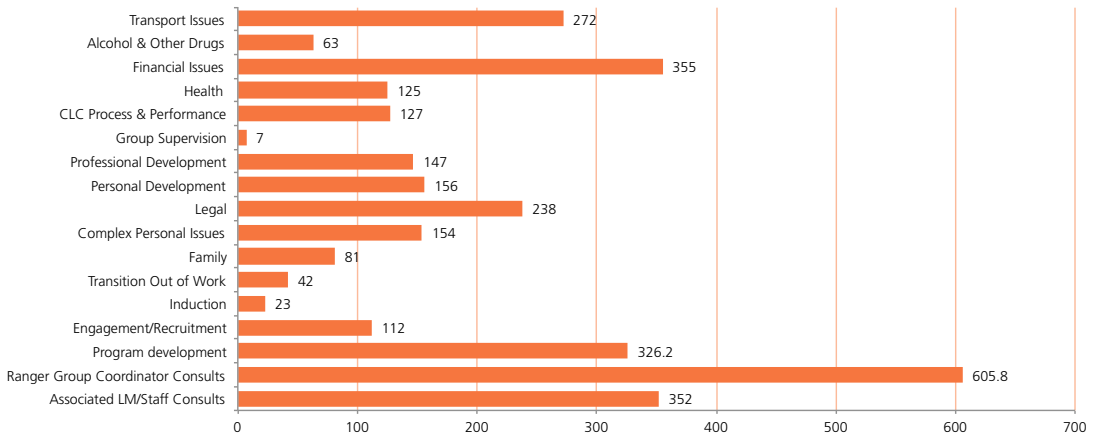
Rangers undertaking courses

Qualification/course/occupational licence	Number of rangers undertaking a course 2015–16	Number of rangers completing a course 2015–16
Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management	44	8
Certificate III in Conservation and Land Management	10	6
Certificate IV in Conservation and Land Management	9	2
Smart Train/Chemical Certificate	6	5

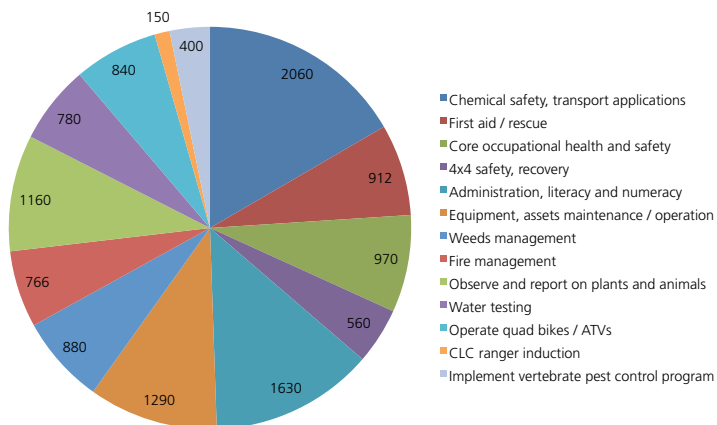
RANGER MENTOR ACTIVITY – NUMBER OF VISITS BY RANGER GROUP 2015–16



RANGER MENTOR ACTIVITY – NUMBER OF ENGAGEMENTS BY TYPE 2015–16



CLC RANGER TRAINING HOURS DELIVERED (BY SKILL SET) 2015–16





Warlpiri ranger Christine Ellis Michaels undertakes chainsaw training at Blue Bush Station.

Ranger workplace health and safety

WHS awareness and compliance continues to be prominent in ranger training plans. Accredited training for all-terrain vehicles (ATV) was undertaken by 16 rangers; accredited training in preparing, storage and safe handling of chemicals enabled 12 rangers to obtain an occupational licence. The CLC delivered further WHS training in chainsaw operations to 27 rangers, as well as in aerial incendiary operation, fire fighting and wildfire suppression.

Workplace skills and knowledge

The CLC supports rangers to develop non-accredited employment skills. It invests in mentors and resources to identify areas of improvement and support of individual rangers. It developed partnerships with the Batchelor Learning Centres in Yuendumu, Lajamanu, Nyirrpi and Willowra allowing rangers to access learning support and develop IT skills.

Indigenous Community Ranger Camp

Over 80 Aboriginal participants from CLC ranger groups, PWCNT, Julalikari Rangers and Tennant Creek High School attended the 10th CLC ranger camp at Blue Bush Station in May 2016. The annual camp remains a platform for networking, information exchange and relationship building.

The camp delivered 11 training workshops ranging from water monitoring and project planning to

ATV use and media skills, as well as planning and teambuilding activities.

School-based capacity building

The program increasingly produces role models for students. Classroom and on-country interactions with rangers contribute to learning outcomes while demonstrating employment pathways and motivating students to stay in school longer.

Ten ranger groups promoted the values of ranger employment to schools, junior ranger programs, traditional owners, parents and other interest groups. They often facilitated the intergenerational transfer of knowledge while also providing an initial 'work' experience by sharing their skills.

Ranger mentoring support

Rangers often have few experiences of ongoing employment. Mentoring support helps them to meet the CLC's workplace expectations and deal with external matters affecting ranger performance and retention. The Ranger Mentoring Development Pathway reflects this critical support.

The high demand for mentoring support places considerable strain on the limited resources of the two ranger mentors. Between them, one male and one female mentor completed 3,200 mentoring engagements and over 90 mentoring visits.

OUTPUT 3.3

MINING

The mining and energy industries are important to the Northern Territory, with the value of production worth around \$4 billion annually and mining on Aboriginal land making a significant contribution. One of the most productive gold mines in Australia is in the Tanami Desert, some 500 kilometres north-west of Alice Springs. Newmont's Granites mine has yielded millions of ounces of gold over the past 20 years and reports a further 3 million ounces of gold reserves and a further 10 year mine life. Gold exploration remains active in the Tanami and Tennant Creek regions. Onshore oil and gas production occur in the NT at Palm Valley and Mereenie west of Alice Springs and at the new Dingo Field south of Alice Springs on pastoral land. All these sites operate under agreements made with the CLC on behalf of traditional Aboriginal owners, with the first agreement signed in 1981.

The agreements reached under the Land Rights Act provide benefits to traditional Aboriginal owners, such as community development projects, compensation payments, employment, training, sacred site protection, environmental protection and cultural awareness.

The CLC negotiated with exploration companies requesting access to Aboriginal land. Under the Land Rights Act the CLC must ensure that traditional Aboriginal owners are fully informed when making decisions over exploration and mining. Agreements can be entered into only where there is informed group consent. Adherence to the legislative process provides certainty to both Aboriginal people and proponents.

EXPLORATION LICENCE AND PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Exploration for minerals and petroleum is regulated under the Northern Territory's Mineral Titles and Petroleum Acts. Exploration licences allow the holder/operator to explore for minerals over the area of the licence. Exploration permits generally cover much larger areas and are required for oil and gas exploration.

On Aboriginal land, exploration licences and permits can only be granted with the consent of the CLC. The mining provisions (Part IV) of the Land Rights Act set out a clear process for accessing Aboriginal land. The NT Mining Minister initiates the process by consenting to exploration applicants entering into negotiation with the CLC. Applicants then have three months to lodge an application with the CLC.

In response, the CLC organises meetings to consult the relevant traditional Aboriginal owners and ascertain their views. The applicant is entitled to present their exploration proposals to them at the first meeting. A representative of the Minister can also attend this part of the meeting.

Where instructed, the CLC negotiates an agreement about the terms and conditions of the grant. Through this process the rights and interests of traditional Aboriginal owners are protected, and once a decision is made, the applicants have the certainty required to make the substantial investment required for exploration.

Where Aboriginal landowners consent to exploration, they cannot refuse any subsequent mining. A mining agreement must be made to allow mining to proceed. Mining generally involves significant impacts on the environment and can affect neighbouring communities. The decision, therefore, that they are required to make at the exploration application stage is onerous. It occurs at the earliest point in the development process, when the least information about the nature of the possible development is available.

The CLC's statutory obligation is to ensure traditional owners are informed as far as practicable when making such decisions. Where an agreement is made for exploration, the CLC must be satisfied that landowners understand the nature and purpose of the agreement and, as a group, consent to it. The CLC organises and conducts exploration and mining consultation meetings to ensure that the relevant



Patrick Nancy and Roy Waistcoat inspect Edna Beryl mine north of Tennant Creek.

Processing of applications for consent to the grant of exploration titles under mining provisions of the Land Rights Act

Performance measures	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16
Number of exploration titles (exploration licence applications and exploration permit applications) effectively progressed to an initial traditional owner meeting	43	88	64	18
Total number of exploration titles considered at traditional owner meetings (includes first and further meetings)	58	116	115	48
Number of exploration titles processed to a final decision	57	13	25	44
Number of exploration titles completed in total (includes those withdrawn during negotiating period)	81	67	62	77
Average time taken (in years) from date application is received to either CLC consent or refusal	3.0	4.0	2.9	3.0

Count of exploration titles (exploration licence applications and exploration permit applications) on Aboriginal land

	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16
Consent to negotiate from NT Government	67	25	74	25
Application for consent to the grant*	82	37	72	33
Withdrawn during negotiating period	24	54	37	43
Refused	28	8	9	12
Consent to the grant	29	5	16	22
Granted by NT Government	40	20	6	8
Under negotiation as at 30 June 2015	283	226	220	169

*Count of 'Applications for consent' includes applications following expiry of moratorium period.

owners of land affected by applications are able to exercise their rights under the Land Rights Act. The table above shows recent data for the processing of applications.

Twelve traditional Aboriginal owner consultation meetings were conducted, with a total of 48 individual exploration titles considered. The low level of processing by the CLC compared with the previous two years (where 115 titles were considered at 20 meetings in 2014–15 and 116 titles considered at 17 meetings in 2013–14) reflects very difficult market conditions and low commodity prices impacting the exploration sector. Of the 48 titles for 2015–16, 18 were discussed for the first time, which is the lowest number of titles to first meetings in more than a decade. Of the 48 exploration titles consulted over, only one individual exploration permit application (EPA), for oil and gas, was discussed; last year, 14 applications for oil and gas were considered for the first time at meetings. The CLC held meetings in Tennant Creek, Kintore, Tanami Downs, Muŋitjulu,

Lake Amadeus, Yuendumu and Lajamanu. Remote area meetings require careful planning and are resource intensive. Meetings can involve several mining companies, various mineral commodities, numerous landowner groups, and may cover many thousands of square kilometres. The successful packaging of tenements at meetings is a complex and challenging process. It depends on factors such as the number of traditional owner groups, whether it is appropriate to bring groups together, the number of companies, the ability of companies to progress negotiations, and the availability of CLC staff and vehicles to bring the meeting together.

The table above shows the number of exploration titles processed by the CLC during the reporting year and for the most recent four-year period for comparison, and includes both exploration licences and exploration permits.

This financial year saw a return to the low processing figures of 2013–14, reflecting the ongoing

downturn in minerals and energy exploration. The NT Government issued 25 titles with consent to negotiate, significantly less than last year (72) and the same number as the record low of 25 titles in 2013–14. Although the difficult investment climate persists, interest in gold exploration continues, reflecting the high commodity price and the shifting global economic landscape which has led to increased investment in gold. Other commodities in the CLC region include copper, rare earths, base metals, uranium, phosphate and potash. Mineral explorers and miners alike continue to struggle to raise capital. Poor oil prices, a lack of new gas markets and investor caution impacted upon oil and gas exploration, including the unconventional hydrocarbon industry. Exploration expenditure in the CLC region is lower than previous years with no petroleum exploration drilling since 2014. Progress of EPAs has stagnated as many companies take a measured approach to agreement negotiations both on and off Aboriginal land due to economic reasons, but also political uncertainty around regulation of hydraulic fracturing ('fracking') used for shale and tight gas.

Even though Central Australia is an attractive exploration destination with highly prospective geology, lower commodity prices and a lack of investor confidence continues to impact on the number of new exploration applications received by the CLC (33 for the reporting period) and the period saw many explorers withdraw applications before the

processing of the title was complete. Forty-three titles were withdrawn during the negotiation period, six more than last year and 11 less than the record high of 2013–14 (54). The Australian Bureau of Statistics' figures for mineral exploration expenditure in the NT continues to show a downward trend from the record high years of 2010–12.

Oil and gas

The NT experienced an oil and gas rush several years ago, with almost blanket coverage by EPAs and granted titles reflecting the upgraded prospectivity of the region's hydrocarbon basins driven by sustained higher oil price and increased global demand for energy, as well as new technologies for exploration and recovery of oil and gas. There is interest in unconventional gas exploration in the sedimentary basins in the CLC region, targeting very deep shales. The vast Wiso and Amadeus basins are subject to numerous applications covering several Aboriginal land trusts. Some of these areas have never before been considered at meetings with landowners. The huge Georgina Basin, north-east of Alice Springs, initially had blanket coverage of applications and granted titles; however, three exploration permits were recently surrendered, comprising a total of nearly 35,000 square kilometres, following an unsuccessful exploration campaign targeting deep shales. Three titles over the Ngalia Basin were also surrendered in the reporting period without any on-ground exploration carried out. Explorers are also



Traditional owners inspect the Twin Bonanza mine in July 2016.

interested in the Pedirka Basin, south-east of Alice Springs, which is prospective for underground coal gasification and thermal coal.

Individual application areas for oil and gas may be up to 16,000 square kilometres each and are generally very remote, often with minimal or no established access. In terms of processing and counting outcomes, one EPA is counted as one title even though it may coincide or equate with the total area covered by 20 or more exploration licence applications (ELAs), which, when processed, are counted as 20 titles.

The first new discovery of oil in Central Australia in more than 20 years was made near Kintore, with the Surprise lease granted in February 2014. However, this was shut-in by August 2015 due to the decline in oil price.

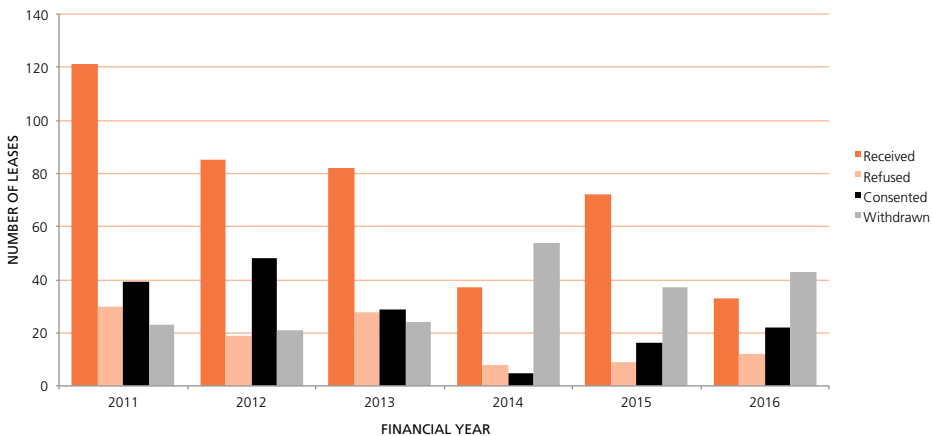
The significant drop in the oil price in 2014, together with fiscal tightening, has resulted in minimal oil and gas exploration in the CLC region with only a single limited seismic survey in the reporting period.

Processing applications

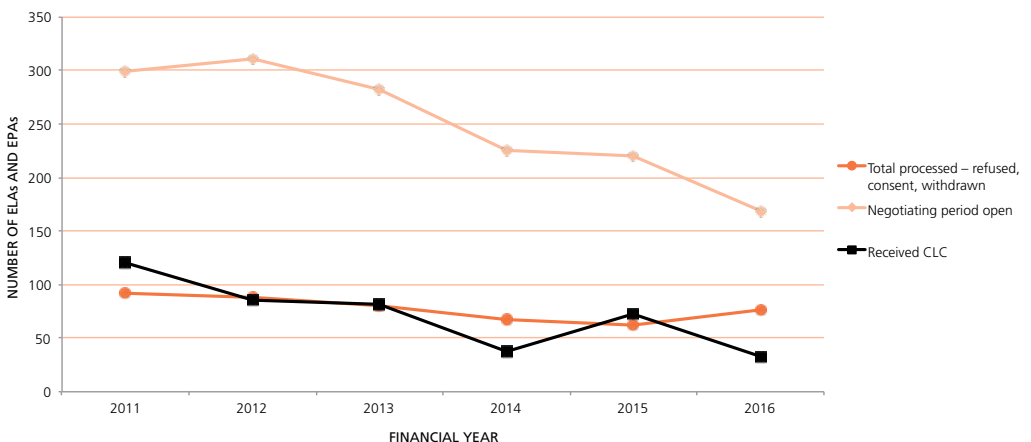
Following consultations with landowners and successful negotiations with applicants, the CLC consented to 22 exploration licence applications. The number is higher than the last two reporting periods (16 and five respectively) and is accounted for by the finalisation of titles which were consented to as negotiations reached their conclusion. Ten of the exploration licence applications are located in the Tanami Desert and 12 on the Petermann Aboriginal Land Trust

Many applicants are currently unable to progress their titles (both meetings and negotiations) due to

NUMBER OF EXPLORATION TITLES APPLIED FOR AND PROCESSED ON ABORIGINAL LAND



TRENDS OF EXPLORATION TITLES PROCESSING ON ABORIGINAL LAND





Colin Jungarrayi and his son Patrick Colin review exploration licence applications near Mt Liebig.

lack of investment capital for mineral exploration. This is demonstrated in the high number of titles (43) that were withdrawn during the negotiation period, the record low number of applications taken to first meetings (18) and low number of grants by the Department of Mines and Energy (DME) (8). As was the case last year, significant ground remains available for application by mineral explorers. This contrasts sharply with the exploration boom years of 2010–12 when there was blanket coverage of available ground, not all of it necessarily prospective.

The graph above compares the number of ELAs both consented to and refused during this period compared with previous periods.

The average time for processing applications that were either consented or refused was three years. This is only slightly higher than last year's figure of 2.9 years and is above the standard negotiating period specified under the Act of two field seasons or 22 months. Twelve titles finalised during the reporting period with negotiating periods of more than four years each, with four over eight years, skew the average. The required time to negotiate an agreement varies considerably and depends on factors such as applicants' familiarity with the process and access to exploration capital. In these circumstances the CLC has to wait until the company is ready to progress negotiations. The alternative is

to refuse the titles due to lack of progress and place them in moratorium. In this case the landowners did not want such action. They finally consented to titles covering more than 10,000 square kilometres. The other 10 titles finalised cover more than 2,500 square kilometres of the Tanami Desert.

The negotiating period can be extended by agreement between the parties. However, many of the applications, which may take years to conclude, are hampered by applicants seeking joint venture partners – often unsuccessfully – when they are unable to explore in their own right. Funding for exploration programs in Central Australia remains extremely tight, resulting in serious delays in applications, which are a key performance indicator for the CLC.

The number of applications it receives is outside the CLC's control. They were consistently high over the last five years (apart from 2013–14) resulting in a corresponding rise in the number of titles with open negotiating periods. For the first time on record the CLC has met its target of less than 200 applications under negotiation at the end of the financial year with 169 titles, which represents a significant drop from last year's 220 ELAs under negotiation. The exploration downturn and depressed investment markets account for this low figure, with fewer new applications received by the CLC than ever before (33)

and only 25 applications given consent to negotiate by the NT Minister.

The CLC processed as many applications to first meetings as possible under the circumstances. Negotiations can take considerable time. Some applications have protracted negotiation periods because applicants spend time finding joint venture partners, or coming to terms with the draft deeds, or making changes to their funding or exploration priorities. Factors influencing the completion of negotiations include uncertain economic conditions. The large meetings of recent years can continue to lead to consent decisions in the future, provided the applicants have the financial capacity to conduct exploration. As funding for mineral exploration is currently difficult to find the CLC anticipates ongoing negotiating delays for many applicants until the commodity and financial markets improve.

The NT Government has used s.41 of the Land Rights Act to withdraw consent where a company is not performing. While this has helped avoid 'warehousing' of titles and has improved the active participation of bona fide applicants in negotiations with the CLC, a number of applicants still find excuses not to attend CLC meetings with traditional owners. This can make for slow and frustrating progress. The global shortage of exploration capital appears to be the major factor limiting these applicants.

The CLC received a single EPA (out of moratorium) covering some 377 square kilometres of Aboriginal land but few prospective areas remain available for new applications. The size and complexity of consultations required for oil and gas exploration permits continues to present a challenge in processing titles for the CLC over the next few years once there is a change in the economic and political climate.

Uranium and other commodities information meetings

Interest in uranium exploration continued even though the uranium price has dropped to less than \$US30 / pound. Eleven per cent of the exploration applications received this reporting period aimed at discovering uranium (previously this was as high as 95%). The low price of uranium and the 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster in Japan continue to have an impact. The views of traditional Aboriginal owners over the exploration, mining and downstream use of uranium are mixed. However, people's opposition to uranium and the proposed nuclear waste repository at Muckaty, the Tanami and the date farm south of Alice Springs (referred to as 'Hale') have all been reported in the media.

Proposals for uranium exploration raise specific issues unique to uranium mining and supply. Traditional owners need to be aware of these in order to make informed decisions. Many have broadened their knowledge of the unique properties of uranium and of radiation monitoring at a mine or exploration site.

Provision of balanced information about uranium exploration and mining, radiation protection, the regulatory regime and the nuclear industry is fundamental to facilitating informed consent of traditional owners. The CLC continues to disseminate information within the framework of its uranium information strategy, which aims to give affected Aboriginal communities and traditional owners facts on uranium mining, radiation, downstream processing and storage. It facilitated discussions about uranium at major traditional owner meetings using written information and DVDs.

The CLC is replicating its uranium information strategy approach for unconventional oil and gas, and regularly delivers education sessions. Sessions were limited to Mutitjula, Yuendumu and Tennant Creek due to the inactivity of the oil and gas applicants. Further forums will be planned as requested by traditional owners. The CLC continues to collaborate with the CSIRO, Australian peak oil and gas body, government, and other parties with land and environmental interests in unconventional oil and gas to provide comprehensive, balanced and appropriate information to traditional owners.

AGREEMENT-MAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION

Where the CLC enters into agreements with mining companies it assumes a range of obligations and responsibilities. The agreements generally provide for payments to traditional owners; procedures for the protection of sacred sites; work program approval and access permits; environmental protection and rehabilitation; employment, training and contracting; and liaison, reporting and inspection.

Agreements	New in 2015–16	Total current at 30 June 2016
Exploration agreements (number of exploration licences and permits)	5 (18)	56 (183)
Area of Aboriginal land under ELAs and EPAs	14308 km ²	62562 km ²
Mining Agreements (number of mineral and production leases)	0	11 (16)

The table above summarises the new and current exploration and mining agreements for the CLC, including the total area of land involved under agreements for exploration. As at 30 June 2016 the CLC has 56 current exploration agreements in respect of 183 exploration titles, including oil and gas permits. The reduction results from the consolidation of titles under agreements, adding new titles to existing agreements as well as companies surrendering titles. The total area of land under agreement is less than 50,000 square kilometres with the surrender of two exploration permits accounting for nearly 7,000 square kilometres.

There are five exploration permits for oil and gas, comprising just over 30,000 square kilometres, including two permits granted five years before the land was handed back to the traditional owners. The CLC has 11 mining agreements relating to a total of 16 mineral leases or production licences for operations at Tanami, The Granites, Areyonga and Tennant Creek, as well as oil and gas fields at Mereenie, Palm Valley and Surprise. These totals do not include native title agreements.

Five new exploration agreements were finalised during the year, relating to 18 individual exploration licences. Two agreements were signed covering three exploration licences each with Ramelius Resources and Tychean Tanami Pty Ltd, and JRE Mining Pty Ltd for land in the Tanami and a further three agreements with Gempart covering numerous titles in very remote areas in the south-west of the NT.

Tanami mining agreements

Newmont Tanami Operations mine gold ore from the Callie deposit, which is hauled to and milled at The Granites, 45 kilometres to the east and adjacent to the Tanami Road. This is one of Australia's most productive and remote gold mines. The mine has produced around 8 million ounces of gold to date and as of December 2014 had reserves of 3.3 million ounces with additional mineral resources containing 2.3 million ounces.

Ongoing monitoring of the mining agreements occurred during the year. A meeting of The Granites Liaison Committee was held in early August 2015. Newmont took traditional Aboriginal owners on a tour of the Dead Bullock Soak production site. The Aboriginal employment provisions of the Consolidated Mining Agreement are in the process of being reviewed, in conjunction with consideration of the recommendations from the recently completed social impact assessment. The development of a 10-year plan for Warlpiri



Alec Cavanagh, Shorty Mulladad and their nephew look at drill core samples near Alice Springs.



A Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation project meeting at Yuendumu.

employment and economic development is in its advanced stages.

Tanami Gold acquired Newmont's tenements around the Tanami mine in 2010. Tanami Gold was unable to return the mine to production. Across the entire Central Tanami Project area there is currently a total resource of 2.6 million ounces of gold, including the Groundrush deposit and other previously mined areas. A meeting of traditional owners was held in July 2015 to discuss the mining agreement and to meet the new partners, Northern Star, who are trying to revive the project

After acquiring numerous tenements from Tanami Gold and Newmont in 2009, ABM Resources made a gold discovery at the Old Pirate deposit and consolidated its resource base in 2014–15. It estimated a resource of 3.4 million gold equivalent ounces across the Old Pirate, Golden Hind, Buccaneer and Hyperion deposits. Twin Bonanza mine commenced in 2015 with ore trucked to the Coyote mine plant across the border in Western Australia. A liaison committee meeting was held in early September 2015 to discuss issues with mine progress,

North Tanami rangers Dione Kelly, Helen Wilson (obscured) and Zindzi Jigili take part in water monitoring training at Northern Star's Tanami mine.



employment and future plans. The mine operated for around 12 months and produced around 30,000 ounces but closed in April 2016. A liaison committee meeting was held in early July to inspect mine closure and rehabilitation.

On 6 July 2015, traditional owners visited the Malbunka mine, where Dehne McLaughlin and his wife have a small operation mining for azurite 'suns', which are successfully marketed online and at specialist mineral shows to collectors.

A liaison committee meeting was held and site visit made to Edna Beryl mine north of Tennant Creek in September 2015. Traditional owners were introduced to the company that intends commencing small-scale underground gold mining this year.

Oil and gas production agreements

Central Petroleum acquired a 50% stake in the Mereenie oil and gas field from Santos and became the operators. The field is mature but still producing more than 30 years after commencing. Since the oil price halved in 2014, plans for renewed exploration of the field have stalled. A liaison committee meeting was held at the Mereenie Field in October 2015 at which Santos provided an update on the previous year's activities and included the establishment of a formal display in the camp acknowledging traditional owners.

A liaison committee meeting for Palm Valley gas field is planned for later in 2016. The company will update traditional owners about its plans for reinvigoration of the field which are also currently on hold.

Oil production began at Surprise in 2014 but was closed in August 2015 due to the decline in the oil price.

Exploration agreements: minerals

Exploration under agreements throughout the CLC region slowed this year as some companies found investment money difficult to secure. Exploration continued in the Tanami and Tennant Creek regions, mainly near existing mines where liaison committee meetings were held in conjunction with meetings for the mine sites.

Traditional owners were updated at liaison committee meetings in July 2015 and June 2016 about exploration over the old Tennant Creek Gold Field on titles held by Emmerson Resources in a joint venture with Evolution Mining.

MetalsX holds titles covering advanced prospects, including Rover 1 orebody south-west of Tennant Creek. There has been little exploration for some 18

months and the company are considering selling the project.

Red Metal Limited commenced surface sampling for gold and copper to the south-east of Tennant Creek on three exploration licences but have since surrendered two of the licences. A liaison committee meeting has been postponed until there is further progress.

A liaison meeting was held with traditional owners on 19 May 2016 at Nyirripi where Independence Group reported on its Lake Mackay exploration licences and extensive soil sampling and drilling program.

Other meetings were held with traditional owners for companies with agreements over pastoral leases adjoining Aboriginal land, including Tellus' Chandler salt mine project near Maryvale; KGL's Jervois base metal project; Karingka Lakes' potash project near Curtin Springs; TNG's Mount Peake vanadium project west of Wilora; Aveniras' Wonarah phosphate project in the Barkly region; and Arafura Resources' Nolans rare earth project near Aileron.

Exploration agreements: petroleum

The only exploration activity reported in the period was a very small seismic survey on one exploration permit. All other exploration plans in relation to other granted permits are on hold while poor market conditions persist.

Interest in unconventional oil and gas is a global phenomenon and controversial because of the use of fracking. Unconventional oil and gas exploration targets deep shales and 'tight' rocks where gas is trapped in rock; fracking is used to create cracks in the rock providing pathways for gas to flow to the surface. Central Australia is prospective for deep shales, and fracking has been used historically at Mereenie and Palm Valley to enhance recovery in conventional vertical wells. The first horizontal wells fracked in Central Australia were drilled some 18 months ago in the Georgina Basin. The recent rush in the unconventional oil and gas industry worldwide has resulted in close scrutiny of the industry as fracking has reportedly resulted in, or has been blamed for, significant environmental and health impacts, particularly with respect to groundwater use and pollution.

The heightened attention around fracking in Australia is closely aligned with the sudden expansion of the coal seam gas industry in eastern Australia. The unfolding of the industry has resulted in calls for a more cautious approach nationally and a moratorium on the industry by some.



CLC delegates Jacob Spencer and April Martin lead the discussion at the council meeting at Arlparra.

The CLC made a submission to the NT Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing in 2014, followed by a further submission on the NT Government's draft Onshore Oil and Gas Guiding Principles in May 2015 and has participated in regulatory workshops with government. The CLC continues to hold education sessions on fracking for traditional owners where requested. A fracking forum was held for Council members at its April 2015 meeting. Participants from industry, the environment, health, government and an independent scientist attended to give presentations and answer questions.

Northern Gas Pipeline

Jemena was selected by the NT Government to build and operate a 623 kilometre connector pipeline linking Tennant Creek in the NT to Mount Isa in Queensland, enabling the transport of existing and new gas from the NT to markets on the east coast of Australia. The CLC is involved in the process of consulting traditional owners along the pipeline route which crosses multiple land tenures, including Aboriginal land and pastoral land. It also crosses the administrative boundary of the CLC and NLC. The CLC and NLC are working collaboratively on the project due to overlap in traditional ownership and to avoid duplication of efforts, which also provides a clear and more consistent process for Jemena. The project is

significant with tight timeframes and has required a significant amount of CLC resources.

GOVERNMENT LIAISON

The CLC continues to hold regular discussion with the Petroleum Division of the DME regarding the rapid growth in the number of EPAs in the CLC region, both on and off Aboriginal land. Both parties acknowledge the size of the applications and the complexity and logistical challenges these titles present for processing. The CLC is working in collaboration with DME and has provided input with respect to a review of the petroleum regulations and a more strategic approach for dealing with the numerous applications in the CLC region. Discussions are held when needed regarding the processing of mineral exploration titles and the current impediments to exploration. The NT Mining Minister has been delegated many of the Commonwealth Minister's functions under the Land Rights Act. Officers from the DME regularly attend the first meetings of traditional Aboriginal owners over exploration titles.

During the reporting period, the CLC has reviewed and submitted comments to the NT Environmental Protection Agency for two Environmental Impact Statements for TNG's Mount Peake Project and Arafura's Nolans Rare Earth Project.

OUTPUT 3.4 COMMERCIAL ASSISTANCE

Provide research and assistance and identify infrastructure requirements as appropriate to enable Aboriginal landowners and other Aboriginal people to undertake commercial activities.

Section 23 (1)(ea) of the Land Rights Act assigns a function to the CLC to ‘assist Aboriginals in the area of the Land Council to carry out commercial activities (including resource development, the provision of tourist facilities and agricultural activities)’.

The CLC provided development and operational assistance in two streams of commercial activity: tourism development and the pastoral industry.

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

The CLC’s tourism development resources continued to be inadequate for responding effectively to our constituents’ needs. Nevertheless, the single ABA-funded Aboriginal tourism development officer provided a range of planning and support for emerging Aboriginal tourism enterprises.

In the Petermann ALT the CLC provided advice and support to Uluru Family Tours in its aim to conduct

tours to Patji, and on Kaṯiṯi ALT supported a traditional owner plan a tourism partnership to conduct ATV tours to Lake Amadeus. Also in the Petermann ALT, the CLC worked with Walka tourism, creating recordings with traditional owners of Honey Ant songs and stories to support the intergenerational transfer of cultural knowledge about the site. On the Atnetye ALT, the CLC provided technical advice to Lincarten 4WD Bush Tours and helped with the preparation of an Indigenous Tourism Development Fund application to upgrade the Batton Hill Campground

The CLC supported traditional owner proponents engaged in the PWCNT and Parks Australia expression of interest (Eol) process to secure concept approvals, prepare feasibility studies, business plans and Stage 2 Eol submissions.

The tourism interests and perspectives of the CLC and its constituents were represented in



Ziah and Jeremiah Webb from Huckitta Station get ready to sell their steers.



interagency meetings, regional tourism and economic development forums such as the tourism industry development stakeholder meetings with Department of Business, Tourism Central Australia and Tourism NT. The CLC also conducted consultations and meetings to help traditional owners identify and assess potential new tourism opportunities in partnership with Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia, National Indigenous Training Academy and the Mutitjulu Foundation.

PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT

The CLC provided representation, support and advice to Aboriginal landowners involved in both large commercial enterprises and small community-based projects. This occurred primarily through the work of the CLC's Regional Rural Enterprise Officers (RREO), and continued participation in the Indigenous Pastoral Program (IPP), a successful multi-agency collaboration sponsored by the Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC) since 2003. The IPP is made up of the CLC, the NLC, the National Indigenous Pastoral Enterprises (NIPE), the NT Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, the NT Department of Education, the NT Cattleman's Association and the PM&C.

This year, oversight of the IPP was transferred to NIPE (a wholly owned subsidiary of the ILC). As an IPP partner the CLC provided input into the review and strategic plan process. The IPP's updated vision is that the IPP 'will support indigenous landholders in developing their land and people to own and operate successful pastoral businesses'.

The CLC has helped Aboriginal-owned and operated pastoral operations for over 20 years. For the purpose of improving its delivery of services to Aboriginal pastoralists the CLC, with the support of the NIPE, initiated a process to review and identify key areas in

supporting sustainable Aboriginal pastoral operations into the future. This work is due to be completed in 2016–17 and will guide the CLC's pastoral development support over the coming five years.

The CLC continued to offer assistance with governance and planning by providing secretariat and legal support for company boards, property management planning and advice, and support for the implementation of the IPP's Business Management Advisory Project (BMAP). This year, support was provided to Peake Pty Ltd (Mangkururra ALT, formerly Tanami Downs) and Huckitta Station.

The CLC helped with director's meetings and, in collaboration with the BMAP team, the provision of governance training workshops for directors. The CLC also worked with Huckitta Station directors to develop and implement a sustainable pastoral plan for the enterprise.

After a long period of unsatisfactory financial returns and attempts to improve production the directors of Peake Pty Ltd decided to enter into voluntary liquidation and destock the station. This was a very difficult decision for the company; however, after an analysis of the business the company realised that it could not continue. External liquidators were engaged to administer the process and the CLC provided on-ground support, including overseeing the mustering and destocking of the station.

Operational support was provided to Huckitta Station with transporting cattle from the processing yard to the sale yard. The CLC assisted traditional owners of Waite River Station with caretaking of the property after the hasty departure of the previous lessee to secure assets ahead of making a decision about the future management of the property.

OUTPUT GROUP 4

ADVOCACY SERVICES

OUTPUT	4.1	PUBLIC AWARENESS & EDUCATION
	4.2	ADVOCACY & REPRESENTATION
	4.3	CULTURAL & HERITAGE SUPPORT
	4.4	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT



OUTCOMES	<p>Enhanced social, political and economic participation and equity for Aboriginal people in the Central Land Council’s area as a result of the promotion, protection and advancement of their land rights, other rights and interests.</p>
----------	---

OUTPUT 4.1

PUBLIC AWARENESS & EDUCATION

The CLC informs its constituents and the wider public of issues of importance to Central Australian Aboriginal people and promotes their achievements and aspirations. Many sections of the CLC contribute to the production of a wide range of information and education materials and presentations. The CLC's communications unit is often the first port of call for journalists and members of the public wishing to know more about contemporary Aboriginal culture and society in Central Australia.

The CLC completed audience research into its print and electronic communications tools in order to strengthen how it shares information with remote community residents. CLC members will consider research outcomes and recommendations during the second half of 2016.

The CLC raised public awareness of issues of great interest to its members. They ranged from traditional owner opposition to the shortlisting of a nuclear waste storage facility site near Alice Springs to the successes of the CLC's community development and ranger programs. It shone a national media spotlight on the failure of the NT's remote public housing system, and raised awareness about the loss of Aboriginal control and lack of transparency of the Aboriginals Benefit Account.

The media unit supported an awareness campaign by traditional owners of the jointly managed Watarrka National Park, who had opposed mining on their land. In November 2015 the NT Government rejected plans for oil and gas extraction in the park following representations by custodians to federal politicians in Canberra.

The communications unit organised a multi-media, multi-lingual awareness campaign ahead of the CLC membership elections in February and March 2016. It organised the CLC's 40th anniversary celebrations and provided media support for events such as the declaration of the *Katitji* Petermann IPA and the Vincent Lingjari Art Award which will mark the 40th anniversary of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act (NT) 1976* in 2016.

EVERY HILL GOT A STORY

Elders from across the region launched their long awaited oral history collection *Every hill got a story* at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station in September 2015, during the CLC 40th anniversary celebrations. The first comprehensive history of Central Australian Aboriginal people as told in their own words and languages, the book was published by Hardie Grant under its SBS Books imprint.

The book contains the recollections of 127 eminent men and women from Central Australia and boasts hundreds of previously unpublished historical images. For a richer experience the book features links to soundbites from the storytellers at <http://www.sbs.com.au/features/nitv/everhill/>.

A study guide for the book, aimed at primary and secondary students, is available free of charge and the oral history interviews will be made available as podcasts on its website as funds permit.

The original interviews have been returned to the storytellers; however, the storytellers wish to share them widely with their extended families who live dispersed over a huge area, a major reason the CLC continues to seek funds to upload the hundreds of hours of interviews on which the book is based to its digital archive at www.clc.keepingculture.com (see below).

Activity	2015–16	2014–15	2013–14
Media releases	23	23	20
CLC website visits	135,840	121,312	92,440
CLC newsletters	24	24	9
<i>Land Rights News Central Australia</i>	3	2	2
Special purpose videos	2	0	14
Information booklets and brochures	15	5	37
Posters	16	5	13



Four generations of Mack women spoke at the launch of *Every hill got a story*: author Jean Mack (front) with Dee and Colleen Mack and CLC permits officer Shana Satour (right).

LAND RIGHTS NEWS AND COUNCIL NEWS

Australia's longest continuously published, Aboriginal-owned newspaper, *Land Rights News Central Australia*, maintained its circulation of 9,000. Print and online versions were produced in August and November 2015 and April 2016, coinciding with Council meetings. Distributed free of charge to remote NT communities and news agencies, the paper remains one of the few sources of accessible information and analysis of issues that matter to the CLC's constituents. It aims to balance the relentlessly negative portrayal of Aboriginal people in the mainstream media with stories about their many achievements.

The CLC also continued to distribute *Council News*, a large-format printed newsletter about the decisions and discussions of the CLC delegates. It appears in print and online one week following each Council meeting.



Pamela Brown reads the November 2015 issue of *Land Rights News* at the council meeting at Arlparra.



Author Linda Dobbs celebrates the launch of the CLC's oral history collection with Fanny Walker and Joanne White.

WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The number of visits to the CLC web site continued to increase, particularly mobile phone traffic. New visitors again accounted for over 70% of sessions. The CLC's Facebook activity has increased more than threefold compared to the last reporting period.

CHALLENGES

Early indications from focus group sessions Galaxy Research conducted with remote community residents are that the CLC's printed newsletters, web site and social media outputs are highly valued, with constituents rating *Community Development News* as particularly appropriate.

Constituents continue to have very poor internet and mobile phones access, as well as very low rates of ownership of computers. Where mobile phone or wireless internet access is available, constituents are increasingly using mobile devices to make contact with the CLC.

The resulting increase in traffic to the CLC web site from mobile devices highlights the need to invest in upgrading the site, which is currently not mobile friendly.

By contrast, the CLC's popular digital archive is now far more mobile friendly following a software

upgrade; however, it is stagnating. No new records have been added since October 2014, when funding for the part time digital archive officer ceased.

The online database puts over 13,000 historical and contemporary images and other recordings at the fingertips of CLC constituents with internet access, no matter how remotely they live. The archive plays a very important role in the repatriation of culturally significant records and transmission of knowledge between generations.

A fresh funding application to the ABA was again not supported by the Minister. Without the funding the archive is on hold and the large backlog of culturally significant records is growing. This keeps them out of reach of their rightful owners, Central Australian Aboriginal people.

OUTPUT 4.2 ADVOCACY & REPRESENTATION

Provide advocacy and representation as appropriate to the traditional owners and other clients of the CLC.

The CLC has a statutory responsibility to ascertain, express and represent the wishes and the opinion of Aboriginal people living in the CLC area, and to protect the interests of Aboriginal people living in the area. To fulfil this responsibility, the CLC identifies significant legislative and policy matters, consults with traditional owners and Aboriginal people to ascertain their views and establishes positions on significant policy issues through the Council and Executive.

The CLC also works on a number of research projects to assist us to formulate policy positions and responses. From this basis the CLC is able to represent

with a high degree of authority the Aboriginal views and aspirations on issues and engage with all levels of government and other stakeholders to ensure that Aboriginal interests are taken into account.

The CLC's policy priorities were reviewed and confirmed in April 2015, and are summarised in the illustration below.

PERFORMANCE

The CLC made the submissions to the Australian or NT governments on numerous policy matters, including:





Custodian Julie Clyne and lawyer David Morris tell the Canberra press gallery why traditional owners oppose mining in Watarrka National Park.

- the NT Government Discussion Paper Our Water Future
- IAS funding
- Commonwealth Education Inquiry
- NT Government's Review of Sacred Sites Act
- NT Government's draft Housing Strategy
- Alice Springs Alcohol Management Plan
- Senators on the ALRA amendments
- Northern Territory Balanced Environment Strategy Discussion Draft
- NT Bushfires Council on the review of the Bushfires Act
- the review of the NT Natural Resource Management Plan 2016–2020.

The CLC also assisted with drafting of APONT submissions to the Commonwealth Education Inquiry, the *Through the eyes of child* review, the parliamentary inquiry into constitutional reform, and the NT Government's draft Housing Strategy.

COMMENTARY ON PERFORMANCE

Land Rights Act: amendments package

The CLC and the NLC negotiated and supported a package of beneficial amendments to the Land Rights Act. The amendments achieved significant positive reform to the Act, in particular the amendments to s.28A, which corrected a significant flaw in the 2006 Land Rights Act amendment process.

The agreed amendments provide a mechanism for agreed variations to Land Council boundaries with sufficient protections, reflect a more innovative approach to community-wide leasing, and redesign

the s.28A delegation of functions provisions to remove the Ministerial over-ride, and ensure that the delegation can be revoked. The amendment Bill passed both houses of Parliament in November 2015, and the amendments have now been assented to. The CLC also circulated a brief to all senators seeking their support for the amendments. The CLC welcomes the approach taken by the Minister for Indigenous Affairs in negotiating this positive outcome.

Tenure and leasing

In October 2014 the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) announced an investigation into indigenous land tenure and administration. The CLC met with departmental and NT Government representatives to discuss this investigation, and also with the Indigenous Expert Working Group. A detailed submission to the investigation was provided in June 2015. The investigation has now concluded with the final report being released by COAG in December 2015. The CLC has analysed the recommendations and is now participating in the biannual strategic forum with other land councils and the Australian and NT governments to progress relevant recommendations.

Mutitjulu Taskforce

The CLC continues to participate in the Mutitjulu Taskforce process. Since 2010 the CLC has advocated for an alternative whole-community leasing model to provide the head-lease to a community-based corporation.

There has been productive collaboration with officials from PM&C on this complex issue over the last 12 months, leading to a draft sub-lease for Mutitjulu. The CLC has developed traditional owner consultation materials, and has now held three large traditional owner consultation meetings, in addition to smaller meetings with individuals and family groups throughout the region.

Education and school attendance

In November 2015 the CLC provided a submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs and the Inquiry into Educational Opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. The CLC's core recommendations related to the urgent need to address the absence of early childhood education in the vast majority of remote communities; reform to remote school funding models, with greater transparency over expenditure and outcomes; research to fill evidence gaps around education outcomes and boarding schools; that bilingual education be properly resourced; and that an independent Aboriginal-controlled peak body for Aboriginal education in the NT be created. The submission also outlined concerns about the NT Government's plans to remove secondary schooling options from remote communities. In summary, the CLC submission called for needs-based educational resourcing and policy platforms that respect (or are consistent with) Aboriginal cultural frameworks. The CLC believes that strong family connections, personal identity, and respect for local knowledge and languages are integral to improving educational outcomes for children in remote communities. Critically, these foundational principals need to be embedded within a high performing, high quality education and training system.

The CLC acknowledges the need to improve school attendance but also cautions that improving attendance alone will not necessarily result in improved educational outcomes. The CLC is hopeful that the Australian Government's school attendance strategy is the first step in a more comprehensive strategy to improve education in the bush. In this reporting period the Minister for Indigenous Affairs sought the CLC's support for his initiatives to increase school attendance, and repeatedly expressed concern about the possible impact of CLC royalty distribution processes on school attendance.

The CLC has long supported a large number of Aboriginal corporations that are beneficiaries of various agreements for the use of their land by assisting in the administration of their Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC)

requirements regarding membership, financial administration and reporting. The Minister is concerned that where meetings are held during school term the requirement for members to travel vast distances to meetings might cause children to be absent from school. The Minister would prefer that all such meetings be held during school holidays. However, a very small number of CLC staff currently support 32 such corporations, and to meet annual general meeting and reporting requirements it is impracticable to schedule meetings only during a short school holiday period. Regardless, the CLC actively discourages school children from attending such meetings, and our formal meeting notices advise members not to have their children to attend.

The CLC is currently working with officials from PM&C to identify possible areas of cooperation on school attendance. In addition, the CLC has almost completed a comprehensive report analysing the impact that some royalty payment processes have on school attendance.

Aboriginal Peak Organisations of the Northern Territory (APONT)

APONT was formed in October 2010. It includes the CLC, the NLC, the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance of the Northern Territory, the Central Australian Aboriginal Legal Aid Service and the North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency.

This year's work focused on housing policy, supporting Aboriginal Housing NT, advocating regarding a proposal for an alternative jobs and welfare program in remote communities, the development of principles for NGOs working in remote areas, support to the Aboriginal Governance and Management program, and submissions on policy matters. Considerable effort was put into seeking ongoing funding and support for APONT and the Aboriginal Governance and Management Program.

Aboriginals Benefit Account

In 2014 the Minister for Indigenous Affairs wrote to the CLC proposing changes to the representation and operation of the ABA Advisory Committee. The proposed changes would reduce CLC representation from five members to three. The Minister also proposed to use the power he has under the Land Rights Act to appoint two additional expert members.

This matter was considered by the Council and a response provided to the Minister in September 2014. This response detailed strong opposition to the Minister's proposed changes. The CLC argued that the

ABA Advisory Committee provides invaluable advice and on-ground knowledge, and plays a vital role in setting policy priorities and ensuring that Aboriginal people have a say in the expenditure of ABA 64(4) funds. A reduction in the elected membership would diminish effective representation by the CLC regions, thus decreasing the substantial cultural knowledge and expertise allowed through consultation with a diverse membership.

The CLC received a letter from the Minister in April 2016 advising that he would proceed with his proposed changes, to take effect from November 2016.

Review of the Sacred Sites Act (NT)

In September 2015 the NT Government advised that it was undertaking a review of the *Sacred Sites Act 1983*. The NT Government appointed PwC Australia Indigenous Consulting to undertake the review. The CLC met several times with the consultants and provided a comprehensive submission to the review.

The CLC argued that the Sacred Sites Act should not be amended without the explicit consent of the board of the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA) and the land councils in order to ensure that sacred site protection is not in any way diminished. The CLC also identified a range of proposed amendments to the Act and developed recommendations regarding the operations of the AAPA. These recommendations aim to enhance the workability of the sacred site protection regime without compromising site protection. Central to these proposals is the need to ensure the AAPA is independent and provided with sufficient resources to enable it to carry out its functions, including site registration in addition to fee-for-service work. Removing the ability for the Minister to override AAPA decisions regarding site protection (s.32(1)(b)) is essential. The CLC also proposed a range of reforms to clarify the respective roles of the CLC and the AAPA, recognise the CLC Sacred Site Clearance Certificates, and generally improve collaboration.

The CLC understands that the report from the consultants was provided to the NT Government in mid 2015, but neither the review report, nor any government response, were released in this reporting period.

Small communities and homelands

The CLC continues to advocate on the need to secure a sustainable future for small communities, outstations and homelands. This year the Australian Government allocated the remaining funding for

essential and municipal services under the Stronger Futures National Partnership Agreement to the NT Government in one lump sum. This means that \$155 million for homelands funding was provided to the NT Government, and the Australian Government has no further financial responsibility for homelands. The CLC remains concerned about the future financial viability of these small living areas, and has urged ongoing federal involvement.

The Australian Government also provided funding for the Centre for Appropriate Technology to review homeland infrastructure and services. The CLC provided data and fieldwork support. The results of the survey were presented to the CLC Executive meeting held in December 2015.

Community Development Program (CDP)

The CLC provided a submission to the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee in relation to the Social Security Legislation Amendment (Community Development Program) Bill 2015 in February 2016, and appeared at the hearings. The CLC did not support passage of the Bill.

The measures in the Bill did not address the shortcomings of the current CDP model. These shortcomings include the disengagement and disturbingly high rate of breaching for remote participants; problems with Department of Human Services assessment and exemptions processes; the lack of actual training and employment outcomes; the need to redesign the financial model and the perverse incentives for CDP providers; and the lack of local Aboriginal organisations as providers. Instead of addressing these flaws in a considered and consultative manner the Australian Government seeks to impose further reform. The Bill fails to protect the most vulnerable, vests an inappropriate level of power in the responsible Minister and entrenches discrimination. The CLC argued that there be an urgent CDP review in consultation with CDP providers, Aboriginal organisations and experts. This process would improve the current model and address serious problems with the CDP model.

In addition to seeking to address the immediate crisis in the CDP model, there remains a need to acknowledge that the basic policy parameters of the CDP are flawed in relation to remote Aboriginal communities. The CLC and APONT have long advocated for a sustainable and positive subsidised wages program (as opposed to a welfare scheme) to stimulate remote employment, participation and enterprise development. This model should be further examined and implemented carefully.



Santa Teresa resident Annie Young told *Land Rights News* the state of houses in her community has never been worse.

The Bill lapsed when Parliament was dissolved prior to the 2016 general election, and the CLC expects more work will be required on this issue in the coming 12 months.

Aboriginal Community Governance

The CLC's Community Governance project at Lajamanu was funded through to November 2015. An IAS application was submitted seeking resources to continue the project and a small amount of additional funding was received in May 2016. The project is yet to recommence.

The CLC continues to support the APONT Governance and Management Program through participation in the program steering committee. This innovative program aims to strengthen and support Aboriginal organisations in the NT through workshops; supporting a board and CEO network; providing governance support at specific demonstration sites; offering advice, resources and referrals; and undertaking research.

Approaches were made to the Australian and NT governments, and to a range of corporations, seeking resources to allow the program to continue beyond the initial three years. The Minister for Indigenous Affairs made a welcome contribution to the program.

Housing

The appalling state of community housing and the failure of the remote housing management system remains a significant concern for communities across our region. Following the APONT Remote Housing Forum in Darwin in March 2015, the CLC and other peak Aboriginal organisations continued to advocate for reform to the housing system with the NT Government Department of Housing and PM&C.

This year the CLC supported the work of the new Aboriginal Housing NT committee, finalised a business plan for Aboriginal Housing NT, participated in consultations with the NT Government regarding the draft Housing Strategy, and held ongoing discussions with PM&C regarding the prospects for communities that have refused a housing lease.

The NT Government released a draft Housing Strategy early in 2015 and the CLC provided a detailed submission to this process. Responding to intense community pressure, the NT Government has more recently announced the establishment of a new independent Remote Housing Development Authority. The exact details are yet to be determined but it appears to be a step in the right direction. With significant reform very likely in the coming 12 months, the CLC will continue to focus on this critical issue.

Oil and gas exploration in Watarrka National Park

In late 2012 the CLC was notified about oil and gas exploration licence applications covering the entirety of Watarrka National Park by Palatine Energy Pty Ltd. The CLC has convened numerous meetings in the period since the first meeting of traditional owners in February 2013, and traditional owners consistently expressed their strong and unified opposition to exploration within the park. The CLC explored all possible avenues available to ensure that these licences would not be granted by the NT Government, including expressing opposition through the joint management arrangements, using legal avenues available under the *Petroleum Act* (NT) and *Environment Protection Biodiversity and Conservation Act* (Cwlth), letters to Ministers, and meetings with the relevant Minister and the Chief Minister. There was no response to these efforts.

In 2015 the CLC supported the work of the Environmental Defenders Office to lodge an emergency heritage application under the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Heritage Protection Act 1984* (Cwlth) to ensure exploration would not proceed at Watarrka.

After the traditional lodged their emergency applications in Canberra, the NT Government finally rejected Palatine Energy's licence applications. This three-year campaign by traditional owners to ensure

these exploration licences were rejected ended with a well-deserved victory.

Ranger Program advocacy

The CLC is an active member of the Country Needs People campaign, a national alliance of organisations advocating for the continued support and expansion of the Australian Government's successful IPA and Working on Country program. This campaign is co-ordinated by the PEW Charitable Trusts and has supported media events and other efforts to communicate the multiple benefits of indigenous land management to key government personnel and the broader Australian public.



Kalŭkatjara ranger Mary Gibson burns country in the cross-border region.

OUTPUT 4.3

CULTURAL & HERITAGE SUPPORT

Provide cultural and heritage support as appropriate to the traditional owners and other clients of the land councils.

CULTURAL HERITAGE AND CUSTOMARY PRACTICES

The CLC continued to assist traditional owners to access country to fulfil their cultural obligations, visit and maintain sacred sites, pass on cultural knowledge and undertake customary land management practices. While such opportunities are provided in association with a wide range of CLC activities, extended trips into seldom-visited country are especially valued to rejuvenate knowledge of more remote parts of the region. The CLC Ranger and IPA programs continue to support traditional owners in undertaking such trips.

Country visits across the IPAs are multifaceted in nature. These trips provide opportunities for the intergenerational transfer of knowledge; however, they are also critical in terms of the effective involvement of traditional owners in identifying appropriate measures to ensure the ongoing protection of the cultural and natural values of the country.

Following the re-discovery of the significant Kurlpurlunu site (within the Northern Tanami IPA), an extended country visit was undertaken. There were 10 trips with elders, children and rangers to the recently declared Kaṭiṭi Petermann IPA. A number of them involved community schools and other organisations.

Work continued on the Northern Tanami IPA women's project to map culturally significant places and species. The project aims to enable women to more actively participate in IPA planning and decision-making. The IPA program also supported the retention of indigenous ecological knowledge by recording the tracking expertise of a senior knowledge holder and helping him to teach his skills to school children.

In the Southern Tanami IPA work began on the recording and distribution of ecological knowledge held by traditional owners. Initial work centred on collaborations with Yuendumu School, including the Warlpiri Bilingual Language Resource Development Unit, and the Northern Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance.

The Reinvigorating Warumungu and Warlmanpa Women's Cultural Heritage project came to a close,

with final consultations regarding the access and use of the archive developed, and mentoring a group of women to liaise with community organisations to gain future co-ordination, resource and financial support for an ongoing women's cultural training program in Tennant Creek. This project was funded by the Australian Government's Indigenous Heritage Program and is dedicated to maintaining cultural knowledge held by senior Aboriginal women for two prominent songlines in the Tennant Creek area.

A new songlines project, Kungka Kutjara, was initiated in this period by women from Mutitjulu and traditional owners from the Kaṭiṭi Petermann IPA. In conjunction with Parks Australia a funding application was developed and submitted to Treadright Foundation. The CLC staff also helped to develop a project-scoping document for the Indigenous Desert Alliance directed at the systematic collection and distribution of indigenous ecological knowledge.

Elsewhere in the CLC region, traditional owner country visits were undertaken to the Lake MacDonald area of Haasts Bluff ALT, Horseshoe Bend Perpetual Pastoral Lease (PPL) (to record oral histories), to a significant site (Wanderi) on Andado PPL to discuss site protection measures, and to several major sacred sites on Angarapa ALT.

CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION

The securing of a third consecutive grant through the NT Heritage Grants program enabled the completion of Stage 3 conservation works at the old Tempe Downs homestead complex on Urrampinyi Itjtjjarri ALT.

Staff consulted traditional owners concerning the proposed inclusion of the Iron Building No. 1 at Yuendumu and the Little Flower mission site at Arltunga on the NT Heritage Register. Both sites were listed during this period.

Support was provided to traditional owners in relation to a plan to restore the Jay Creek cemetery on Iwupataka ALT and in preparing for the

celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Jay Creek Church.

CULTURAL SUPPORT AND SACRED SITES

Sacred sites are places of deep spiritual significance and are an integral part of Aboriginal culture. Their identification and protection are centrally important for traditional owners in order to ensure the continuity of religious and cultural practices and to sustaining identity. Confidence in the protection of sacred sites also allows traditional owners to make sound decisions regarding the use of land for development or other purposes.

Each year the CLC receives many requests from government agencies, public sector corporations, mining and exploration companies, and other commercial interests that wish to develop proposals on land in the NT. The CLC ensures that proposals are subject to a work area approval process that ensures traditional owners are consulted and protects sacred sites through the issue of a Sacred Site Clearance Certificate.

The CLC conducted research towards or issued advice in 256 instances for a wide range of issues regarding the maintenance of Aboriginal culture and heritage, including the issue of 180 Sacred Site Clearance

Certificates. The number of advices provided is higher than in previous years, representing a significant increase in community infrastructure requests and roads related requests processed, and a concerted effort at reporting towards the end of the financial year.

The CLC also provides a genealogical information service. This service is valued by Aboriginal people and, in many instances, enables them to reconnect with family members. The CLC also maintains a database of sacred sites recorded in the region. Advanced analysis was conducted regarding improvements to be made to this database, which will be progressed in 2016–17.

The CLC continued to dedicate time and resources to the repatriation of sacred objects, both from its own collection and from museums around the country. Significant progress was made in relation to collections held in museums in Germany. A successful trip to Germany, funded by an ABA grant, was undertaken by CLC staff and traditional owners from areas west of Alice Springs. The delegation was well received by museums in Stuttgart, Leipzig and Frankfurt. The museums in Germany are more than willing to continue negotiating with traditional owners and the CLC towards a satisfactory outcome. The CLC also continued its ongoing agreement with the Strehlow Research Centre to store sacred objects



Connie Lovegrove, Teresa Patterson and Lisa Rex record stories at the burial sites near the Tennant Creek Railway Station.



Alekrenge men gather for a ceremony during NAIDOC Week.

held by the CLC until identification and repatriation of those objects can be undertaken.

The CLC continued to ensure the safe storage and management of anthropological/cultural materials that constitute part of the cultural heritage of Aboriginal people in the CLC region.

The CLC's anthropology section oversaw the CLC's involvement as a partner in an Australian Research Council grant application for the repatriation of cultural information. The CLC supports the project, which is moving into a fieldwork phase after having conducted much work on digitising the CLC's collections of important material.

The Willowra mapping project, a community-led initiative to record and map sacred sites for areas along the Lander River, and then paint them onto a large canvas map to be housed in community, was supported by the CLC. This project helps people work together on matters affecting Willowra community and in the transfer of knowledge, particularly to younger generations. It is funded by traditional owners through the Warlpiri Education and Training Trust (WETT), and all major families and senior people at Willowra are involved.

This year the project included two country visits with senior traditional owners, a consultant and CLC staff. The trips elicited further useful information for inclusion onto the community map. The project has been highly successful in recording cultural

information from senior traditional owners, some of whom are the last generation to have lived on country in these areas.

In May and June 2015 the CLC became involved in a project for the North East Gas Interconnector pipeline involving the NT Government and commercial proponents. The CLC successfully negotiated survey agreements to deal with land access and sacred site protection. The CLC also secured funding from the NT Government for a project management position to progress the on-ground work required. This work continued into the 2015–16 financial year, with the completion of consultations towards the issue of a CLC Sacred Site Clearance Certificate for the purposes of on ground survey. Project funding was completed in September 2015, and continued in 2016. This is a significant project and has occupied a significant amount of CLC resources.

The CLC also successfully contributed to a major installation of a fibre optic cable from Yuendumu to The Granites mine. The work was conducted by the Telstra-funded Anthropology Research Officer whilst maintaining the regular duties of that position.

ABORIGINAL CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES AND FUNERALS

The CLC receives funding from the ABA to support Aboriginal families with the high cost of funerals, and also to support important ceremonial activity. The

ABA funds represent a contribution towards costs, but families are still expected to contribute their own funds towards these activities. Funds are allocated according to very strict guidelines. This year the CLC helped 174 families with funeral expenses during this financial year. The following communities were assisted with resources to support summer ceremonial activities:

Region 1: Ntaria, Titjikala, Wallace Rockhole, Alice Springs

Region 2: Muṯitjulu, Docker River, Finke

Region 3: Kalkaringi, Daguragu, Lajamanu

Region 4: Yuendumu, Nyirripi, Willowra

Region 5: Kintore, Haasts Bluff, Papunya, Mount Liebig

Region 6: Tennant Creek, McLaren, Canteen Creek, Karlanjarriyi, Alekarenge

Region 7: Soapy Bore, Atheley, Arlparra, Irrultja Atnwengerrpe, Ampilatwatja, Antarrengeny, Lake Nash, Ngurraminni

Region 8: Sandy Bore, Mulga Bore, Mount Eaglebeak, Irrerlirre, No. 5 Block, Engawala, Atitjere

Region 9: Tara, Pmara Jutunta, Laramba, Yuelamu, Barrow Creek outstation

WOMEN'S LAW AND CULTURE MEETING

The Women's Law and Culture meeting is an important annual event for Aboriginal women of Central Australia and funded by grants from the ABA. The event planned for this year was postponed due to a delay in the release of project funding and scheduling on the CLC work calendar. The 23rd Women's Law and Culture Meeting will take place in September 2016.

ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY AND DISPUTE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORKS

After several years of workshops, consultations and discussions these two important CLC documents are now complete. The *Effective consultation and engagement strategy (2015–2020)* sets out the CLC's approach to best practice consultation and engagement processes, and includes strategies, actions and timelines. The Dispute Management Framework sets out a rigorous process for assessing and responding to disputes in the CLC region. More work will be undertaken in 2016–17 to implement the framework.



Judith Simpson, Gabriella Beasley and Renita Kelly cook kangaroo tails during NAIDOC Week.

OUTPUT 4.4

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

Facilitate targeted Aboriginal community development initiatives as appropriate with the traditional owners and other clients of the land council.

Aboriginal people in Central Australia are using their own assets to drive social, cultural and economic development. With strong leadership from the organisation's Council, they are working together to plan, implement and monitor projects that benefit people at a regional, community and outstation level. Aboriginal groups achieve this through comprehensively facilitated community development processes, which have been shown to be an effective engagement strategy in Aboriginal development. With meaningful local participation at its core, these processes are achieving social, cultural and economic outcomes and building individual collective capacity, self-reliance, good governance and stronger communities.

Skilled staff in the CLC community development (CD) program work with Aboriginal people who direct their resources to projects that maintain their Aboriginal identity, language, culture and connection to country and strengthen their capacity to participate in mainstream Australia by improving health, education and employment outcomes.

The four objectives of the program are to:

- 1 maximise opportunities for Aboriginal engagement, ownership and control, particularly in relation to the management of resources that belong to them
- 2 generate outcomes prioritised and valued by Aboriginal people and which benefit them, including social, cultural and economic outcomes
- 3 monitor and evaluate to support continuous improvement and build an evidence base for the CLC's community development approach
- 4 share lessons learned on effective CD in Central Australia with other agencies to promote support for CD approaches.

Since its commencement in 2005, the program has expanded significantly and is now active in all communities in the CLC region, as well as in numerous outstations and some communities in South Australia and Western Australia. It has grown from two to six major regional projects, plus a growing number of smaller projects.

Project	Activity
Uluru Rent Money	Use rent paid to relevant traditional owners for a range of sustainable regional initiatives
Warlpiri Education and Training Trust	Use mining royalties for sustainable education, training and employment benefits
Tanami Dialysis Support Service	Use mining royalties to support dialysis facilities and patient support services in remote communities and regional centres
Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation	Support nine communities to apply 'affected area' monies from mining towards broad community benefit activities
NT Parks Rent Money	Use rent paid to relevant traditional owners for a range of sustainable initiatives
Community Lease Money	Use rent paid for community leases for a diverse range of development activities

Additional smaller projects also continue to progress. Traditional owners of the Wangarri-Kari Aboriginal Corporation, Nolans Bore, Loves Creek, Rover mine and Twin Bonanza projects all direct mining exploration compensation to community benefit rather than individual distribution. Consultations regarding the Surprise Well affected-areas money have taken place in relevant communities establishing governance arrangements and priorities. During the reporting period CLC staff also consulted traditional owners for the Jervis Copper mine, north-east of Alice Springs, who agreed to allocate a significant portion of each year's mining royalties to community development projects. This traditional owner decision reflects the continued demand from new groups for support from the CLC's CD program.



PERFORMANCE

The CLC has continued to be effective in the delivery of its CD program and the achievement of lasting community benefit outcomes. The evidence for this is the number of community consultations and community benefit initiatives planned and funded, and the varied sources of Aboriginal people's money directed via the program into social, cultural and economic projects. It is also supported by independent monitoring of the program, which has consistently shown the positive value Aboriginal participants place on the tangible and intangible community development outcomes they achieve with the CLC's support.

This year the program held 240 planning and decision-making meetings with Aboriginal governance groups (traditional owners and community residents as appropriate), with consultations supporting informed planning and decision making. This resulted in \$13.5 million being approved by these groups for 234 new community benefit projects. Most governance groups are now familiar with the community lease money and NT Parks rent money projects and with the decision-making process. As a result, increased project outputs are visible: 35 projects funded with community lease money were completed, compared with 13 the previous year.



Graham Beasley presents to council about the multimedia project for vulnerable young people which Alekenge has funded with its lease money.

Each year the CLC publishes two editions of *Community Development News* to showcase the diverse range of successful projects. Monitoring this year demonstrated that participants enjoy reading about the initiatives of other groups as well as their own. The *News* is a source of ideas for project planning and decision making and provides a positive reflection of the strong capabilities and decision making by Aboriginal people.

Significantly, each year more Aboriginal groups choose to forgo individual distributions to work with

the CLC to direct their income to lasting community benefit. The ongoing and growing demand from CLC constituents for the program is an obvious indicator that the program is achieving benefits for Aboriginal people.

PROCESS

The CLC supports Aboriginal groups to prioritise and develop projects and identify partner organisations that can carry out the projects. Once endorsed by the group, the CLC director reviews the consultation process and signs off on completed project plans and funding allocations. The CLC negotiates comprehensive funding agreements for the accountable delivery of projects by partner organisations. The CLC then plays an active role in contract and project management to ensure the effective delivery of projects in line with Aboriginal priorities.

ULURU RENT MONEY (URM) PROJECT

The traditional owners of Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park allocate funding from their rent income to

community development projects in their communities in the NT and SA and regionally. Considerable project effort is devoted to Muṯitjulu community, which receives its own portion of rent because many traditional owners live there.

Since the CLC began working with Muṯitjulu traditional owners in 2007 they have focused their rent money on recreation precincts. This included construction of the community swimming pool, with high local ownership and engagement reflected in the community's decision to continue financially supporting the pool. CASA Leisure continued its successful operation of the pool, including the 'Yes School Yes Pool' program with collaborative guidance from the Muṯitjulu Working Group and the CLC. Muṯitjulu expanded support for recreation this year through planning and funding the sportsground development, and PM&C announced funding for Stage 2 of the sportsground development. Anangu employment featured in the sports ground upgrade and remains a key focus for pool operations.

The broader URM traditional owner group completed the review of URM's governance and strategic vision in late 2015. This review took place in response



Valerie Martin (pictured with pool manager Neil Hummerston) is a cultural adviser at the Yuendumu pool, which has a 'Yes School – Yes Pool' policy.

to the 2014 independent evaluation of the CLC's community development program, and encompassed smaller regional planning. The traditional owner group determined the appropriate and legitimate governance process to include the broader group setting the strategy and priorities, a representative working group planning the projects, with final funding decisions made by the broader group. The regional working group has been planning these projects with staff and potential partner organisations in 2016, and projects will be considered for funding later this year. The traditional owner priorities include regional projects to support funerals, maintaining and transferring culture, education, and dialysis.

WARLPIRI EDUCATION AND TRAINING TRUST (WETT)

Newmont Asia Pacific pays mining royalties for its operations in the Tanami region to Kurra Aboriginal Corporation (Kurra). Kurra is the WETT trustee and the CLC is Kurra's agent, with responsibility for administering WETT. WETT uses some of Kurra's royalties to improve education and training outcomes for Warlpiri people. The CLC consults Warlpiri people to identify their education and training priorities and then facilitates the development of projects, with input from relevant project partners. These projects are further developed by the WETT Advisory Committee, which includes 12 experienced Warlpiri educators, one representative each from the CLC and Newmont Asia Pacific, and one independent member with remote education expertise. Projects are then recommended for funding to the Kurra WETT directors and, if approved, the project partners implement them.

CLC staff continued to support the WETT governance groups, Warlpiri-speaking communities and partner organisations to successfully implement and develop WETT's four regional programs.

Key outcomes

In 2015 a WETT-funded independent evaluation of the WETT Youth and Media program put forward a range of findings. These include the findings that:

- Warlpiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation (WYDAC) has positive working and interpersonal relationships with young Warlpiri people and their families
- the organisation has a foundation of strong local governance
- some gaps exist in co-ordination with other service providers and WETT funded learning centres
- WYDAC has developed a strong pathway for young people into work and a better quality of life

- there are gaps in resources and service delivery in Lajamanu
- options exist to implement new work experience and career development opportunities.

WYDAC has started to implement recommendations arising from these findings.

In 2016, WETT celebrated its 10th birthday, recognising a decade of strong leadership by the WETT Advisory Committee and Kurra in delivering education and training benefits to Warlpiri across the Tanami. In recognition of this anniversary, Kurra directors approved funding for a comprehensive review of WETT. The CLC appointed a team of researchers from Ninti One Limited, who will work with Warlpiri community researchers to undertake a process of reflection and assessment, and make recommendations to inform strategic planning and decision making for the future of WETT.

Kurra WETT directors also funded Stage 3 of the innovative Willowra Learning Centre cultural mapping project. The project is being run through the CLC anthropology unit working with local family groups to map significant sites and stories along the Lander River.

WETT Early Childhood program

The WETT Willowra Early Childhood program ran successfully in collaboration with project partner Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education (BIITE). Participation at the centre has grown steadily and, with averages of 14 children attending each week, the role of family as educators has strengthened across the community. Four children participated in a transition to school program. Aboriginal staff numbers expanded, with seven casual staff employed. Aboriginal staff are also engaged in formal and informal training and showing strong capacity development through peer to peer learning. Six staff were enrolled in Certificate II in Access to Vocational Pathways.

WETT Country Visit and Elder Support program

Warlpiri consider it critical to successful educational outcomes that senior people in remote communities participate in the education system. In 2015, with the support of the Tanami IPA and local elders, Willowra, Lajamanu and Yuendumu schools conducted more than seven country visits. These included a day trip to Turkey Nest by Lajamanu School, a three-day trip to Yurrkuru by Willowra School and a five-day trip to Juurlpungu and Yajarlu by Yuendumu School. More than 60 elders and 85 students participated.

WETT School Support program

The WETT School Support program provided funds for students from Willowra, Lajamanu, Yuendumu and Nyirripi to go on interstate school excursions and experience life outside Central Australia. In 2015, 19 students and two Warlpiri teachers from Yuendumu went to the Gold Coast and 13 students and one Warlpiri teacher from Lajamanu went to Melbourne. The excursions provided significant learning opportunities and incentives for students to attend school regularly. In addition, two students from Nyirripi School went on an excursion to visit Kardinia International College to prepare for transition to boarding school.

Thirteen Warlpiri students also received support from WETT to attend secondary schools in the NT, NSW and Victoria. The program funded family visits to students boarding away from home, school excursions and camps, equipment, school uniforms and extra tuition.

WETT Youth and Media program

The WETT Youth and Media program, run by WYDAC and supported by PAW Media, continued to consolidate its focus on training and employment pathways. Reporting across the four Warlpiri communities demonstrates a continued high level of community engagement in the program in both diversionary and development activities.

Community	Total individual participants	Total activity hours
Yuendumu	674	7,900.5
Nyirripi	254	4,912
Willowra	277	3,642
Lajamanu	564	4,462

Local Aboriginal committees are actively involved in the governance and implementation of the program in each location. A diverse range of training and education activities continue to be extremely well attended by Warlpiri youth looking to gain ongoing employment in their communities. In addition, many hours of positive youth diversionary activities were delivered to hundreds of young people who otherwise have limited access to sport and recreation activities.

WETT Learning Community Centre program

WETT funds the Learning Community Centre program (in partnership with BIITE) in Lajamanu, Nyirripi, Willowra and Yuendumu. Each centre had three

to four local advisory group meetings for the first nine months of the period, 10 Warlpiri staff were employed across all of the centres working a total of 2,245 hours. There were 3,686 visits to the combined centres, 216 students enrolled in formal training, and 13 graduates.

The Willowra Learning Community Centre continued strongly, supporting formal and informal training and facilitating a range of community activities. The Willowra centre also trialled opening for 'training only' in the morning before opening for general computer use in the afternoon. The centre has four Warlpiri employees, up from two in 2014–15.

The Nyirripi centre provides an important educational and civic space for the local community. It is well used for training, personal business, and educational elements such as internet banking and downloading content. The training co-ordinator provided training in cooking, sewing, and foundation literacy and numeracy, as well as certificate training in business studies. The centre employed two local Aboriginal workers. Towards the end of the reporting period the centre co-ordinator resigned resulting in temporary closure of the centre.

A full-time co-ordinator was recruited for the Lajamanu centre in February 2016; the co-ordinator has grown the services provided by the centre alongside three Warlpiri employees. An increasing number of people have accessed the centre for computer use and advocacy, formal and informal training, and community and cultural activities. The co-ordinator brokered partnerships with community stakeholders and hosted a variety of community events, including a monthly exercise class and a weekly yoga group.

The Yuendumu centre provides a space for adult and youth learning and has been operating with a new co-ordinator and two Warlpiri staff since February 2016. The centre achieved increasing engagement with young adults, in particular young women. Staff have supported formal training through foundation numeracy and literacy and informal learning through computer literacy support. The centre also hosted community workshops such as the successful Cyber Safety workshops in collaboration with the Yuendumu School.

TANAMI DIALYSIS SUPPORT PROJECT

The CLC oversees the implementation of the Tanami Dialysis Support Service Project on behalf of Kurra, monitors funding agreements, and ensures regular

reporting to Kurra. Managed by Western Desert Nganampa Walytja Palyantjaku Tjutaku (WDNWPT), the project provides much needed health services to kidney patients in Yuendumu, Lajamanu and surrounding communities. It also supports Warlpiri-speaking patients in Alice Springs, Katherine and Darwin.

In 2015 an independent evaluation of this project was completed by consultant Petronella Vaarzon-Morel. The findings indicate that WDNWPT has provided the service that Kurra requested and that community members are highly satisfied with the service.

In the first six months of the period, the Yuendumu dialysis unit supported 26 patients to return to Yuendumu for long visits on dialysis and provided 4,096 dialysis sessions. This is an increase of eight patients attending dialysis in Yuendumu and 91 additional treatments compared to the same period in 2014. In addition, 26 renal patients and their families received social support in Alice Springs.

In the same period the Lajamanu dialysis unit employed two nurses and two local employees, and supported 33 renal patients to return home for long visits on dialysis, with a total of 437 individual dialysis sessions. This is an increase of 105 treatments compared to the same period in 2014. Ten patients were provided with social support in Darwin and Katherine.

THE GRANITES MINE AFFECTED AREA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION (GMAAAC) PROJECT

GMAAAC continues to invest half its income and to apply all remaining affected-area monies from The Granites gold mine to community benefit, in accordance with the corporation's rules. The CLC implements comprehensive community development processes to facilitate this. Staff continued to strengthen GMAAAC governance through careful meeting and project planning facilitation of the GMAAAC community committees and GMAAAC directors in their second year of their three-year term.

CLC staff worked closely with the nine GMAAAC communities to develop subprojects and support committees with the difficult task of deciding how to allocate available funds. GMAAAC initiatives improve housing, health, education, essential services, employment and training, as well as promoting Aboriginal self-management.

In 2015, as a result of the mine returning to profit, the GMAAAC communities returned to planning community benefit projects with the significant income of \$2.7 million. In this period community development officers facilitated 15 GMAAAC committee meetings and seven community meetings and conducted a further eight community consultations. This resulted in a total of 88 new projects being planned and funded.

Communities funded priority projects such as men's and women's sport, funeral, sorry and ceremony. The Yuendumu committee also purchased a bobcat



Billiluna community members make decisions about their GMAAAC income.

and tow truck for local Aboriginal outstation organisation YKNAC, a portable ultrasound for the clinic, and a further contribution to the running costs of the swimming pool. Yuelamu committed funds to upgrading its oval and cemetery and Billiluna put some resources towards relocating its waste management facility.

The CLC continued to support the implementation of 40 projects funded through 2011–14 that are still in progress. This included processing payments, working with recipients to ensure submission of reports and financial acquittals, and supporting the nine GMAAAC committees to review project outcomes and hold project partners to account.

Further increases in mine profits in 2016 saw an unprecedented increase in GMAAAC community development income to \$9.4 million. As at 30 June 2016, eight of the nine communities and committees had started planning for the annual cycle of projects. The year ahead will see further GMAAAC strategic planning on the opportunities presented by the increased funds and how best to resource the more in-depth community planning and increased administration required.

NT PARKS RENT MONEY PROJECT

The NT Parks Rent Money Project involves the traditional owners of 16 national parks and reserves across the CLC region that were handed back to traditional owners by the NT Government and are under joint management arrangements. These traditional owner groups use all park rent and income from the NT Government for community benefit projects.

During 2015–16 project staff conducted 53 consultations, including 38 planning and decision-making meetings with traditional owners and their governance groups. This resulted in \$1.84 million being approved for 39 new community benefit projects. The number of projects approved and money allocated is similar to the 2014–15 levels, demonstrating the sustained success of regionalisation of the program.

Twenty-six of these projects focus on upgrading outstation infrastructure to enable traditional owners to access and maintain their homelands. Almost all of these projects include the added benefit of local Aboriginal employment and training. This contributes to the sustainability of these initiatives as local people have the skills necessary to repair and maintain the infrastructure they have worked to install.

Groups have continued to invest in tourism initiatives, with the traditional owners of Watarrka National Park funding a business plan to explore the feasibility of cultural tourism. The Yeperenye National Park traditional owners continued to invest in Emily Gap and Jessie Gap, funding tourism infrastructure and preparing to launch a cultural tourism app.

COMMUNITY LEASE MONEY PROJECT

The CLC's largest community development project, the Community Lease Money project, invests rent and compensation payments for the compulsory five-year leases taken out during the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) and income from other leases for community benefit in 31 locations across the CLC region. Projects planned and prioritised by Aboriginal people are being implemented in many communities as a result of the decisions made by traditional owners and the Council in 2012 and 2013.

The fourth year of this major regional project saw CLC staff supporting community and working groups with project planning and effective governance. Notably, the communities of Papunya, Areyonga, and Mount Liebig completed allocation of all funds to their prioritised community projects and will continue to support and monitor the implementation of these projects, which are expected to finish in June 2018.

Consultations were conducted at 89 working group and community meetings, with a further 25 consultations occurring with the governance groups outside formal meetings to build understanding and informed decision making in the meeting. Funding decisions were made for 80 projects, totaling \$4.97 million across 29 communities. Implementation of projects began in most communities, and the CLC entered into a further 48 funding agreements. Thirty-five projects were completed, including the Alekarengge football oval upgrade, the enterprise development design and planning for the Yuendumu outstation resource centre, and construction of an additional Yuendumu dialysis building to house another two dialysis chairs.

Communities developed and funded projects with a broad range of cultural, economic and social outcomes. Local Aboriginal employment remains a key priority in most project plans and features in many construction projects. Many communities have invested their lease money in initiatives such as music studios, church infrastructure and sports facility upgrades. Aboriginal groups also continue to support education through initiatives such as school excursions.

Jonathan Wickham, Robin Morton and Matthew Ladd at work at Imangara.



OTHER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Traditional owner groups continue to support the application of income from land use agreements to community development. Traditional owners for Jerois copper mine agreed to allocate a significant proportion of annual royalty income to community development.

The CLC worked with three other traditional owner groups to develop community benefit projects using mining exploration and investment income. The Nolans Bore group implemented its next four projects in health, sport, recreation and cultural support. The Loves Creek group established its first project, providing funds for funeral support. The Wangarri-Kari Aboriginal Corporation continued to plan its ceremonial shelter projects, negotiating complex land tenure in the process, and the Rover group planned its final projects and strengthened its governance

arrangements. The CLC held 11 planning and decision-making meetings and three consultations with traditional owners to facilitate these new projects. This resulted in \$196,522 being approved for five new community benefit projects.

Consultations were held in each of the affected area communities of Surprise Well to develop the governance plan for each community. It is anticipated that these projects will commence implementation in the coming year. A detailed project plan was developed for the Twin Bonanza Project following a decision by the traditional owners that 25% of future royalties from the gold mine in the Tanami will be allocated to lasting community benefit. This plan sets out a strategy for rolling out this project, taking into account that most members of the group live in the far north-west Tanami Desert in WA, and additional staff resources have not been secured by the CLC to support this implementation.



Josh Rankine, John Rose and Lucas Punch install a cattle grid at Urlampe.



Yuelamu is upgrading its oval with GMAAAC income.

One round of consultations and a field trip to the family outstation were completed to assist the group to plan and prioritise community benefit ideas. The group agreed to plan projects around their Ngulupi outstation, including upgrading road access and outstation infrastructure. This year a decision was made by ABM Resources to close the mine, with the final royalty payment yet to be determined.

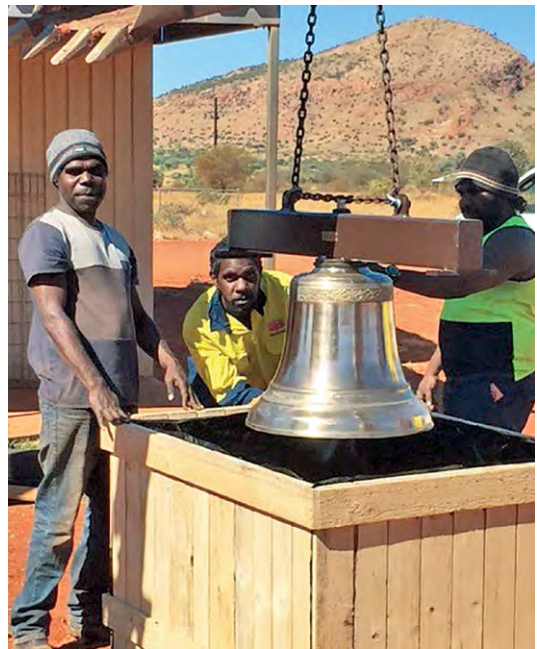
The CLC progressed the Railway Community Development Fund projects, completing or contracting out a further nine projects. Discussions continued with the traditional owners of Greenwood outstation about the use of their remaining railway compensation funds.

It responded to complaints from the owner of Mount Denison Station with a successful application to Yapa-Kurlangu Ngurrara Aboriginal Corporation and NT Department of Transport to fence the boundary of Yurrkuru ALT.

Elsewhere, it provided outstation and infrastructure support to traditional owners in relation to proposed road works associated with the Edna Beryl mine on the Phillip Creek Mission Block. It assisted the proponent of a new living area on Manners Creek PPL, gave planning and site design advice for a proposed outstation at Burt Creek and consulted with traditional owners about a process for responding to requests for housing, land and servicing in the Alice Springs region.



David Marshall digs a water line at Phillipson Bore outstation.



The bespoke Kintore church bell is one of hundreds of community driven development projects completed by the CLC.

OUTPUT GROUP 5

ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT SERVICES

The Central Land Council aims to provide Aboriginal landowners with information, advice and support to enable them to manage their land in a sustainable and productive way.

OUTPUT

5.1 DISTRIBUTIONS

5.2 ADMINISTER LAND TRUSTS

5.3 DISPUTE RESOLUTION



OUTCOMES

Enhanced social, political and economic participation and equity for Aboriginal people in the Central Land Council's area as a result of the promotion, protection and advancement of their land rights, other rights and interests.

OUTPUT 5.1

DISTRIBUTIONS

Administer and distribute statutory, negotiated and other payments as appropriate to the traditional owners and other clients of the Central Land Council.

All payments received for third-party use of Aboriginal land are deposited in the Land Use Trust Account (LUTA). Funds from LUTA are distributed only in accordance with a Council decision. The policy for many years, and with few exceptions, is that distributed funds from LUTA to Aboriginal associations now incorporated under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* (the CATSI Act). Funds received pursuant to s.64 (3) must be paid to a 'CATSI' corporation.

Pursuant to s.35C of the Land Rights Act, recipient corporations are required to provide the CLC with their financial statements and a written report containing the information specified. There isn't a statutory mechanism for the CLC to enforce these reporting requirements other than where payments

have been made to a corporation pursuant to a determination. However, financial statements are publicly available on the ORIC website.

When the funds have been distributed to the recipient corporations, the CLC's Aboriginal Associations Management Centre (AAMC) assists the corporations with the administration of their corporate and accounting obligations under the CATSI Act, and distribution of funds or benefits to or on behalf of their members.

Corporations may engage the services of the AAMC on an opt-in basis, subject to agreement on cost recovery arrangements. The CLC's ongoing role with each corporation is agreed in a letter of engagement confirmed at each annual general meeting.



Anawari Winmati, Daphne Puntjina, Ijawali Bert, Theresa Nipper Wima Dixon and Judy Brumby take time out to smell the wildflowers.



PERFORMANCE

Details of compliance to the CATSI Act and governance are provided below.

Annual general meetings and directors' meetings held and income distribution instructions taken	33
Directors' meetings held	34
Income distribution instruction meetings held	75
Corporations' statutory financial statements to be lodged with ORIC	33

LEASING

The leasing of Aboriginal land continues to generate a significant amount of income for traditional Aboriginal landowners. Leasing income that traditional Aboriginal landowners have instructed be applied for the benefit of the community is incorporated into existing plans and priorities facilitated by the CLC's Community Development Unit. The AAMC manages the distribution of leasing income when instructed that this money be applied for the benefit of the traditional Aboriginal landowners. Six leasing distribution meetings were administered by AAMC during the 2015–16 financial year.

The CLC prepared a total of 62 traditional owner identification (TOld) reports to assist with instructions for distribution meetings. Of these, nine TOld were for the purpose of obtaining standing instructions for the ongoing distribution of rent from s.19 leases over communities on Aboriginal land, and included meeting advice and assistance. Four were for the distribution of payments for gravel extraction, and 48 were for exploration and mining related compensation.

OUTPUT 5.2 ADMINISTER LAND TRUSTS

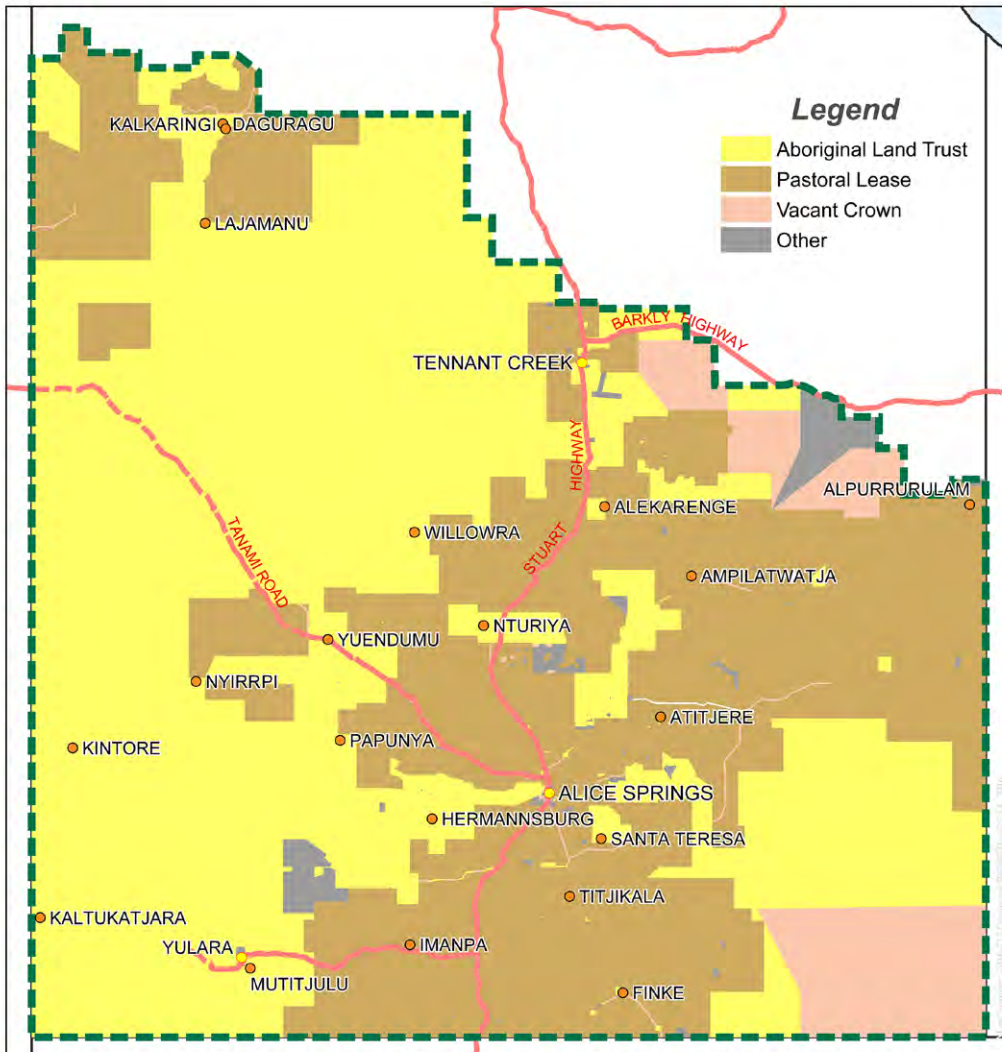
Aboriginal land is formally held by land trusts; that is, Aboriginal people who hold the title for the benefit of all the traditional owners and people with traditional interests in the land. Aboriginal land trusts (ALTs) are statutory entities and usually consist of a chairperson and not less than three members who hold office for periods not exceeding five years. ALT members are usually drawn from among traditional Aboriginal owners of the land held in trust.

The functions of a land trust are to hold title to land, exercise powers to acquire, hold and dispose

of real and personal property for the benefit of the traditional landowners, and where land is granted in a deed of grant held in escrow, to acquire the estates and interests of other persons with a view to gaining the delivery of the title to the land trust.

A land trust may only deal with the land as directed by the land council, and such directions are provided only after identification of, and consultation with, the traditional owners and on the basis of their informed consent.

LAND TENURE IN THE CLC REGION 2015–16



ABORIGINAL LAND TRUSTS IN THE CLC REGION

Ahakeye Aboriginal Land Trust
Aherrenge Aboriginal Land Trust
Akanta Aboriginal Land Trust
Akekarrwenteme Ureyenge Aboriginal Land Trust
Alatjuta Aboriginal Land Trust
Alkeperre-Atwarte Ayepe-Arenye Arleye Aboriginal Land Trust (Emily & Jessie Gaps Nature Reserve)
Alkwert Aboriginal Land Trust
Alyawarra Aboriginal Land Trust
Amoonguna Aboriginal Land Trust
Anatye Aboriginal Land Trust
Angarapa Aboriginal Land Trust
Ankweyeyelengkwe Aboriginal Land Trust
Anurrete Aboriginal Land Trust
Aputula Aboriginal Land Trust
Arletherre Aboriginal Land Trust
Arltunga Aboriginal Land Trust (Arltunga Historical Reserve)
Arnapipe Aboriginal Land Trust
Athenge Lhere Aboriginal Land Trust
Atnerperrke Aboriginal Land Trust (Trephina Gorge Nature Park)
Atnetye Aboriginal Land Trust
Atwengerpe Aboriginal Land Trust
Ayleparrantenhe Aboriginal Land Trust (Devils Marbles)
Bilinarra-Jutpurra Aboriginal Land Trust (Gregory National Park)
Central Desert Aboriginal Land Trust
Daguragu Aboriginal Land Trust
Erleterpentye Aboriginal Land Trust (Davenport Range National Park)
Haasts Bluff Aboriginal Land Trust
Hooker Creek Aboriginal Land Trust
Iliyarne Aboriginal Land Trust
Iparle Aboriginal Land Trust
Inarnme Aboriginal Land Trust
Irlwentye Aboriginal Land Trust (N'dhala Gorge Nature Park)
Irrinjirrinjirr Aboriginal Land Trust
Irrmarne Aboriginal Land Trust
Interrkewarre Aboriginal Land Trust (Chambers Pillar)
Iwupataka Aboriginal Land Trust
Kanttaji Aboriginal Land Trust
Karlantjpa North Aboriginal Land Trust
Karlantjpa South Aboriginal Land Trust
Kaṯiṯi Aboriginal Land Trust
Lake Mackay Aboriginal Land Trust
Lhere Pirnte Aboriginal Land Trust (Finke Gorge Including Palm Valley)
Ltalaltuma Aboriginal Land Trust
Mala Aboriginal Land Trust
Malngin 2 Aboriginal Land Trust
Malngin Aboriginal Land Trust
Mangkururpa Aboriginal Land Trust
Melkngge Aboriginal Land Trust

Mount Frederick Aboriginal Land Trust
 Mpwelarre Aboriginal Land Trust
 Mpweringe-Arnapipe 2 Aboriginal Land Trust
 Mpweringe-Arnapipe Aboriginal Land Trust
 Mt Frederick No.2 Aboriginal Land Trust
 Mungkarta 2 Aboriginal Land Trust
 Mungkarta Aboriginal Land Trust
 Ngalurr̄tju Aboriginal Land Trust
 Ntaria Aboriginal Land Trust
 Pantyinteme Aboriginal Land Trust
 Pawu Aboriginal Land Trust
 Petermann Aboriginal Land Trust
 Pmer Ulperre Ingwemirne Arletherre Aboriginal Land Trust
 Pmere Nyente Aboriginal Land Trust
 Purta Aboriginal Land Trust
 Pwanye Aboriginal Land Trust
 Pwanye No. 2 Aboriginal Land Trust (Corroboree Rock Carvings Conservation)
 Rodna Aboriginal Land Trust
 Roulpmaulpma Aboriginal Land Trust
 Rrurtenge Aboriginal Land Trust
 Santa Teresa Aboriginal Land Trust
 Thakeperte Aboriginal Land Trust
 Thangkenharengge Aboriginal Land Trust
 Twertentye Aboriginal Land Trust (Rainbow Valley excision swap – dissolved)
 Tyurretye Aboriginal Land Trust (West Macdonnell National Park Including Simpson's Gap And Simpson's Gap Extension)
 Uluru – Kata Tjuṯa Aboriginal Land Trust
 Uremerne Land Aboriginal Land (Ewaninga Rock Carvings Conservation)
 Uretyingke Aboriginal Land Trust
 Urrampinyi Iltjiltjarri Aboriginal Land Trust
 Uruna Aboriginal Land Trust
 Wakaya Aboriginal Land Trust
 Wampana-Karlantjpa Aboriginal Land Trust
 Warrabri Aboriginal Land Trust
 Warti-Yangu Aboriginal Land Trust
 Warumungu Aboriginal Land Trust
 Watarrka Aboriginal Land Trust
 Wirliyajarrayi Aboriginal Land Trust
 Yalpirakinu Aboriginal Land Trust
 Yewerre Aboriginal Land Trust
 Yingualyala Aboriginal Land Trust
 Yiningarra Aboriginal Land Trust
 Yuendumu Aboriginal Land Trust
 Yunkanjini Aboriginal Land Trust
 Yurrkuru Aboriginal Land Trust

NT PARK LAND TRUSTS (Park freehold title is a distinct form of fee simple estate created under the Northern Territory Parks and Reserves (Framework for the Future) Act.)

Arrelte Twatye Park Land Trust (Native Gap Conservation Reserve)
 Atnwarle Park Land Trust (Dulcie Ranges)
 Kweyeunpe Park Land Trust (Kuyunba Conservation Reserve)
 Watarrka Park Land Trust (Watarrka National Park)

OUTPUT 5.3

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Assist in the resolution of disputes with respect to land as appropriate.

The CLC has statutory functions under both the Land Rights Act (s.25) and the Native Title Act (s.203BF) to assist with the resolution of disputes that relate to land. Consulting with Aboriginal people, and ensuring there is informed consent about land use decisions, is absolutely central to the CLC's operations. We make every effort to ensure that consultation processes accord with traditional decision making, reduce the potential for family or group conflict, and ensure informed consent. It remains vital that traditional owners understand the nature and implications of their decisions and the Council considers that supporting the capacity and commitment of Aboriginal people to prevent and manage their own disputes is fundamental to the achievement of Aboriginal self-determination. To ensure that disputes are not exacerbated by identification they are not reported upon individually.

The CLC's *Effective engagement strategy 2015* and the *Traditional owner dispute management framework 2015* reflect the following principles:

- empowerment of Aboriginal groups, families and individuals to identify and manage their own disputes
- reduced reliance on the CLC or any external parties in relation to mediating disputes

- 'wait to be asked' to assist but be able to respond in a consistent and timely manner, recognising that a timely response can lessen the likelihood of exacerbation of a dispute
- recognition that disputes are nested in systems and structures, meaning that numerous external parties and factors are likely to be causing or exacerbating disputes
- recognition that the work of the CLC may unintentionally cause or exacerbate a dispute
- recognition that getting the decision-making processes of the group right is a major preventative measure
- engagement processes should do no harm
- CLC support is conditional on the disputing parties demonstrating a commitment to managing a dispute, and that the CLC may withdraw ongoing support, services and resources where parties are not committed.

The CLC Executive committee is briefed on an ongoing basis as to progress of matters where disputes have arisen and advised of any instances where parties repeatedly breach agreed processes or show little or no interest in attempting to better manage a dispute. The Executive may make a decision to withdraw CLC services to the disputing party or parties for a period of time.



OUTPUT GROUP 6

NATIVE TITLE

The Central Land Council aims to provide Aboriginal landowners with information, advice and support to enable them to manage their land in a sustainable and productive way.

OUTCOMES

Enhanced social, political and economic participation and equity for Aboriginal people in the Central Land Council's area as a result of the promotion, protection and advancement of their land rights, other rights and interests.

OUTPUT 6 NATIVE TITLE

NATIVE TITLE

Native title is the legal term used by the Australian High Court to describe the rights and interests that Aboriginal people have over their lands since long before European settlement of Australia. These rights and interests are called 'common law' indigenous property rights and were recognised by the High Court in the Mabo judgment, in June 1992, and were made into legislation in 1993. The High Court's subsequent Wik judgment, in December 1996, further determined that native title could coexist with other rights on land held under a pastoral lease.

While native title recognises that indigenous people have traditional rights to speak for country, to protect sites and to be consulted regarding developments on their land, it does not give indigenous people ownership of the land in the way as the Land Rights Act.

The CLC's Native Title program

In 1994 the CLC became a recognised Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) for Central Australia under s.203 of the Native Title Act. In that capacity the CLC has statutory functions to facilitate and assist native title holders to make native title applications

(NTA), respond to proposed future Acts and negotiate agreements, and to resolve disputes between groups. In 2016, the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs granted the CLC re-recognition as an NTRB for a maximum of two years to June 2018.

The CLC continued to certify NTAs for native title determination and applications for registration for Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) in a timely manner. Native Title determination and ILUA applications are presented to the Council or the CLC Executive before going to the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) for registration.

The CLC currently has 20 native title-funded positions, which include a manager, lawyers, anthropologists, mining and research officers, a prescribed bodies corporate officer, and administrative and project staff.

The CLC engaged 13 consultants to work on native title activity during 2015–16. Each consultant possessed the required qualifications and expertise relevant to their contract.

National Native Title Council (NNTC)

The CLC has been a member of the National Native Title Council (NNTC) since its inception in 2005



Traditional owners Dudley Haines and Joseph Thompson receive copies of the determination for Stirling PPL from Judge Reeves in April 2016.



Narwietooma native title holders with Justice Rangiah at their determination ceremony in June 2016.

and played an active role throughout 2015–16. Activities included contributing to NNTC submissions, discussions and representations to government on matters of national importance such as attending consultative forums regarding the Indigenous Leaders Roundtable on Economic Development and Property Rights convened by the Human Rights Commission.

Native Title consent determinations

Stirling/Neutral Junction

On 7 April 2016 a special sitting of the Federal Court was held on the Hanson River on Stirling Station, approximately 260 kilometres north of Alice Springs. At this sitting Justice Reeves handed down a determination by consent of non-exclusive native title over an area comprising 15,000 square kilometres consisting of the whole of Stirling PPL and the southern and eastern portions of Neutral Junction PPL. The determination recognised the rights and interests of the Anmatyerr and Kaytetye native title holders, comprising 13 separate landholding groups, to access, hunt, gather and fish on the land and waters, to use its resources, and to conduct cultural activities and ceremonies in the determination area. The current leaseholders will continue to operate Stirling and Neutral Junction PPLs, and the native title holders' rights will co-exist with the rights of the pastoral leaseholders.

The original native title application was filed with the Federal Court in July 2011 as a result of mining

exploration licence application future acts which raised concerns over the protection of sites and areas of cultural significance to the Akalperre, Amakweng, Alapanp, Arlwekarr, Arlpawe, Arnerre, Arnmanapwenty, Errene/Warlekerlange, Errweltye, Kwerkepentye, Rtwerrpe, Tyarre and Wake landholding groups on the pastoral leases. The native title holders instructed the CLC to lodge a native title application, as they were anxious to protect their cultural areas and have a say over exploration on their traditional country.

Delays occurred in handing down the determination by consent, due to outstanding issues in relation to a former stock route on Neutral Junction pastoral lease, with compensation negotiated with the NT Government and the pastoralist agreeing to enter into an ILUA.

The Eynewantheyne Aboriginal Corporation was registered as the Native Title Body Corporate on 16 May 2016.

Narwietooma

On 15 June 2016, Justice Rangiah handed down a determination by consent at a special sitting of the Federal Court at M'Bunghara outstation, a community living area excised from Narwietooma pastoral lease. The determination area comprised the whole of Narwietooma pastoral lease, almost 2,600 square kilometres, and recognised the native title rights and interests of the Western Arrernte and Anmatyerr

native title holders, comprising the Imperlkng, Urlatherrke, Parerrule, Yaperlpe, Urlampe, Lwekerreye and Ilwerr landholding groups and people who have rights and interests in the area of land known as Kwerlerrethe. The determination also recognised an area of exclusive possession native title over a portion of the land boarding Dashwood Creek, which passes through the community living area.

The Court's determination recognised the rights and interests of the Western Arrernte and Anmatyerr native title holders to access, hunt, gather and fish on the land and waters, and to use its resources, and conduct cultural activities and ceremonies in the determination area and to regulate the land's access and use by others within the area recognised as exclusive possession native title. These rights will co-exist in an area over which non-exclusive native title rights and interests have been determined along with the rights of the pastoral leaseholder.

The WALA Aboriginal Corporation was registered as the native title body corporate in 14 July 2016.

Mount Denison

On 16 June 2016, the Federal Court held a special sitting at Cockatoo Creek outstation, a community living area excised from Mount Denison PPL, where Justice Rangiah handed down a non-exclusive native title consent determination over Mount Denison PPL. The determination area comprised

the whole of Mount Denison pastoral lease, some 2,700 square kilometres, recognising the native title rights and interests of the Rrkwer/Mamp/Arrwek, Yinjirrpikurlangu, Janyinpartinya, Yanarilyi and Ngarliyikirlangu landholding groups.

The determination recognised the rights and interests of the Warlpiri native title holders to access hunt, gather and fish on the land and waters, and to use its resources, and conduct cultural activities and ceremonies in the determination area. The native title rights will co-exist with the rights of the pastoral leaseholders.

A native title application was filed in 2013 as a result of extensive mining exploration licence applications and activities on and near the claim areas, and following concerns raised by native title holders over the protection of sites and areas of cultural significance, as well as sites of local, historical significance associated with events leading up to the Coniston massacre. The native title application was lodged in December 2013 and registered on 7 April 2014. The application was amended in 2015, due to the death of a named applicant and to remove NTP 4153 (Brooks Soak) from the application area.

The Mount Denison Aboriginal Corporation was registered as the native title body corporate on 20 July 2016.





Justice Rangiah congratulates Ruth Napaljarri Oldfield at the native title consent determination over Mount Denison PPL at Cockatoo Creek outstation.

COMPENSATION APPLICATIONS

Where possible the CLC seeks to deal with compensation matters by negotiating outcomes. When deemed appropriate and instructed by native title holders, the CLC will seek to secure compensation for acts resulting in the extinguishment or impairment of their native title rights and interests. No new native title compensation applications were lodged with the NNTT during 2015–16.

CLAIMANT APPLICATIONS

The CLC pursues native title determinations that will achieve recognition and protection of native title rights and deliver outcomes that are important to native title holders. As at 30 June 2016 the CLC had a total of 10 active native title claimant applications registered with the NNTT. During 2015–16 the CLC's staff had undertaken 46 meetings and consultations relating to native title applications and made significant progress in anthropological research, preparation and delivery of consent determination reports.

The CLC completed 35 native title holder identifications in preparation for meetings where the native title holders considered exploration licence applications and exploration permit applications, and other native title activities. In addition, advice and logistical assistance was also provided at meetings aiding in reporting the validity of the native title holder instructions received.

Anthropological reports were completed for New Crown/Andado, Victory Downs/Mount Cavanagh, Maryvale, Mount Riddock and Phillip Creek and additional research or assistance was provided for Aileron (Nolans Bore), Henbury, Limbunya and Wave Hill and Huckitta. Anthropological work on four new claims continues at Tennant Creek, Jinka/Jervois, Pine Hill (western) and Karinga Lakes (Curtin Springs, Lyndervale and Erldunda).

NEW APPLICATIONS

Mount Riddock PPL (NTD61/2015)

A new application was filed on 23 September 2015 and registered with the NNTT on 11 November 2015.

FINALISED/WITHDRAWN APPLICATIONS

Stirling/Neutral Junction (NTD17/2011)

Matter finalised. The Native Title Consent Determination was handed down 7 April 2016.

Narwietooma (NTD6/2013)

Matter finalised. The Native Title Consent Determination was handed down 15 June 2016.

Mount Denison (NTD27/2013)

Matter finalised. The Native Title Consent Determination handed down 16 June 2016.

CURRENT APPLICATIONS

The anthropological report and material in respect of Mount Riddock, Aileron (Nolans Bore), Narwietooma, Henbury, Mount Cavanagh/Victory Downs and Phillip Creek were finalised and lodged with the NT Government. Research was completed for New Crown/Andado, Limbunya, Wave Hill, Tennant Creek, Maryvale and Jervois/Jinka.

Provisional consent for a native title application over Rainbow Valley National Park and tenure history has been received from the NT Government, but as at 30 June 2016 the CLC was still awaiting consent to file the NTA.

Aileron (Nolans Bore) (NTD20/2007) and Aileron (whole of lease) (NTD8/2014)

Aileron PPL is bounded by Napperby PPL to the west, Yambah PPL in the south, Bushy Park PPL in the east and Pine Hill PPL in the north. The original Native Title claimant application (2007) was lodged in respect of a small portion of Aileron and Pine Hill PPLs, and was necessitated by a mineral lease application by Arafura Resources NL over the rare earth deposit close to Nolans Bore and the need to preserve the right to negotiate of native title holders. Due to the high level of exploration interest in the area, the CLC received instructions for a whole-of-lease application for the recognition of native title over Aileron PPL and, following further research, the 2014 claimant application was filed following authorisation by the claimants and an anthropological report was provided to the Solicitor for the Northern Territory. The Federal Court has accepted a joint application from the parties to combine both Aileron matters, and the claims are anticipated to be settled by consent in the next year.

New Crown/Andado (NTD20/2014)

Since 2007 the CLC has documented expressions of interest from traditional owners in its Southern Region in order to progress native title claims in that region. In 2008 the CLC commissioned a scoping study to assess the needs, factors and viability of potential claims in that region and received the consultant's report in 2009. The report identified traditional owners' concerns over site protection, impacts of exploration and mining, and perception

that recognition of native title over pastoral leases enhances access to country. Having considered the recommendations of the study, the CLC took a decision to progress two claims in its Southern Region; a combined NTA over New Crown and Andado PPLs as well as a combined NTA over Mount Cavenagh and Victory Downs PPLs. The claim area borders on South Australia, with claimants widely dispersed in the cross-border region. Extensive field research commenced in 2010–11 and continued until 2013. The NTA was filed 24 June 2014.

The NTA will require amending following a decision not to pursue exclusive possession (s.47B) issues within the claim area.

Phillip Creek (NTD50/2014)

An application was filed on 1 December 2014 and registered with the NNTT on 23 February 2015. A summary anthropological report was completed and serviced on respondents, with NT Government

requesting further information. The application requires amending due to the death of a named applicant.

Mount Cavenagh / Victory Downs (NTD20/2015)

An application was filed on 19 May 2015 and registered with the NNTT on 4 August 2015. A summary anthropology report was serviced on the NT Government, with connection accepted.

Maryvale (NTD35/2015)

An application was filed on 24 June 2015 and registered with the NNTT on 9 September 2015. The NTA requires amending due to error in description of claim area.

FUTURE ACTS

Mining future acts are the largest driver of the CLC's native title work program and the activity that draws



Central Land Council Meeting, M'Bunghara (2016) by Margaret Boko. Margaret explains: 'This painting is about a Central Land Council meeting at M'Bunghara outstation about native title. There's lots of people – families, kids playing basketball. All the *papa* [dogs], hanging round, playing. They listening to the white people talking about the native title we got over all of Glen Helen Station. That's where M'Bunghara is. Family all got native title. This is all my family.'

most heavily on staff time and resources. The number of exploration tenements notified under s.29 of the Native Title Act has fluctuated considerably over recent years, and the CLC needs to obtain instructions from native title holders and respond to these notifications in a timely manner.

Administration of future acts, as defined by the Native Title Act, is ongoing and a high priority for the CLC. During this period all reasonable steps were undertaken to notify native title holders and claimants on future acts affecting their native title rights and interests. The NT media is monitored on a daily basis and the CLC maintains a register of all applications, relevant timelines and associated tasks. The CLC responds to all applicants with correspondence outlining the native title process and recommending negotiated agreements as a preferred option.

Mining/exploration future acts

All applications for exploration licences within the NT include a statement from the NT Government that the grant attracts the 'expedited procedures' as laid out in the legislation. This determines a process within a strict time limit set by the Native Title Act. The CLC responded to 39 notifications under s.29 of the Act in 2015–16. Each notification was assessed as to its potential impact on the exercise of native title rights and interests both legally and practically.

There were 28 future act mining and exploration related field trips, meetings and consultations with affected native title holders in this period. In other instances, existing instructions adequately dealt with the application. With all notifications, contact with the applicant was required at some stage of the process. However, an ongoing difficulty in the process is determining whether the application is a genuine exploration proposal or the development of saleable property.

Mining and exploration agreements 2015–16 native title exploration and mining matters and decisions in respect of the allocation of compensation to native title holders flowing from agreements

Exploration agreements	0
Deeds of assumption	3
Distribution of compensation monies	19
Miscellaneous	1
Total	23

Non-mining future acts

There were a total of 32 field trips, consultations, instruction meetings and/or activities related to 'future acts non-mining' in 2015–16.

In December 2015 and January 2016 the CLC received two s.24MD notifications, in relation to the construction, operation, maintenance and use of infrastructure and other associated facilities to support mining activities within existing mineral leases. The proposed developments were identified on land where native title had been determined, an NTA had been lodged, or research was being undertaken. The CLC undertook consultation with native title holders and presented their views and concerns regarding the development proposals.

INDIGENOUS LAND USE AGREEMENTS

The CLC has implemented a clear strategy to secure beneficial outcomes for native title holders through negotiated ILUAs and other agreements, including 'good faith' agreements under s.31 of the Native Title Act. The CLC currently has a total of 77 ILUAs registered with the NNTT.

This year the CLC finalised negotiations and drafted three ILUAs, which will be registered with the NNTT within the next reporting period.

POST-DETERMINATION ASSISTANCE

Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation (Alice Springs PBC)

The CLC continued to participate in discussions and meetings with Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation (LAAC). Staff participated in meetings and consultations concerning Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve, development proposals for a mountain bike trail, an extension to the Alice Springs Waste Management Facility, and future housing developments and provided information, advice and assistance to the Board and corporate members regarding governance matters.

The CLC also administered a grant of \$50,000 for LAAC from PM&C under the Basic Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) Support program. The funds were directed towards essential operational expenses and LAAC provided written updates throughout the reporting period.

Patta Aboriginal Corporation (Tennant Creek PBC)

The CLC responded to requests from native title holders regarding a site inspection of proposed developments near a tourism facility, a proposed hazard reduction plan identified for the tourism facility, and undertook consultations and sought instructions regarding an exploration licence application within the determination area.

Ilperrelham Aboriginal Corporation (Lake Nash and Georgina Downs PPL)

The CLC responded to a request from members to provide assistance with the corporation's AGM and provide assistance with lodging the general report. During the consultation, advice was sought on the preparation of a native-title holder identification for a future meeting regarding the determination area.

Ooratippra Aboriginal Corporation (Ooratippra PPL)

The CLC assisted the PBC in conducting a meeting to resolve issues concerning the sub-lease with Mistake Creek. Instruction from native title holders will be required to amend sub-lease.

Gurindji Aboriginal Corporation (Kalkaringi township)

The CLC administered a grant of \$50,000 for Gurindji Aboriginal Corporation from PM&C under the Basic PBC Support program. The funds were directed towards essential operational expenses and Gurindji Aboriginal Corporation provided written updates throughout the reporting period.

Alyawarr Awenyerre Aperte Ingkerr-Wenh Aboriginal Corporation (Sandover)

The CLC held a meeting with native title holders to receive final instructions from distribution of minor exploration compensation funds, and continued to monitor implementation of compensation as agreed in the Native Title settlement ILUA, with native title holders participating in site clearance work for the construction of a fence line.

Mitata Aboriginal Corporation (Kurundi)

The CLC responded to a request for assistance to undertaken consultations regarding proposed works to clean out a waterhole on Kurundi PPL. Native title holders approved proposed works and the CLC issued a sacred site clearance certificate.

Mpwerempwer Aboriginal Corporation (Singleton)

The CLC responded to a request for assistance to undertake consultation regarding a proposal from the NT Government to undertake soil testing. Site protection instructions were received and the CLC provide instructions to the NT Government.

Ngalyia Aboriginal Corporation (Mount Doreen)

The CLC conducted several consultations regarding the construction and installation of an optic fibre cable Network through Mount Doreen PPL. The CLC undertook consultations, obtained instructions, provided a work area clearance and assisted native title holders undertake monitoring work during the installation of the cable.

Ooratippra Aboriginal Corporation (Ooratippra)

The CLC responded to request for assistance with consultations and a work area clearance regarding the constructions of a fence line and planned road works identified by the lessee. The CLC undertook consultations and a work area clearance and provided instructions to the lessee.

The CLC also undertook consultation and obtain instructions regarding amendments to the current exploration agreement and further exploration works. A work area clearance was undertaken and instructions provided to the company.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Through the routine processes that the CLC adopts, it attempts to identify and minimise disputes over land from any initial contact with native title holders. There have been no major disputes relating to overlapping native title claims in the CLC region during 2015–16. In anticipation that disputes may arise in the future, the CLC provides relevant staff with the opportunity to develop negotiation/mediation skills.

Alternative procedure agreements

The CLC did not enter into alternative procedure agreements during this period.

Body corporate agreements

No body corporate agreements were entered into during this period.

CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Responsibilities

- Best practice accounting, financial management, and performance reporting, unmodified annual audit reports and financial sustainability.
- Robust corporate financial planning.
- Relevant, accurate and timely performance-based management reporting.
- Effective risk management, including managing appropriate governance and risk management frameworks and understanding management risk appetite.
- Procurement of funds to sustain and advance the CLC corporate and operational plans and performance of statutory functions.
- Compliance with all statutory regulatory requirements.
- Staff recruitment, training and development opportunities for administering Aboriginal corporations.

MINISTERIAL DIRECTIONS

There were no directions, general policies or general policy orders issued by the responsible Minister for the financial year.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Estimates review

Estimates of administrative expenditure are submitted annually to the Minister. 'Additional estimates' requests for essential additional resources are submitted as required. Approved estimates fund operational expenses, salaries and wages, and capital expenditure. The Minister originally approved \$15.216 million of funding from the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) and a variation of \$1.3 million was subsequently approved for vehicle and urgent property upgrade capital expenditure.

Reporting

A half-yearly performance and operations report was submitted to the Minister in February 2016 to meet funding agreement and legislative obligations.

The Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) performs the annual audit of the financial statements to determine whether the financial statements give a true and fair view. ANAO's audit opinion indicates that the statements are free from material misstatement.

Risk management and fraud control

An annual review of the risk management plan and framework was completed and approved, including a risk profile and a risk appetite re-assessment, by the Accountable Authority (the chair and director) in December 2015. The annual Comcover risk management benchmarking survey was used for assessing improvements.

The Commonwealth Fraud Control Framework provides the basis for the CLC's fraud control framework. The Accountable Authority takes all reasonable measures to prevent, detect and deal with fraud, including data collection and reporting and investigation. The Accountable Authority certified that the required fraud data has been collected and reported as required. A review of its fraud control guidelines, in conjunction with the CLC's Audit Committee, was last undertaken in 2012–13. It included the requirement for the ongoing maintenance of a fraud incident register. During the year all staff engaged in online fraud awareness training developed by the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department.

Internal practices and procedures ensure appropriate financial authorisations and financial delegations are in place for rigorous monitoring and detection of anomalies. Accountable Authority Instructions (AAI) provide an appropriate financial expenditure authorities framework. AAI are reviewed annually (July), taking into account changes in the value of money and organisation structure.

A code of conduct prescribes workplace personal and professional behaviour.

Audit Committee (s.45, PGPA Act)

The committee comprises three independent members: Mr Adrian Watts (accountant, appointed 2013); Mr Danny Masters (lawyer) and Dr Bruce Walker (chair/director) were appointed in 2010. The committee met three times during the year. It oversees an agreed work plan and audit charter. An annual report of its activities is provided to the Accountable Authority. A revised Audit Charter was prepared and approved consistent with the new ANAO better practice guide on Audit Committees.

Indemnities and insurance premiums for officers

No indemnity against liability has been given by agreement or other means to a current or former officer. General liability and professional indemnity insurance is held (which includes directors' and officers' liability provisions) with Comcover and the compulsory professional indemnity insurance required by the Law Society Northern Territory in respect of legal practitioners employed by the CLC.

Duty to keep the Minister/ Finance Minister informed (s.19, PGPA Act)

No requirements referred to in s.19 of the PGPA Act (requiring notification to the responsible minister) took place during the financial year.

Freedom of information

Aboriginal land councils and land trusts are listed in Part I of Schedule 2 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*, and therefore pursuant to s.7 the CLC is deemed not to be a prescribed authority

Judicial decisions and reviews by outside bodies

There were no judicial decisions and reviews by outside bodies.

HUMAN RESOURCES (HR)

Workforce engagement, training and development and system improvement initiatives remained a key priority. Automating and streamlining processes increased the capacity for managers and employees to gain immediate access to HR services.

Ongoing system improvements include a review of the current HR and payroll system, resulting in system modifications and the establishment of an HR 'help desk'. The successful implementation assists compliance and working in a good governance



David Alexander, the driving force behind the CLC ranger program, and his partner Jane Lloyd at David's farewell after more than 30 years of service.

framework, resulting in productivity and efficiency gains.

Employee relations

The *Fair Work Act 2009* and the Central Land Council Enterprise Agreement 2012–15 establishes the terms and conditions of employment and entitlements for all employees. Negotiations are ongoing to establish a new agreement. Subject to successful negotiations, the aim is to have a new enterprise agreement ratified through the Fair Work Commission soon. A draft enterprise agreement and remuneration proposal, in accordance with the Commonwealth Government's Bargaining policy, was endorsed by the Australian Public Service Commissioner (APSC). A staff vote held in April used an independent electronic voting system for the first time. The vote was 75% against the proposal.

Salary progression is subject to meeting the required performance standards. Performance bonuses were not paid to any employee during this reporting period.

Work health and safety (WHS)

CLC meets its obligations under the *Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011*. In 2014, a review of the WHS management system commenced and was significantly completed by December 2015. The focus shifted towards ensuring a robust WHS management system was maintained using the Comcare WHS management system audit as criteria.

The WHS committee met its consultative requirement, with five committee meetings taking place. The committee's focus remained on maintaining the WHS management system, conducting workplace

EMPLOYEE PROFILE

Part-time and full-time staff paid from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 expressed as full-time equivalent (FTE)

Salary classification	Sum of FTE actual contracted	Aboriginal	%	Non-Aboriginal	%	Female	%	Male	%
ASO1	9.9	9.9	4.3	0.0	0.0	4.3	1.9	5.6	2.5
ASO2	41.4	41.4	18.2	0.0	0.0	9.9	4.3	31.5	13.8
ASO3	12.9	11.1	4.9	1.8	0.8	7.9	3.5	5.0	2.2
ASO4	27.2	20.3	8.9	6.9	3.0	13.0	5.7	14.2	6.2
ASO5	17.0	10.1	4.4	6.9	3.0	7.7	3.4	9.3	4.1
ASO6	71.6	10.2	4.5	61.4	26.9	36.5	16.0	35.1	15.5
SOGA	13.8	0.0	0.0	13.8	6.1	8.6	3.8	5.2	2.3
SOGB	6.4	0.0	0.0	6.4	2.8	3.6	1.6	2.8	1.2
SOGC	24.7	7.2	3.2	17.5	7.7	12.9	5.7	11.7	5.1
SES1	2.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.9
SES2	1.0	1.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.4
Total	227.9	111.2	48.8	116.7	51.2	104.4	45.8	123.4	54.2

Part-time and full-time staff persons (headcount) as at 30 June 2016

Salary classification	Sum of contracted	Aboriginal	%	Non-Aboriginal	%	Female	%	Male	%
ASO1	17	17	6.5	0	0.0	8	3.0	9	3.4
ASO2	57	57	21.7	0	0.0	12	4.6	45	17.1
ASO3	14	10	3.8	4	1.5	10	3.8	4	1.5
ASO4	32	21	8.0	11	4.2	17	6.5	15	5.7
ASO5	19	11	4.2	8	3.0	9	3.4	10	3.8
ASO6	76	11	4.2	65	24.7	38	14.4	38	14.4
SOGA	13	0	0.0	13	4.9	9	3.4	4	1.5
SOGB	6	0	0.0	6	2.3	3	1.1	3	1.1
SOGC	26	6	2.3	20	7.6	14	5.3	12	4.6
SES1	2	0	0.0	2	0.8	0	0.0	2	0.8
SES2	1	1	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.4
Total	263	134	51.0	129	49.0	120	45.6	143	54.4

Casual staff employed from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 expressed as full-time equivalent (FTE)

Salary classification	Sum of FTE casual staff	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Female	Male
ASO1	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.7
ASO2	5.4	5.4	0.0	1.7	3.7
ASO3	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
ASO4	0.7	0.0	0.7	0.4	0.3
ASO5	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.0
ASO6	1.3	0.1	1.2	0.9	0.4
SOGC	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Total	8.8	6.2	2.6	3.7	5.1

Full-time equivalent (FTE) numbers by ranger group

	2014–15			2015–16		
	Ongoing	Casual	Total	Ongoing	Casual	Total
Aṅangu	2.8	0.0	2.8	0.5	0.0	0.5
Aṅangu Luritjiku	4.7	0.3	5.0	4.6	0.4	5.0
Anmatyerr	8.4	0.1	8.5	7.7	0.0	7.7
Arltarpilta Inelye	3.4	0.2	3.6	4.3	0.1	4.4
Kaltukatjara	3.4	0.3	3.7	4.1	0.2	4.4
Ltyentye Apurte	6.3	0.2	6.5	7.1	0.0	7.1
Munguru Munguru	5.1	0.7	5.8	5.6	0.0	5.6
Muru-warinyi Ankkul	7.2	0.4	7.6	7.6	1.4	9.0
Northern Tanami	6.2	0.0	6.2	6.1	0.0	6.1
Tjuwanpa	8.8	0.5	9.3	8.0	0.4	8.4
Warlpiri	2.9	1.3	4.2	4.6	1.2	5.7
Program administration/support	8.0	0.0	8.0	8.2	0.0	8.2
Total	67.2	4.0	71.2	68.5	3.6	72.1

inspections and emergency evacuation drills at all sites, reviewing and updating WHS policies, procedures and standard operational procedures as required.

Reporting requirements under the WHS Act 2011

The following statements are provided in accordance with the WHS Act 2011:

- There were two notifiable incidents reported to Comcare under s.38.
- No notices were issued under section 90 (Provisional Improvement Notices), s.191 (Improvement Notices), s.195 (Prohibition Notices), s.198 (Non-disturbance Notices) of the WHS Act 2011.

WHS Committee Statement

CLC is committed to providing a safe workplace. It has a primary duty of care to its employees, traditional Aboriginal landowners and other persons in relation to its work.

The CLC's people and their involvement and commitment to safe work make the CLC successful. It will provide a safe environment for all employees, constituents, contractors and visitors at all places it works by:

- Implementing safe systems of work which meet legislative requirements. The responsibilities and system framework are outlined in its WHS management arrangements.

- Consulting with and educating employees in safe work practices and their responsibility to work safely.
- Regularly monitoring how well it safely works by internal and external audits and seeking to improve by measuring its performance against safety objectives and targets.
- Identifying risks and implementing controls to reduce risk to as low as reasonably practicable.
- Encouraging safety leadership throughout the organisation and celebrating safety achievements.

Workforce development

The CLC continues to demonstrate its strong commitment to workforce development and training. It appointed a dedicated training and development officer to HR. This appointment has enabled employees to receive support in accessing appropriate vocational education and training, tertiary and other learning opportunities as follows:

- 9 employees engaged in study agreements and 2 currently negotiating study agreements
- 175 accredited training opportunity provided to employees
- 385 needs-based short courses, conferences or information seminars/workshops attended
- 24 employees completed project management qualifications
- 12 employees completed accredited training through the Community Justice Centre in mediation and dispute resolution

- 6 cadets employed through the National Indigenous Cadetship Support Program, 1 graduated with a Bachelor of Business majoring in HR Management and secured full-time employment within the HR team.

a structured framework for Aboriginal employee advancement into higher level positions (including leadership positions).

Aboriginal manager development

A development pilot program was commenced with an initial cohort of six Aboriginal senior staff who demonstrate clear potential, are currently employed at a manager/co-ordinator level, and have a propensity as successful informal coaches and mentors for other Aboriginal employees. This program provides

INFORMATION SERVICES

The David Jupurrula Long Resource Centre provides a professional research service for all employees in accordance with the Corporate Plan. The unit has been renamed Information Services to reflect modern information management practices and encompasses library, records, registry and archive services.



Senior policy officer Dr Josie Douglas (centre) celebrated her PhD graduation with family and friends.



Leonie Jones landed a full time job in the HR team after completing an indigenous cadetship.



David Ross congratulates information services officer Teresa McCarthy on winning the 2016 Loris Williams Scholarship awarded by the Australian Society of Archivists.

eDIS

System selection (HPE RM8.30) and implementation of an Electronic Document and Records Management System (EDRMS) named eDIS began. The system was named eDIS by Josie Douglas, who won the naming competition.

Sillers Systems Administration and KAPISH are implementing eDIS with internal support from Computer Services and Information Services. The consultants' regular engagement and staff consultation is making the implementation a smooth process built on trust, knowledge and experience. The implementation is ongoing with an anticipated finish date in early 2017. To support the buy-in many review sessions as to Business function and Taxonomies have occurred. Other teams that are derived from the implementation but will be ongoing are Security and Risk Management, Archives Committee, Data Capture Working group, Taxonomy Standing Committee and the Training Working Group.

During the eDIS implementation, the CLC is embedding the NAA Digital Continuity 2020 Policy. The business systems committee acts as the eDIS steering committee and the information governance committee. It has developed the required information management framework.

Information Systems (IS) staff and projects

In the library area a comprehensive 'weeding' took place as preparation for an ongoing stocktake, i.e. correct data and catalogue entries.



Information services officer Kymberley Ellis launches eDIS.

In preparation for eDIS, TRAKS (Trimagic Records and Knowledge Management System) data and entries are being reviewed and corrected before they are migrated into the new system.

In 2016 the IS team is now complete, possessing specialised skills and expertise to set the future path of electronic record keeping, preservation and information services. Professional development and training are ongoing.

Teresa McCarthy was joint-awarded the 2016 ASA Loris Williams Memorial Scholarship by the Australian Society of Archivists Council. It is a major achievement and well deserved. As well as some financial support, annual membership and conference registration Ms McCarthy will have access to a mentor – a professional archivist.

Ongoing work included disposal of records and assessing collections such as the NLC and the National Federation of Land Councils.

The Alice Springs Town Council generously donated two map cabinets, which assist in cataloguing more maps in the archives.

The CLC trained staff in its new PowderSafe™ equipment to make mail registry safer.

Computer Services

Computer Services' (CS) primary function is to develop, support and maintain modern computing infrastructure, particularly focused on a high level of service to regional offices through the best available communication systems and remote support services.

A fully networked, standardised computer workstation is provided for 180-plus employees (excluding Ranger Program), including access to e-mail, word processing, internet browsing and a range of other services. CS is committed to ensuring the integrity and security of the CLC's electronic data through backup systems, secure network access and virus protection. CS also facilitates increased efficiency of the organisation through the development and implementation of new systems that provide improved access to information and communications.

CS staff maintain an extensive geographical information system and manipulate geographic data sets to produce customised maps for CLC projects. Work is progressing to expand the services provided by the section through the implementation of web-based mapping systems.

2015–16 achievements included increasing the frequency of regional office visits, adding and improving collaboration and workflow services, EDRMS (eDIS) planning and implementation, efficiency gains via server virtualisation and improvements to user services and support.

ASSET MANAGEMENT

Fleet management

A substantial fleet is owned and managed, including 4WDs, people movers, all-terrain vehicles and medium and rigid trucks. The fleet management strategy aims to ensure reliable, safe and robust vehicles that are fit for purpose and to replace the majority of the fleet every three to four years, depending on use. Remote operational vehicles have reached their optimal age by this time

Computer Services major achievements

Major achievements	Outcome
General operations	Maintained a large, complex ICT network in regional and remote areas without significant downtime or data loss. 1,772 support cases actioned, 57 new user accounts created, 162 access control cards issued. 13 regional offices visited/upgraded.
EDRMS implementation	Created the server and storage infrastructure required to ensure a responsive and secure environment for eDIS. Helped to plan and develop the system required for an efficient deployment of eDIS to 250 desktops.
SharePoint Upgrade	Continued to create productivity applications to the upgraded Sharepoint platform, such as section support request lists and pages supporting team and organisation activities. A new workflow system is almost complete.
Ranger access accounts	Purchased Microsoft client licences and created the required counts to allow rangers at remote offices to access CLC network services in compliance with the licensing agreement.
Role group restructure	Completely restructured the 'role group' active directory structure and process to simplify user account creation and management, and reduce the risk incorrect group assignments.
Storage expansion and virtualisation	Continued to migrate servers to the virtual machine/storage area network infrastructure. All file servers, SQL servers and domain controllers have now been virtualised.
Spatial Services Unit	The unit has been restructured to include a team leader position resulting in improvements such as process streamlining, migration to superior software licensing, and acquisition of key data sets. Work has commenced on the introduction of a geodatabase and online mapping platform. Spatial staff continue to produce a high quality product that is an essential to CLC operations.



Richard Mick changes tyres during an exploration work area clearance in the Tanami while Frank Sampi, Paddy Doolak and Tomato Gordon look on.

and maintenance expenditure escalates past this period.

Planning commenced on the transport study implementation scheduled for 2016–17. A review of the fleet mix and type of vehicle in consultation with the WHS committee included proposed changes such as developing key performance indicators to monitor the implementation phase, reviewing the current booking system and changing the vehicle check-in/out process and equipment selection.

The CLC continued to monitor and review the emergency response to ensure functionality of the Navman system; for example, GPS critical duress, rollover and impact alerts. Of eight alerts only two were genuine emergencies.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

There are three offices in Alice Springs and eight regional offices, as well as local and regional staff accommodation, representing a significant portion of the property asset value. The building asset management strategy combines engineering, financial and economic practices with an acceptable and cost effective service. A panel of contractors regularly undertake maintenance across the region. The contractors are based in Alice Springs and some regional areas, enabling a quicker response to critical infrastructure issues.

In June 2016 two severe weather fronts moved through Alice Springs, substantially damaging the CLC's main office. A large hailstorm immediately followed by 62 mm of rain caused the box gutters to block. Water then entered via the ceilings, resulting in severe flooding along the main corridor and internal courtyards and damaging all adjacent meeting rooms. Repairs are expected to cost in excess of \$1 million, but have been accepted as an insured incident by Comcover. Replacement of all floor coverings throughout the building, replacement of epoxy-covered corridors, and repairs to ceilings and joinery is expected to take four months from commencement. Management will minimise disruption to service delivery.

Two new ranger houses were constructed, in Kalkaringi and Ntaria (Hermannsburg). Both were designed and constructed to suit the built environment. The Kalkaringi house is cyclone rated and elevated to prevent flooding. The Hermannsburg project also included the construction of a ranger shed designed in conjunction with the local rangers.

The design of a new regional office in Papunya commenced this year. The design will include a regional office, training room, storage shed and visitor accommodation. The regional services officer accommodation will be relocated to a new lot in the community to provide privacy and security. The CLC



Rob Roy is one of the CLC regional services unit's nine regional officers.



Managed by Darryl 'Tiger' Fitz, the Tennant Creek regional CLC office provides resources and logistics throughout the Barkly region.

appreciates the Minister's funding support for the project.

Section 19 leases have been sought for various lots in Yuendumu, Papunya and Finke as part of future planning and development for ranger staff and office accommodation.

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY

Under s.516A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* Commonwealth authorities must report on environmental matters, to:

- report how activities meet principles of ecologically sustainable development
- identify how outcomes contributed to ecologically sustainable development
- document impacts upon the environment and measures taken to minimise them
- identify the review mechanisms in place to increase the actions taken to minimise its impact upon the environment.

Various aspects of operations are specifically concerned with the environment. Please also refer to other outputs in this report, in particular Output 1.2. Other corporate management actions on environmental matters include:

- further development of performance information framework commencing with the development of performance metric dashboards
- the recommended environmental measures for all Commonwealth entities (see table). Implementation of the transportation strategy is improving transportation efficiency. Fuel consumption currently represents approximately 58% of CO₂ emissions.

CLC's performance against Commonwealth recommended environmental measures

THEME	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	INDICATOR(S)	Measure	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	
Energy efficiency	Total consumption of energy – this includes all energy consumed when undertaking the functions of the agency, such as energy consumed for office buildings and transportation	Electricity purchased	\$	134,533	169,668	210,865	163,304	230,688	
		Electricity consumed	kWh	636,351	691,822	708,093	702,904	720,568	
		Gas purchased (Note 4)	\$	33,335	24,803	23,979	27,229	16,884	
		Other fuels purchased/consumed	L	453,000	472,704	569,524	541,876	537,229	
		Air travel distances	km	878,921	808,780	903,664	691,312	608,154	
	Greenhouse gas emissions	Air travel greenhouse gas (CO ₂)	tonnes	111.0	101.6	103.6	85.6	78.0	
		Electricity greenhouse gas (CO ₂)	tonnes	776.3	844.0	863.9	857.5	879.1	
		Gas greenhouse gas (CO ₂)	tonnes	38.6	27.5	29.3	33.2	14.4	
		Other fuels greenhouse gas (CO ₂ ; tonnes)	tonnes	1,223.9	1,276.3	1,537.7	1,463.1	1,343.1	
		Total CO ₂ emissions	tonnes	2,150	2,249	2,534	2,439.4	2,314.5	
	Relative energy use per employee	Electricity used	KWh per employee	2,932.5	3,057.1	3,133.2	3,016.8	3,044.2	
		Gas used	GJ Per employee	153.6	109.6	106.1	116.9	49.7	
		Other fuels used	L per employee	2,088	2,089	2,520	2,326	2,270	
	Renewable energy	Renewable Energy (Note 1)	Electricity produced	kWh	17,003	17,610	34,833	56,634	51,178
			Savings	\$	3,911	4,050	10,910	13,026	11,771
CO ₂ savings			tonnes	11.7	12.2	24.0	39.1	35.3	
Renewable electricity in % of total electricity consumed and produced			% kwh	2.6	2.5	4.7	7.5	6.6	
Waste	Total waste – going to landfills	Amount – going to landfills (cbm)	cbm	474	464	467	356	356	
	Total waste – going to recycling facilities	Amount – going to recycling facilities (cbm)	cbm	270	187	177	156	156	
	Relative waste production	Amount of waste per employee (cbm)	cbm	3.4	2.9	2.8	2.2	2.2	
	Total consumption of water	Amount of water consumed (KL)	kL	7,026	9,722	5,851	8,811	11,391	

THEME	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	INDICATOR(S)	Measure	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16
Water	Relative water consumption	Total water use	kL per employee	32.4	43.0	25.9	37.8	48.1
CO ₂ offsets	Feral animals removed under National Feral Camel Project	Feral animals removed	number	18,193	27,994	6,014	0	0
		CO ₂ emission savings (.96tCO ₂ e/camel/year)	tonnes	17,465	26,874	5,773	0.0	0
	Feral camels removed (Note 2)	Feral animals removed	number	309	480	6,294	244	718
		CO ₂ emission savings (.96tCO ₂ e/camel/year) (Note 5)	tonnes	297	461	6,042	234	689
	Other feral animals removed (Note 3)	Feral animals removed	number	88	3,573	11,128	4,651	1,316
		(1.29t CO ₂ /horse/year) (Note 5)	tonnes	114	4,609	14,355	6,000	1,698

Notes

Note 1: CLC 20kW at Stuart Highway; 6kW at Cameron Street; 6kW at Kennett Court; total = 32kW

Note 2: Removed by muster off grazing licence or elsewhere

Note 3: Other feral herbivores removed (horses, donkeys, etc.)

Note 4: Noted reduction in gas prices secondary to formal contract with supplier; and changes to the supply of gas in remote accommodation (moved to electric cooktops).

Note 5: United Nations FAO 2006.

Abbreviations

cbm	cubic metre
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
\$	Australian dollars
GJ	gigajoule
km	kilometre
kL	kilolitre
kW	kiloWatt
kWh	kiloWatt-hour
L	litre
N/A	not available
t	tonnes

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

The Accountable Authority of the CLC hereby presents the 2015–16 annual performance statement. In our opinion, it is based on properly maintained records which accurately reflect the performance of the entity and comply with subsection 39(2) of the PGPA Act.

CLC PURPOSE

As described in the 2015–16 Corporate Plan, the purposes ascribed comprise the powers and functions on Aboriginal Land Rights Act and to fulfil the responsibility as a Native Title Representative Body under the Native Title Act 1993. These functions and powers are embodied in the strategic goals listed below. For the qualitative assessment of the achievement of these goals refer to the pages of this annual report referenced:

- 1 Good governance (refer pages 16–18).
- 2 Aboriginal rights & interest protection (refer pages 74–83, 101–4).
- 3 Land ownership & interests (refer pages 26–7, 44–5, 106–13).
- 4 Culture & heritage protection (refer pages 84–7).
- 5 Economic development & income management (refer pages 47–72, 99–100).
- 6 Strong communities, outstations & regions (refer pages 88–97).
- 7 Sustainable land use & management (refer pages 28–42).
- 8 Corporate management (refer pages 22–4, 114–24).

Results against each performance criterion

A performance information framework was developed that ensures that properly maintained records are the basis of the reported performance and facilitates the selection of performance information/metrics to measure organisational performance. Performance is monitored by 36 dashboards, each including a series of measures that are categorised by each of the eight strategic goals. The dashboards include a six-year history of actual performance, the corporate plan target, and the forecasts for the following three financial years.

The table overleaf contains 47 key performance items. These are selected from each of the dashboards and are measures from the CLC performance information system that best represent the key aspirations of the Council and its constituents for 2015–16.

ANALYSIS OF PERFORMANCE AGAINST PURPOSE

The factors that influence achievement of purpose are mainly:

- **Resource constraints:** reliance upon ‘estimates’ (budget) approved the Minister for Indigenous Affairs for allocations from the Aboriginal Benefits Account (ABA) and the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (for key programs such as Native Title Representative Body functions and the Ranger Program). The Australian Government pursued a policy of strict control and productivity improvement.
- **External demand:** key statutory functions include obtaining Aboriginal traditional owner consent for use of Aboriginal land, a large component is related to mining exploration and mining agreements. The downturn in the mining industry has some impact on the level of use applications. However, in some functions (such as anthropological) the mining downturn has been offset by increases in other activities related to community development and leasing of Aboriginal land.
- **Aboriginal constituent demand:** the CLC receives income due to traditional owners for royalties and compensation related to mining and other land use activities. Increasingly communities have assigned some of these proceeds to community development activities which are supported and administered by the CLC’s community development unit. There has been exponential growth in this area, with project expenditure increasing from approximately \$4 million per annum five years ago to approximately \$9 million in each of the past two financial years.
- **Improved productivity:** productivity improvement is constantly sought, enabling the organisation to improve services. A key achievement has been the pursuit of a ‘transportation’ strategy to simultaneously improve productivity and achieve cost savings. A large fleet of vehicles travel large distances remotely. The strategy, based on a transportation expert study, will result in a change to the fleet ‘mix’ (type of vehicle) and number (reduction). The strategy commenced in late 2015–16, but is being progressively implemented over three years as vehicles are due for replacement. The benefits will be maximised in the final year of the current corporate plan.

The non-financial results for 2015–16 generally indicate outcomes aligned to expectations, with some minor variations.

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT: ACTUAL v TARGET

Target as per 2015–16 Corporate Plan	Target 2015–16	Actual 2015–16	Variance
Good Governance			
Council meetings	3	3	–
Executive meetings held	9	9	–
Aboriginal Rights and Interests Protection			
Publications produced (e.g. <i>Land Rights News</i> , <i>Council News</i> , <i>CD News</i> , ranger newsletters, CD community newsletters)	22	27	5
CLC web page access rate (visits)	130,000	135,840	5,840
Land Ownership and Interests			
Finalised – Consent Determination handed down	2	2	–
CLC – total region size (square km)	776,549	776,549	–
Traditional owner ‘ownership’ (square km)	417,448	417,448	–
Mining – future act meetings – NT holder identification field trips	24	24	–
Non-mining – Indigenous Land Use Agreements – negotiated and registered	1	1	–
Native Title – mining agreements	–	–	–
Leasing – consents obtained – all	393	88	(305)
Leasing – current leases and licences – CLAs – all	2,126	2,021	(105)
Anthropological advice issued – total	453	428	(25)
Native title meetings and consultations – Post Determination	–	30	30
Land claims finalised	–	1	1
Permits issued – access/entry Aboriginal land (all types)	4,619	4,952	333
Ranger Program – rangers employed FTE	75	70.1	(5)
Ranger Program – turnover (annual/trend) (%)	30	30	–
Ranger Program – fire management burns	1	16	15
Ranger Program – training – certificates awarded	30	16	(14)
Culture and Heritage Protection			
Total funerals assisted	200	256	(56)
Cultural heritage management plans/projects completed, progressed or supported	8	8	–
Sacred Site Clearance Certificates (SSCC)/other advice issued	160	180	20
Advocacy and representation	1	2	1
Ceremonial activity – regional payments – ABA s64(4) funded (\$000)	90	79	11
Funeral payments – ABA s64(4) funded (\$000)	260	270	(10)

Target as per 2015–16 Corporate Plan	Target 2015–16	Actual 2015–16	Variance
Economic Development and Income Management			
Exploration titles applications – completed (includes those withdrawn during negotiating period)	60	119	59
Exploration agreements (ELs and EPs)	70	68	(2)
Mining agreements	11	11	–
Employment – placements (mining, exploration, road construction, rail line maintenance, remote employment services, pastoral industry)	50	58	8
AAMC meetings held – AGMS	31	31	–
ORIC general reports lodged	31	31	–
Strong Communities, Outstations and Regions			
Five year lease money – annual CD expenditure (\$000)	3,500	1,544	1,956
GMAAAC – annual CD expenditure (\$000)	1,200	421	779
Total Community Development project expenditure (\$000)	9,000	8,524	–
Corporate Management			
Vehicles	97	98	(1)
Renewable energy – electricity produced (kWh)	60,000	60,000	–
Renewable energy – CO ₂ savings (tonnes)	45.00	45.00	–
Staff turnover (terminations/average staff) (%) – Ranger Program	20	20	–
Staff turnover (terminations/average staff) (%) – Other	14	14	–
Lost days	70	70	–
New study agreements	10	10	–
Health and safety representatives	5	5	–
Information systems – user roles supported	210	210	–
Maps produced	750	623	(127)
Records – new files added (paper)	n/a	1,487	
Total working days in field	8,000	7,462	538



Alekarenge dance festival.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Central Land Council financial statements	
Independent auditor's report	130
Statement by Accountable Authority and Chief Financial Officer	132
Statement of comprehensive income	133
Statement of financial position	134
Statement of changes in equity	135
Cash flow statement	136
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements	137
Central Land Council Native Title Representative Body financial statements	
Independent auditor's report	167
Statement by Accountable Authority and Chief Financial Officer	169
Statement of comprehensive income	170
Statement of financial position	171
Statement of changes in equity	172
Cash flow statement	173
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements	174



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister for Indigenous Affairs

Report on the Annual Financial Statements

I have audited the accompanying annual financial statements of the Central Land Council for the year ended 30 June 2016, which comprise:

- Statement by the Accountable Authority and Chief Financial Officer;
- Statement of Comprehensive Income;
- Statement of Financial Position;
- Statement of Changes in Equity;
- Cash Flow Statement; and
- Notes comprising a Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and other explanatory information.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements of the Central Land Council:

- (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015*; and
- (b) present fairly the financial position of the Central Land Council as at 30 June 2016 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended.

Accountable Authority's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Accountable Authority of the Central Land Council is responsible under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* for the preparation and fair presentation of annual financial statements that comply with Australian Accounting Standards and the rules made under that Act and is also responsible for such internal control as the Accountable Authority determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. I have conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. These auditing standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the

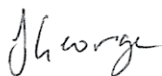
financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Accountable Authority of the entity, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting my audit, I have followed the independence requirements of the Australian National Audit Office, which incorporate the requirements of the Australian accounting profession.

Australian National Audit Office



Jodi George
Audit Principal

Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra
22 August 2016

CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

STATEMENT BY THE ACCOUNTABLE AUTHORITY AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

In our opinion, the attached financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2016 comply with subsection 42(2) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act), and are based on properly maintained financial records as per subsection 41(2) of the PGPA Act.

In our opinion, at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Central Land Council will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This Statement is made in accordance with this declaration of the Accountable Authority.



Signed

Mr. David Ross
Director
Accountable Authority

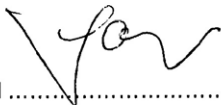
Date: 22/8/16



Signed

Mr. Francis Kelly
Chair
Accountable Authority

Date: 22/8/16



Signed

Dr Nigel Graves FCPA
Chief Financial Officer

Date: 22/8/16

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	NOTES	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
EXPENSES			
Employees and council members benefits	3(a)	22,942	22,490
Suppliers	3(b)	14,412	15,358
Depreciation	3(c)	2,277	2,279
Write-down and impairment of assets/receivables	3(d)	44	50
Total Expenses		39,675	40,177
LESS:			
OWN-SOURCE INCOME			
Own-source revenue			
Sale of goods and rendering of services	4(a)	2,901	3,702
Interest	4(b)	381	386
Rental	4(c)	28	60
Other revenue	4(d)	4,789	5,383
Total own-source revenue		8,099	9,531
Gains			
Gains from sale of assets	4(e)	135	144
Reversals of previous asset write-downs and impairments	4(f)	13	49
Total gains		148	193
Total own-source income		8,247	9,724
Net cost of services		31,428	30,453
Revenue from government	4(g)	31,368	29,883
(Deficit)/ Surplus attributable to the Australian Government		(60)	(570)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Items not subject to subsequent reclassification to profit and loss			
Changes in asset revaluation reserves	7(c)	1,614	-
Total other comprehensive income		1,614	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to the Australian Government		1,554	(570)

CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2016**

	NOTES	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
ASSETS			
Financial assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6(a)	10,673	10,975
Trade and other receivables	6(b)	962	1,391
Total financial assets		11,635	12,366
Non-financial assets			
Land and buildings	7(a)	25,039	23,494
Infrastructure, plant and equipment	7(b)	6,390	6,245
Motor vehicle spare parts	7(d)	46	13
Total non-financial assets		31,475	29,752
Total assets		43,110	42,118
LIABILITIES			
Payables			
Suppliers	8(a)	1,504	2,409
Other Payables	8(b)	526	349
Total payables		2,030	2,757
Provisions			
Employee provisions	9(a)	3,967	3,801
Total provisions		3,967	3,801
Total liabilities		5,997	6,559
NET ASSETS		37,113	35,559
EQUITY			
Asset revaluation reserve		7,075	5,461
Retained surplus		30,038	30,098
TOTAL EQUITY		37,113	35,559

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Retained Earnings		Asset revaluation reserve		TOTAL EQUITY	
	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Opening balance	30,098	30,668	5,461	5,461	35,559	36,129
Comprehensive Income						
Surplus/(deficit) for the period	(60)	(570)	–	–	(60)	(570)
Other Comprehensive Income	–	–	1,614	–	1,614	–
Total Comprehensive income	(60)	(570)	1,614	–	1,554	(570)
of which:						
Attributable to the Australian Government	(60)	(570)	1,614	–	1,554	(570)
Closing balance as at 30 June	30,038	30,098	7,075	5,461	37,113	35,559

CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	NOTES	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Operating activities			
Cash received			
Sales of goods and rendering of services		8,278	8,562
Revenue from Government		33,418	31,592
Rental income		28	60
Net GST received from ATO		–	32
Interest		380	404
Total cash received		42,104	40,650
Cash used			
Employees		22,776	22,015
Suppliers		17,319	16,916
Net GST paid to ATO		93	–
Total cash used		40,188	38,931
Net cash from/(used by) operating activities	10	1,916	1,719
Investing activities			
Cash received			
Proceeds from sales of property, plant & equipment		452	384
Total cash received		452	384
Cash used			
Purchase of property, plant & equipment	7(c)	2,670	2,136
Total cash used		2,670	2,136
Net cash used by investing activities		(2,218)	(1,752)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash held		(302)	(33)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		10,975	11,008
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		10,673	10,975

CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Objectives of the Entity

The Central Land Council (the 'CLC' or the 'Council') is a statutory authority formed within the provision of Section 21 of the *Aboriginal Land Right (NT) Act 1976* (the 'Act'). It is a not-for-profit entity. The CLC receives appropriations from the Aboriginal Benefits Account (the 'ABA') pursuant to ministerially approved estimates prepared in accordance with Section 34 of the Act and made available under Section 64 of the Act. The CLC in its present form with its present programs is dependent on Government policy and continuing funding by Parliament.

The CLC is structured to meet outcomes in the Act and the outcomes (output groups) reported upon in this annual report, which are as follows:

- Protect and represent the rights and interest of the Aboriginal people,
- Pursue and protect Aboriginal ownership and land interest,
- Support Aboriginal people in land protection of significant sites and maintaining their culture, heritage and languages,
- Enable Aboriginal people to sustainably use and manage land,
- Follow best practice for processing development proposals and managing income arising,
- Facilitate Aboriginal people to develop strong communities, outstations, and regions, and
- Follow best practice corporate management.

The funding conditions of the Council are laid down by the *Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) Act 1976*, and any special purpose agreement guidelines. Accounting for monies received from the ABA is subject to conditions approved by the Minister for the Indigenous Affairs.

1.2 Basis of Preparation of the Financial Statements

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements and are required by section 42 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- Financial Reporting Rule (FRR) for reporting periods ending on or after 1 July 2015; and,
- Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that apply for the reporting period.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are in accordance with the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities at fair value. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or the financial position.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and values are rounded to the nearest thousand unless otherwise specified.

Unless an alternative treatment is specifically required by an accounting standard or the FRR, assets and liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when and only when it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity or a future sacrifice of economic benefits will be required and the amounts of the assets or liabilities can be reliably measured. However, assets and liabilities arising under executory contracts are not recognised unless required by an accounting standard. Liabilities and assets that are unrecognised are reported in the schedule of commitments or in the schedule of contingencies note.

Unless alternative treatment is specifically required by an accounting standard, income and expenses are

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

recognised in the statement of comprehensive income when and only when the flow, consumption or loss of economic benefits has occurred and can be reliably measured.

1.3 Significant Accounting Judgements and Estimates

In the process of applying the accounting policies listed in this note, the CLC has made the following judgement that has the most significant impact on the amounts recorded in the financial statements:

- The fair value of land and buildings has been taken to be the market value or the depreciated replacement cost of similar properties as determined by the directors or an independent valuer.

No other accounting assumptions or estimates have been identified that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

1.4 New Australian Accounting Standards

Adoption of New Australian Accounting Standard Requirements

No accounting standard has been adopted earlier than the applicable dates as stated in standard.

New standards/revised standards/interpretations/amending standards issued prior to the sign-off date applicable to the current reporting period did not have a financial impact on the Council and are not expected to have future financial impact on the Council.

Future Australian Accounting Standard Requirements

The following new standards/revised standards/Interpretations/amending standards were issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board prior to the sign-off date, of which the financial impact has yet to be determined.

Standard	Nature of impending changes	Expected application date for CLC
AASB 124 Related Party Disclosure	CLC will apply AASB 124 Related Party Disclosure in 2016–17. This Standard requires the disclosure of significant transactions with related parties. Related parties include key managers of the entity, relevant Ministers and other Australian Government entities.	2016/17
AASB 9 Financial Instruments	CLC expects to apply AASB 9 Financial Instruments in 2018–19. This standard will require most financial assets to be measured at fair value, except for those that are held only for the collection of the principle and interest. Also, wherever there has been a significant increase in credit risk, the Standard will require an expense to be recognised for all expected losses over the life of financial assets. In other cases, an expense will be recognised for losses expected in the year after the reporting date.	2018/19
AASB 16 Leases	CLC expects to apply AASB 16 Leases from 2019–20. This Standard will require the net present value of payments under most operating leases to be recognised as assets and liabilities. Currently CLC has \$1.5m in operating lease commitments.	2019/20

1.5 Revenue

The revenues described in this Note are revenues relating to the core operating activities of the CLC:

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when:
 - the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred to the buyer;

CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

- the Council retains no managerial involvement or effective control over the goods;
- the revenue and transaction costs incurred can be reliably measured; and
- it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.
- Receivables for goods and services, which have 30 days credit term, are recognised at the nominal amounts due less any impairment allowance account. Collectability of debts is reviewed at the end of the reporting period. Allowances are made when collectability of the debt is no longer probable.
- Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method as set out in AASB 139 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement.
- Revenue from the rendering of services, other than those contributions on receipt as per AASB 1004, is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of contracts at the reporting date. The revenue is recognised when:
 - the amount of revenue, stage of completion and transaction costs incurred can be reliably measured; and
 - the probable economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.

The stage of completion of the contract at the reporting date is determined according to the proportion that costs incurred to date bear to the estimated total costs of the transaction.

Revenues from Government

Funding received or receivable from Agencies are recognised as Revenue from Government when the entity gains control of the funding, except for certain amounts that relate to activities that are reciprocal in nature, in which case revenue is recognised only when it has been earned. Funding receivable is recorded at their nominal amounts.

Funding received or receivable from non-corporate Commonwealth entities (appropriated to the non-corporate Commonwealth entity as a corporate Commonwealth entity payment item for payment to this entity) is recognised as Revenue from Government unless the funding is in the nature of an equity injection or a loan.

1.6 Gains**Sale of Assets**

Gains from disposal of assets are recognised when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

1.7 Employee Benefits***Employee Benefits***

Liabilities for 'short-term employee benefits' (as defined in AASB 119 Employee Benefits) and termination benefits expected within twelve months of the end of reporting period are measured at their nominal amounts. The nominal amount is calculated with regard to the rates expected to be paid on settlement of the liability.

Leave

The liability for employee benefits includes provision for annual leave and long service leave. No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by employees of the Council is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement for sick leave.

The leave liabilities are calculated on the basis of employees' remuneration at the estimated salary rates that will be applied at the time the leave is taken, including the CLC's employer superannuation contribution rates to the extent that the leave is likely to be taken during service rather than paid out on termination.

The estimate of the present value of the long service leave liability takes into account attrition rates and pay

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

increases through promotion and inflation.

Superannuation

The majority of employees of the Council are members of REST and Acumen Superannuation Funds. The Council makes employer contributions to the REST and Acumen superannuation funds at the rate of 12.5% paid on a fortnightly basis. The Council complies with the requirements of the superannuation choice legislation. All superannuation contributions are to defined contribution plans.

The liability for superannuation recognised as at 30 June represents outstanding contributions for the final fortnight of the year.

1.8 Leases

Operating lease payments are expensed on a straight-line basis which is representative of the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

1.9 Cash

Cash is recognised at its nominal amount. Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand and any demand deposits in bank accounts with an original maturity of 3 months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

1.10 Financial Assets

The CLC classifies its financial assets in the following categories:

- held-to-maturity investments; and
- loans and receivables.

The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the financial assets and is determined at the time of initial recognition. Financial assets are recognised and derecognised upon trade date.

Effective interest method

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and of allocating interest income over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset, or, where appropriate, a shorter period.

Income is recognised on an effective interest rate basis except for financial assets that are recognised at fair value through profit or loss.

Held-to-maturity investments

Non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturity dates that the CLC has the positive intent and ability to hold to maturity are classified as held-to-maturity investments. Held-to-maturity investments are recorded at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment, with revenue recognised on an effective yield basis.

Loans and receivables

Trade receivables, loans and other receivables that have fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market are classified as 'loans and receivables'. Loans and receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment. Interest is recognised by applying the effective interest rate.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets are assessed for impairment at the end of each reporting period.

- **Financial assets held at amortised cost:** If there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

incurred for loans and receivables or held to maturity investments held at amortised cost, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The carrying amount is reduced by way of an allowance account. The loss is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

- **Financial assets carried at cost:** If there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred, the amount of the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount of the asset and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the current market rate for similar assets.

1.11 Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are classified as either financial liabilities 'at fair value through profit or loss' or other financial liabilities. Financial liabilities are recognised and derecognised upon 'trade date'.

Other financial liabilities

Other financial liabilities, including borrowings, are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs. These liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, with interest expense recognised on an effective yield basis.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial liability and of allocating interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments through the expected life of the financial liability, or, where appropriate, a shorter period.

Supplier and other payables are recognised at amortised cost. Liabilities are recognised to the extent that the goods or services have been received (and irrespective of having been invoiced).

1.12 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position but are reported in the notes. They may arise from uncertainty as to the existence of a liability or asset or represent an asset or liability in respect of which the amount cannot be reliably measured. Contingent assets are disclosed when settlement is probable but not virtually certain and contingent liabilities are disclosed when settlement is greater than remote.

1.13 Acquisition of Assets

Assets are recorded at cost on acquisition except as stated below. The cost of acquisition includes the fair value of assets transferred in exchange and liabilities undertaken. Financial assets are initially measured at their fair value plus transaction costs where appropriate.

Assets acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, are initially recognised as assets and income at their fair value at the date of acquisition, unless acquired as a consequence of restructuring of administrative arrangements. In the latter case, assets are initially recognised as contributions by owners at the amounts at which they were recognised in the transferor's accounts immediately prior to the restructuring.

1.14 Property, Plant and Equipment

Asset recognition threshold

Purchases of property, plant and equipment are recognised initially at cost in the balance sheet, except for purchases costing less than \$2,000 excluding GST, which are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

The initial cost of an asset includes an estimate of the cost of dismantling and removing the item and restoring

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

the site on which it is located, including any necessary make good provisions.

Revaluations

Fair values for each class of asset are determined as shown below:

Asset Class	Fair Value Measured at:
Land	Market selling price
Building excl Leasehold improvements	Market selling price
Leasehold Improvements	Depreciated replacement cost or Market selling price
Motor Vehicles	Market selling price
Plant & Equipment	Market selling price
Computer Equipment	Market selling price
Heritage and cultural assets	Market selling price
Library assets	Market selling price

Assets that are surplus to requirement are measured at their net realisable value. At 30 June 2016 the Council held no surplus assets (30 June 2015: \$0). Certain leasehold improvements have been made on land leased from Aboriginal Land Trusts, for which various fair value measurement methods have been applied.

Following initial recognition at cost, land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment are carried at fair value less subsequent accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Valuations are conducted with sufficient frequency to ensure that the carrying amounts of assets are not materially different from their fair values as at the reporting date. The regularity of independent valuations depends upon the volatility of movements in the market value of the relevant assets.

Revaluation adjustments are made on a class basis. Any revaluation increment is credited to equity under the heading of asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that it reverses a previous revaluation decrement of the same asset class that was previously recognised in the surplus/deficit. Revaluation decrements for a class of assets are recognised directly in the surplus/deficit except to the extent that they reverse a previous revaluation increment for that class.

Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amounts of the assets and the asset is restated to the revalued amount.

Frequency

Freehold land, buildings and plant and equipment are subject to a formal independent valuation at a minimum of every three years. The Council policy is for formal valuations to be carried out by an independent qualified valuer. Between formal valuations assets are assessed for movements in fair value.

Depreciation

Depreciable property, plant and equipment assets are written-off to their estimated residual values over their estimated useful lives to the Council using, in all cases, the straight-line method of depreciation. w

Capital work-in-progresses are not depreciated until assets are ready for use.

Depreciation rates (useful lives), residual values and methods are reviewed at each reporting date and necessary adjustments are recognised in the current, or current and future reporting periods, as appropriate.

Depreciation rates applying to each class of depreciable asset are based on the following useful lives:

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	2016	2015
Buildings on freehold land	40 years	40 years
Leasehold improvements	40 years	40 years
Motor vehicles	4 to 10 years	4 to 10 years
Computer equipment	3 to 4 years	3 to 4 years
Plant and equipment	7 to 10 years	7 to 10 years

The revalued amount of property, plant and equipment are depreciated for the remaining life of the property.

The aggregate amount of depreciation allocated for each class of asset during the reporting period is disclosed in Note 7c. The majority of Library asset purchases are individually under \$2,000 (the fixed asset threshold), and are charged directly to expenses. The Library assets are not subject to periodic revaluations and are not depreciated, except for the Rare Book Collection which is subject to periodic revaluations.

Impairment

All assets were assessed for impairment at 30 June 2016. Where indications of impairment exist, the assets recoverable amount is estimated and an impairment adjustment is made if the asset's recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount.

The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Where the future economic benefit of an asset is not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate future cash flows, and the asset would be replaced if the CLC were deprived of the asset, its value in use is taken to be its depreciated replacement cost.

Derecognition

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no further future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal.

1.15 Inventories

Inventories not held for resale are valued at cost, unless they are no longer required, in which case they are valued at net realisable value.

Costs incurred in bringing each item of inventory to its present location and conditions are assigned as follows:

- raw materials and stores – purchase cost on a first-in-first-out basis; and
- finished goods and work-in-progress – cost of direct materials and labour plus attributable costs that are capable of being allocated on a reasonable basis.

Inventories acquired at no cost or nominal consideration, are initially measured at current replacement cost at the date of acquisition.

1.16 Taxation / Competitive Neutrality

The Council is exempt from all forms of taxation except for fringe benefits tax and the goods and services tax (GST).

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of GST except:

- where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office; and
- for receivables and payables.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 2: EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

There were no significant events after balance sheet date.

NOTE 3: EXPENSES

Note 3(a): Employee Benefits	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Wages & salaries	19,669	18,718
Superannuation (defined contribution plans)	2,353	2,389
Leave and other entitlements	369	699
Other employee benefits	551	684
Total employee benefits	22,942	22,490
Total employee expenses	22,942	22,490

All payments are within the terms of the 2012–2015 CLC Enterprise Agreement (EA). The CLC makes an additional superannuation contribution of 3% over and above minimum Superannuation Guarantee Levy of 9.50%.

The Central Land Council pays compulsory Professional Indemnity Insurance to Law Society NT for all its practising Lawyers and pays Comcover a premium for Accountable Authority and Officers insurance.

Note 3(b): Suppliers

Goods and services supplied or rendered		
Accounting & Audit	215	222
Consultants	530	898
Travel, motor vehicle and meeting expenses	3,153	3,466
Accommodation & utilities	1,856	1,836
Other operating	2,811	2,726
Grant expenses	5,136	5,540
Total goods and services supplied or rendered	13,701	14,688
Other supplier expenses		
Operating lease rentals (minimum lease payments) – external parties	157	124
Workers Compensation & Professional Indemnity Insurance premium	554	546
Total other supplier expenses	711	670
Total supplier expenses	14,412	15,358
Commitments for minimum lease payments in relation to noncancellable operating leases are payable as follows:		
Within 1 year	172	119
Between 1 to 5 years	650	313
More than 5 years	574	148
Total operating lease commitments	1,396	581

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Note 3(c): Depreciation		
Depreciation:		
Buildings	653	627
Motor vehicles	1,178	1,296
Plant and equipment	225	216
IT Equipment and Softwares	220	141
Total depreciation	2,277	2,279

The aggregate amounts of depreciation expensed during the reporting period for each class of depreciable asset are detailed in Note 7(c): Analysis of Property, Plant and Equipment.

Note 3(d): Write-down and Impairment of Assets

Asset write-downs and impairments from:		
Impairment of financial instruments – trade receivables	44	50
Total write-down and impairment of assets	44	50

NOTE 4: INCOME

OWN SOURCE REVENUE

Note 4(a): Sale of Goods and Rendering of Services

Rendering of services – External parties	2,901	3,702
Total sale of goods and rendering of services	2,901	3,702

Note 4(b): Interest

Interest from cash & short-term deposits	381	386
Total interest	381	386

Note 4(c): Rental Income

Operating lease – other	28	60
Total rental income	28	60

Note 4(d): Other revenue / gains

Community project grants	4,789	5,383
Total other gains	4,789	5,383

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Note 4(e): Gains from Sale of Assets	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Motor Vehicles, plant and equipment		
Proceeds from sale	451	384
Carrying value of assets sold	(316)	(240)
Net gain from sale of assets	135	144

Note 4 (f): Reversal of Previous Asset Write-Downs and Impairments

Reversal of impairment losses – loans and receivables	13	49
Total reversals of previous asset write-downs and impairments	13	49

Note 4(g): Revenue from Government

From Government – ABA s.64(1)	17,474	16,106
From Government – Special Purpose Contracts	12,953	12,596
From Government – Special Purpose Contracts (revenue received in advance but not yet spent)	941	1,181
Total revenue from Government	31,368	29,883

Revenue received in advance but not yet spent (Unearned Revenue)

AASB 1004 requires recognition of revenue once control of assets is with the CLC. Under the interpretation of this standard restrictions over how the money should be spent do not result in obligations. Therefore no liability has been recognised, and the majority of grants are recognised as income when cash is received.

This accounting treatment has the effect of additional revenue being recognised for the CLC in the 2015–16 financial year. For the 2015–16 financial year, \$941k (2014/2015: \$1,181k) was received and recognised as revenue, with corresponding outflows of resources expected in the 2016/2017 financial year. Refer also Note 15 to these accounts.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 5: STATEMENT OF BUDGET VS ACTUAL ABORIGINALS BENEFIT ACCOUNT APPROPRIATIONS

	ABA Approved Estimates \$'000 2015–2016	ABA Actual \$'000 2015–2016	Variance \$'000 2015–2016
Expenditure			
Salaries and related expenses	12,803	13,395	(592)
Operational expenses	6,806	5,822	984
Total recurrent expenditure	19,609	19,218	391
Capital	1,943	1,887	56
Total expenditure	21,552	21,105	447
Income			
ABA sec. 64(1)	17,474	17,474	–
Administration fees	2,422	2,230	(192)
Interest	275	359	84
Sale of assets	534	198	(336)
Recoveries	680	907	227
Other	167	278	111
Total income	21,552	21,447	(105)
ABA surplus / (deficit) at 30 June 2016	–	342	342

	\$'000 2015–2016	Notes
The net surplus of \$342k is accounted for as follows:		
ABA surplus / (deficit) at 30 June 2016:	342	
(Less) Committed towards building upgrades	(290)	(i)
Add: MV Disposals consigned to Auction House May–June 2016	336	(ii)
(Less) Committed operational expenses	(237)	(iii)
(less) Planned – Implementation of Electronic Data Records Management System (EDRMS)	(356)	(iv)
ABA surplus after commitments as at 30 June 2016	(205)	

Notes:

- (i) Committed toward building upgrade at Papunya;
- (ii) Income receivable from Auction House for surplus vehicles as per CLC Transport Strategy;
- (iii) Pending operational expenses provided for in 2015–16 carried forward to 2016–17; and
- (iv) Committed expenses for the implementation of the EDRMS project 2016/17.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Note 5(a): Reconciliation – ABA cash Receipts to Income Statement	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Cash release received during the reporting period:		
ABA Section 64(1)	17,474	16,106
ABA Section 64(1) – payment under s.64(1)	–	–
	17,474	16,106

Note 5(b): Reconciliation – ABA Special Purpose Grant: Lajamanu Community Governance Project Mentors Group

Income		
ABA grant income / (repayment)	–	–
Total income / (repayment)	–	–
Expenditure		
Operational expenditure	–	8
Total expenditure	–	8
Annual movement in grant funds	–	(8)
Multi-year grant balance of funds:	Nil	Nil

Note 5(c): ABA Special Purpose Grant: Lajamanu Kurdiji governance Project Phase 2

Income		
ABA grant income	–	–
Total income	–	–
Expenditure		
Operational expenditure	54	79
Total expenditure	54	79
Annual movement in grant funds	(54)	(79)
Multi-year grant balance of funds:	–	54

Note 5(d): ABA Special Purpose Grant: Women's Law and Culture Meeting 2013

Income		
ABA grant income/(repayment)	–	12
Total income / (repayment)	–	12
Expenditure		
Capital and Operational expenditure	–	–
Total expenditure	–	–
Annual movement in grant funds	–	12
Multi-year grant balance of funds:	Nil	Nil

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Note 5(e): ABA Special Purpose Grant: Repatriation of Sacred Objects	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Income		
ABA grant income/(repayment)	39	–
Total income / (repayment)	39	–
Expenditure		
Capital and Operational expenditure	32	–
Total expenditure	32	–
Annual movement in grant funds	7	–
Multi-year grant balance of funds:	7	Nil

Note 5(f): ABA Special Purpose Grant: Men and Women of Central Australia Oral History Project

Income		
ABA grant income/(repayment)	–	–
Total income / (repayment)	–	–
Expenditure		
Operational expenditure	23	76
Total expenditure	23	76
Annual movement in grant funds	(23)	(76)
Multi-year grant balance of funds:	NIL	23

Note 5(g): ABA Special Purpose Grant: ABA Ranger Capital and Operational

Income		
ABA grant income/(repayment)	430	456
Total income / (repayment)	430	456
Expenditure		
Capital and Operational expenditure	410	579
Total expenditure	410	579
Annual movement in grant funds	20	(123)
Multi-year grant balance of funds	NIL	(20)

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Note 5(h): ABA Special Purpose Grant: Capacity Development for Community Development and Investment of Rental Income	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Income		
ABA grant income/(repayment)	–	–
Total income / (repayment)	–	–
Expenditure		
Operational expenditure	–	63
Total expenditure	–	63
Annual movement in grant funds	–	(63)
Multi-year grant balance of funds:	Nil	Nil

Note 5(i): ABA Special Purpose Grant: Contribution to the Independent evaluation of the CLC 'Community Development Unit' and the CLC 'Community Governance Project'

Income		
ABA grant income/(repayment)	–	–
Total income / (repayment)	–	–
Expenditure		
Operational expenditure	–	1
Total expenditure	–	1
Annual movement in grant funds	–	(1)
Multi-year grant balance of funds:	Nil	Nil

Note 5(j): Reconciliation – ABA Special Purpose Grant: Funeral and Ceremony 30 June 2015

Income		
ABA grant income/(repayment)	(3)	350
Total income / (repayment)	(3)	350
Expenditure		
Operational expenditure	–	327
Total expenditure	–	327
Annual movement in grant funds	(3)	23
Multi-year grant balance of funds:	–	3

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Note 5(k): Reconciliation – ABA Special Purpose Grant: Funeral and Ceremony 30 June 2016	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Income		
ABA grant income/(repayment)	350	–
Total income / (repayment)	350	–
Expenditure		
Operational expenditure	349	–
Total expenditure	349	–
Annual movement in grant funds	1	–
Multi-year grant balance of funds:	1	–

Note 5(l): Reconciliation – ABA Special Purpose Grant: IEP-CLC Ranger Program

Income		
ABA grant income/(repayment)	16	66
Total income / (repayment)	16	66
Expenditure		
Operational expenditure	–	7
Total expenditure	–	7
Annual movement in grant funds	16	59
Multi-year grant balance of funds:	75	59

Note 5(m): Reconciliation – Reinvigorating Warumungu & Warlmanpa Women's Cultural Heritage Stage 2

Income		
ABA grant income/(repayment)	–	–
Total income / (repayment)	–	–
Expenditure		
Operational expenditure	–	49
Total expenditure	–	49
Annual movement in grant funds	–	(49)
Multi-year grant balance of funds:	Nil	Nil

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 6: FINANCIAL ASSETS

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Note 6(a): Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash on hand or on deposit	10,673	10,975
Total cash and cash equivalents	10,673	10,975
Note 6(b): Trade and other receivables		
Goods and Services:		
Goods and Services – external parties	891	1,414
Total receivables for goods and services	891	1,414
Other receivables		
GST receivable from Australian Taxation Office	177	52
Interest receivable	18	17
Total other receivables	195	69
Total trade and other receivables (gross)	1,086	1,483
Less: impairment allowance account		
Goods and services	(124)	(92)
	(124)	(92)
Total trade and other receivables (net)	962	1,391
Receivables are expected to be recovered in:		
No more than 12 months	962	1,391
More than 12 months	–	–
Total trade and other receivables (net)	962	1,391
Receivables are aged as follows:		
Not overdue	516	1,000
Overdue by:		
– less than 30 days	156	167
– 31 to 60 days	15	66
– 61 to 90 days	–	10
– more than 90 days	222	188
	393	432
Total Receivables (gross)	909	1,432
The impairment allowance is aged as follows:		
Overdue by		
– more than 90 days	(124)	(92)
	(124)	(92)

Credit terms for goods and services were within 30 days (2015: 30 days).

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

<i>Note 6(a): Cash and Cash Equivalents contd</i>	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Reconciliation of the Impairment Allowance Account Movements in relation to 2016 – Goods and services		
Opening balance	92	91
Amounts written off	45	50
Amounts recovered and reversed	(13)	(49)
Increase/decrease recognised in net surplus	32	1
Closing balance	124	92

NOTE 7: NON FINANCIAL ASSETS

Note 7(a): Land and Buildings

Freehold land at gross carrying value (at fair value)	5,026	4,670
Buildings on freehold land:		
– fair value	13,485	13,545
– accumulated depreciation	–	(858)
	13,485	12,687
Buildings on leasehold land:		
– work-in-progress	20	–
– fair value	6,508	6,508
– accumulated depreciation	–	(371)
	6,528	6,137
Total Land and Buildings	25,039	23,494

All land and buildings were subject to revaluation and were independently revalued by Maloney Asset Services at 30 June 2016.

A revaluation increment of \$1,614k for land and buildings was credited to the asset revaluation reserve and included in the equity section of the Statement of Financial Position in 2016.

At 30 June 2016, the accountable authority believe that all non-financial assets as reported are carried at fair value and no indicators of impairment were found for non-financial assets.

No Land or Buildings are currently held for sale or are expected to be sold or disposed in the next 12 months.

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

Note 7(b): Plant and Equipment	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Motor vehicles – at cost	9,358	9,117
Accumulated depreciation	(4,894)	(4,754)
	4,464	4,363
Plant and equipment – at cost	2,165	2,209
Plant and equipment – at fair value	2	7
Accumulated depreciation	(1,071)	(1,027)
	1,096	1,189
Library at fair value	500	500
Accumulated depreciation	(50)	(50)
	450	450
Computer equipment and softwares at cost	1,651	1,294
Accumulated depreciation	(1,271)	(1,051)
	380	243
Total plant and equipment	6,390	6,245

Library's Valuable Book Collection was subject to revaluation and was independently revalued by Matthew Fishburn as at 30 June 2016.

The difference in the valuation was immaterial.

At 30 June 2016, the accountable authority believe that all non-financial assets are carried at fair value and no indicators of impairment were found for non-financial assets.

No property, plant or equipment is currently held for sale or expected to be sold or disposed in the next 12 months.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Note 7(c): Analysis of Property, Plant and Equipment

Table (A): Reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of property, plant and equipment 2015–16

	Land & Buildings \$	Motor Vehicles \$	Plant & Equipment \$	Library \$	Computer Equipment and Softwares \$	TOTAL \$
As at 1 July 2015						
Gross book value	24,723	9,117	2,216	500	1,294	37,850
Accumulated depreciation/amortisation	(1,229)	(4,754)	(1,027)	(50)	(1,051)	(8,111)
Net book value 1 July 2015	23,494	4,363	1,189	450	243	29,739
Additions						
By purchase	584	1,486	242	–	358	2,670
Revaluation movements						
Revaluation increments recognised in equity	1,614	–	–	–	–	1,614
Reversal of accumulated depreciation in gross value	(1,882)	–	–	–	–	(1,882)
Reversal of accumulated depreciation	1,882	–	–	–	–	1,882
Depreciation expense	(653)	(1,178)	(225)	–	(221)	(2,277)
Disposals – Gross value	–	(1,245)	(290)	–	–	(1,535)
Disposals – Accumulated depreciation	–	1,038	180	–	–	1,218
Net book value 30 June 2016	25,039	4,464	1,096	450	380	31,429
Net book value as of 30 June 2016 represented by						
Gross book value	25,039	9,358	2,168	500	1,651	38,716
Accumulated depreciation	–	(4,894)	(1,071)	(50)	(1,271)	(7,287)
Closing net book value	25,039	4,464	1,096	450	380	31,429

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Table (A): Reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of property, plant and equipment 2014/2015

	Land & Buildings \$	Motor Vehicles \$	Plant & Equipment \$	Library \$	Computer Equipment and Softwares \$	TOTAL \$
As at 1 July 2014						
Gross book value	23,984	8,826	2,127	500	1,188	36,625
Accumulated depreciation/amortisation	(602)	(4,131)	(810)	(50)	(910)	(6,503)
Net book value 1 July 2014	23,382	4,695	1,317	450	278	30,122
Additions						
By purchase	739	1,203	88	–	106	2,136
Depreciation expense	(627)	(1,295)	(216)	–	(141)	(2,279)
Disposals – Gross value	–	(913)	–	–	–	(913)
Disposals – Accumulated depreciation	–	673	–	–	–	673
Net book value 30 June 2015	23,494	4,363	1,189	450	243	29,739
Net book value as of 30 June 2015 represented by						
Gross book value	24,723	9,117	2,216	500	1,294	37,850
Accumulated depreciation	(1,229)	(4,754)	(1,027)	(50)	(1,051)	(8,111)
Closing net book value	23,494	4,363	1,189	450	243	29,739

Note 7(d): Motor vehicle spare parts	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Tyres	46	13
Total motor vehicle spare parts	46	13

Motor vehicle spare parts are expected to be utilised within 12 months.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 8: PAYABLES

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Note 8(a): Suppliers		
Trade creditors	1,392	1,887
Sundry creditors and accruals	112	522
Total supplier payables	1,504	2,409

Note 8(b): Other Payables

Salaries and Wages	526	349
Total Other Payables	526	349

All payables are expected to be settled within 12 months

NOTE 9: PROVISIONS

Note 9(a): Employee provisions

Leave	3,967	3,801
Total Employee Provisions	3,967	3,801

Employee provisions are expected to be settled in:

No more than 12 months	2,947	2,963
More than 12 months	1,020	838
Total employee provisions	3,967	3,801

Long Service Leave liabilities were calculated using the shorthand method as at 30 June 2016 as detailed in FRR.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 10: CASH FLOW RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash from operating activities:

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Net cost of services	(31,428)	(30,453)
Add revenue from government	31,368	29,883
Adjustments for non-cash Items		
Depreciation and amortisation	2,277	2,279
Gain on disposal of assets	(135)	(144)
Impairment of assets	44	50
Reversal of impairment losses	(13)	(49)
Movements in Assets and Liabilities		
Decrease/(Increase) in receivables	397	(716)
(Increase)/Decrease in motor vehicle spares	(33)	8
Increase/(Decrease) in employee provisions	166	475
Increase/(Decrease) in payables	(727)	386
Net cash from (used by) operating activities	1,916	1,719

NOTE 11: RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE

There were no loans or grants made to directors or director related entities during the period. All transactions with directors or director related entities were made on normal terms and conditions. In cases where transactions occurred, the directors took no part in relevant decisions.

The Central Land Council holds three fully paid ordinary shares issued at \$1.00 each in Centrecorp Aboriginal Investment Corporation Pty Ltd ('Centrecorp'), the trustee of two charitable trusts. Centrecorp itself does not have financial transactions or prepare financial statements. The Deeds of both charitable trusts exclude the Central Land Council as a shareholder to benefit from the trusts and precludes the Deeds from being amended to ever allow such a benefit. As a result the Central Land Council does not control or have influence over these entities. The fair value of the three shares is zero.

The Central Land Council holds one fully paid share valued at \$1.00 Imparja Television Pty. Ltd.. The constitution of Imparja Television Pty. Ltd. paragraph 48 (a) states 'surplus shall not be distributed to the members.' The Central Land Council does not control or have influence over the entity. The fair value of the share is zero.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 12: SENIOR MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL REMUNERATION

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Short-term employee benefits:		
Salary	880	864
Other	65	41
Total Short-term employee benefit	945	905
Post-employment benefits:		
Superannuation (post-employment benefits)	127	121
Total post employment benefits	127	121
Other long-term benefits:		
Annual leave accrued	81	79
Long-service leave	31	24
Total other long-term benefits	112	103
Total	1,185	1,128

The total number of senior management personnel that are included in the table are 4. (2015: 5)

NOTE 13: REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS

Remuneration to auditors for the reporting period are as follows:

Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) – for statutory audit	54	53
KPMG – for acquittal of grants	43	–
Merit Partners Pty Ltd – for acquittal of grants	–	48
PriceWaterhouseCoopers for auditing the accounts of Associations assisted by the Land Council	92	106
	189	207

The Audit Fees above report the costs associated with auditing each financial year.

The Central Land Council incurs the cost of an audit on each of the Aboriginal Corporations, trusts and companies for which the Aboriginal Associations Management Centre (AAMC) assists. Subsequently these costs are covered by fees charged to the Associations. PriceWaterhouseCoopers continues to perform the audits and some tax agent services for these entities.

No other services were provided by the ANAO during the reporting period.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 14: LAND USE TRUST ACCOUNT

The Central Land Council maintains a Land Use Trust Account. Monies received on behalf of the Associations of Aboriginal people and individuals in accordance with Section 35 of the ALR (NT) Act, are held in the Land Use Trust Account and are disbursed in accordance with the terms of the trust. These monies are not available for other purposes of the CLC, and are not recognised in the financial statements.

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Opening Balance	30,232	29,836
Add receipts		
Subsection 64(1) & (3) statutory royalty equivalents	17,659	5,109
Section 42,43,44,46,48a & 48d negotiated monies	20,123	15,141
Section 15,16,19 & 20 rental and lease monies	8,096	9,103
Northern Territory – National Emergency Response Act 2007	–	2,060
Other monies	2,041	2,953
Total Receipts	47,919	34,366
Deduct payments		
Section 35(2) statutory royalty equivalents	17,659	5,056
Section 35(3) negotiated payments	20,054	15,169
Section 35(4) rental and lease monies	7,450	7,745
Northern Territory – National Emergency Response Act 2007	1,490	3,284
Other payments	1,234	2,716
Total Payments	47,887	33,970
Closing Balance	30,264	30,232
Cash at bank and term deposits	30,264	30,232

Note 14(a): Details of amounts paid – S35(2)

Details of amounts paid as required by Section 37(4) ALR (NT) Act:

Ngurratjuta Pmara Ntjarra Aboriginal Corporation	97	183
Granites Mine Affected Areas Aboriginal Corporation	17,562	4,875
	17,659	5,058

Determinations under s. 35(2) – both made 24 August 2011

That all money paid to it under subsection 64(3) in respect of that area affected by the Granites/Callie mining operations shall be paid, within 6 months of its receipt by the Land Council, to the Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation (ICN – 1195) That all money paid to it under subsection 64(3) in respect of that area affected by the Palm Valley and Mereenie Oil/Gas Field operations shall be paid, within 6 months of its receipt by the Land Council, to the Ngurratjuta/Pmara Ntjarra Aboriginal Corporation (ICN – 414)

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Note 14(b): Details of amounts paid – S35(4a)

Details of amounts paid as required by Section 35(4A) 'Accountable Amounts' ALR (NT) Act. Rent paid by the Director of National Parks under the lease of the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Aboriginal Corporation.

	2016 \$'000
Yangkuntjatjarra Kuta Aboriginal Corporation	1,079
Community Development – CURM08 – CURM10	105
Community Development – CMUT02 – CMUT06	155
	1,339

NOTE 15: SPECIAL PURPOSE CONTRACTS

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Statement of completion for Special Purpose Contracts		
Revenue received in advance but not yet spent		
Contract contributions unexpended at 30th June (refer Note 4(g) for revenue disclosure)	2,103	2,375
Closing balance unexpended grants	2,103	2,375

The total balance of unexpended grants as at 30th June 2016 is \$2,103k of which \$941k relates to revenue recognised in the 2015–16 financial year. The revenue received in advance but not yet spent represents recognised revenue (in line with AASB 1004) for which there will be outflows in the following year (services not yet performed). The closing balance represents future year expected cash outflows relating to current or prior year revenue recognised.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 16: FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Note 16(a): Categories of financial instruments	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Financial Assets		
Loans and receivables		
Cash on hand or on deposit	10,673	10,975
Trade and other receivables – net of impairment losses	785	1,339
Total	11,458	12,314
Carrying amount of financial assets	11,458	12,314
Financial Liabilities		
At amortised cost		
Trade Creditors	1,392	1,887
Sundry creditors and accruals	112	522
Total	1,504	2,409
Carrying amount of financial liabilities	1,504	2,409

The carrying amounts of financial instruments are a reasonable approximation of fair value due to their short term nature. The majority of the financial assets/liabilities above are short term payables and receivables. The Central Land Council has not transferred financial assets in which it has retained an interest. Trade and other receivables of \$785k (2015: \$1,339k) have been reduced by GST receivable of \$177k (2015: \$52k). The amount has also been reduced by allowances for impairment amounting to \$124k in 2016 (2015: \$92k).

Note 16(b): Net income and expenses from financial assets and liabilities

Loans and receivables		
Interest revenue (see note 4(b))	381	386
Net gain / (loss) loans and receivables	381	386
Net gain / (loss) from financial assets	381	386

There was no income or expense to be recognised from financial liabilities of the Central Land Council.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Note 16(c): Credit risk

Cash at the bank and receivables for goods and services represent the total exposure of the CLC to credit risk. The CLC is exposed to minimal credit risk as the majority of receivables are short term; are due under legislation or contract; or are receivable from the Australian Taxation Office in the form of a GST refund. An ageing analysis can be found at Note 6(b).

All bank accounts and term-deposits are held with two of the Australia's Big 4 banks. CLC has a concentration of credit risk with National Australia Bank ('NAB') as the majority of CLC's bank accounts and term deposits are held with NAB. ANZ bank holds \$2m in TDs.

All debtors are unsecured and as such, the carrying value of the net receivables represents the amount exposed to credit risk. The Central Land Council holds no collateral to mitigate against credit risk.

Credit quality of financial instruments not past due or individually determined as impaired

	Not past due nor impaired 2016 \$'000	Not past due nor impaired 2015 \$'000	Past due or impaired 2016 \$'000	Past due or impaired 2015 \$'000
Trade receivables	498	982	393	432
Interest receivables	18	17	–	–
Total	516	1,000	393	432

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Ageing of financial assets that were past due but not impaired		
– less than 30 days	156	167
– 31 to 60 days	15	66
– 61 to 90 days	–	11
– more than 90 days	98	96
	269	340

Note 16(d): Liquidity risk and market risk

The Central Land Council's financial liabilities are suppliers payables. The CLC in its present form with its present programs is dependent on Government policy and on continuing appropriations by Parliament. The CLC manages its budget to ensure it has adequate funds to meet payments as they fall due. Financial liabilities at 30 June 2016 of \$1,504k (2015: \$2,409k) are all current liabilities (due within 1 year).

There is no market risk relating to the Central Land Council's financial assets or liabilities.

Note 16(e): Interest Rate Risk

CLC's sensitivity to movement in interest rates in relation to the nature of interest bearing assets in 2016 has been assessed as 1% (100 basis points). Based on cash as at 30 June 2016, movement of 1% would equate to a \$107k increase/decrease in profit and corresponding increase/decrease in equity (2015: \$110k increase or decrease in profit or increase/decrease in equity).

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 17: CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

At 30 June 2016, the CLC had no significant legal claims in progress.

At 30 June 2016, the CLC had no significant contingent assets and liabilities. (2015: \$Nil)

NOTE 18: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

The different levels of the fair value hierarchy are defined below:

Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the assets or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

The Council determines fair value for its non-financial assets using the level 2 and 3 inputs in the fair value hierarchy.

The following table disclose the fair value at 30 June 2016 and the valuation techniques used to derived its fair value:

	Fair value measurement – Valuation technique & Input Used for Non-financial Assets			
	Fair value \$'000	Category	Valuation Technique	Input Used & Range
Non-financial assets				
Land and Buildings				
Freehold land	5,026	Level 2	– Market based valuation of direct comparatives	
Building on freehold land	13,455	Level 2	– Capitalisation on an assumed income based on comparative properties	
Work in progress	30	Level 3	– Depreciated replacement cost	– Replacement cost based on comparable price of modern equivalent
Building on leasehold land	6,528	Level 3	– Depreciated replacement cost	– Remaining useful life of the building on a leasehold land – Replacement cost based on comparable price of modern equivalent

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Fair value measurement: Valuation technique & Input Used for Non-financial Assets			
	Fair value \$'000	Category	Valuation Technique	Input Used & Range
Plant and Equipment				
Motor Vehicles	4,464	Level 3	– Market comparables	– Market buying/selling price – Residual value of about 10–15% costs – Remaining useful lives of 4 to 10 years
Plant and equipment	1,096	Level 3	– Depreciated replacement cost	– Remaining useful lives of 3 to 10 years – Replacement cost based on comparable price of modern equivalents
Computer equipment	380	Level 3	– Depreciated replacement cost	– Remaining useful lives of 3 to 4 years – Replacement cost based on comparable price of modern equivalents
Library	450	Level 3	– Depreciated replacement cost	– Replacement cost based on comparable price of modern equivalents
Total Non-financial Assets	31,429			

The fair value of the Council's freehold land and building, including work-in-progress, as at 30 June 2016 has been determined and approved by the Council using the basis of the valuation carried out by Maloney Asset Services as at 30 June 2016, who is a certified practising valuer and with relevant experience in the valuation of property in Alice Springs. The regularity of independent valuations depends upon the volatility of movements in the market value of the relevant assets. The fair value measurement for the freehold land and building has been categorised as Level 2 fair value based on the valuation technique noted above.

The fair value of the Council's building on leasehold land as at 30 June 2016 has also been determined and approved by the Council using the basis of the valuation carried out by Maloney Asset Services as at 30 June 2016. The fair value measurement for the building on leasehold land has been categorised as Level 3 fair value based on the inputs of the valuation technique (see above).

For those infrastructure, plant and equipment that are carried at cost, their cost approximates their fair market value.

The highest and best use of the infrastructure, plant and equipment approximates its current use.

The reconciliations for the recurring level 2 and 3 fair market value measurements of Land and Building and Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment are detailed in Note 7.

There were no changes in valuation techniques used by Council during the year.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 19: AMOUNTS PAID TO CONSULTANTS

	2016 \$'000
Anthropology	22
Beit Holmes And Associates P/L	22
Community Development	52
Anthropos Consulting Services	2
Ian Munro Consulting	17
La Trobe University	21
Petronella Vaarzon-Morel	12
Corporate Services and Finance	149
Acting Consulting Training	10
BCA Engineers	2
Beit Holmes And Associates P/L	18
Bruderlin MacLean Publishing Services	3
Corpvote Pty Ltd	3
Dave Richards	6
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu	4
Galaxy Research	15
Hal Bisset	2
Maloney Field Services	28
Matthew Fishburn	1
PriceWaterHouseCoopers	40
Sharon Rappolt	2
Whitdenn Data Solutions	15
Land Management and Ranger Program	77
Colin Stanton	7
Indigenous Community Television Limited	3
Jane Lloyd	6
Lightwell	34
Rhebo Pty Ltd	19
Sandover Pastoral Company Pty Ltd	8
Mining	27
Beit Holmes And Associates P/L	17
Olaf Geerken	10
Native Title	225
AKA Consulting	26
Jimmy Weiner Pty Ltd	10
John Morton	58
Michael Cawthorn	39
Petronella Vaarzon-Morel	26
Sandra Jarvis	18
Susan Donaldson	48
Grand Total	552



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister for Indigenous Affairs

Report on the Annual Financial Statements

I have audited the accompanying annual financial statements of the Central Land Council as Native Title Representative Body for the year ended 30 June 2016, which comprise:

- Statement by the Accountable Authority and Chief Financial Officer;
- Statement of Comprehensive Income;
- Statement of Financial Position;
- Statement of Changes in Equity;
- Cash Flow Statement; and
- Notes comprising a Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and other explanatory information.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements of the Central Land Council as Native Title Representative Body:

- (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015*; and
- (b) present fairly the financial position of the Central Land Council as Native Title Representative Body as at 30 June 2016 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended.

Accountable Authority's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Accountable Authority of the Central Land Council as Native Title Representative Body is responsible under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* for the preparation and fair presentation of annual financial statements that comply with Australian Accounting Standards and the rules made under that Act and is also responsible for such internal control as the Accountable Authority determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. I have conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. These auditing standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's

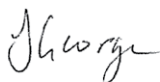
judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Accountable Authority of the entity, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting my audit, I have followed the independence requirements of the Australian National Audit Office, which incorporate the requirements of the Australian accounting profession.

Australian National Audit Office



Jodi George
Audit Principal

Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra
22 August 2016

**CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL - Native Title Representative Body
STATEMENT BY ACCOUNTABLE AUTHORITY AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

The Central Land Council (CLC) is a Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) as prescribed in the *Native Title Act 1993*. Since being recognised as an NTRB, the CLC has performed the functions of the NTRB in association with other CLC mainstream functions.

There has been a requirement since 2002 for the CLC to prepare financial statements for the NTRB under section 203 DC of the *Native Title Act 1993*.

In our opinion, the attached financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2016 comply with subsection 42(2) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act), and are based on properly maintained financial records as per subsection 41(2) of the PGPA Act.

In our opinion, at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the NTRB will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The statement is made in accordance with this declaration of the Accountable Authority.



Signed

Mr. David Ross
Director
Accountable Authority

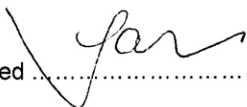
Date 22/8/16



Signed

Mr. Francis Kelly
Chair
Accountable Authority

Date 22/8/16



Signed

Dr Nigel Graves FCPA
Chief Financial Officer

Date 22/8/16

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	NOTES	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
NET COST OF SERVICES EXPENSE			
Employees and council members	3(a)	1,915	1,925
Suppliers	3(b)	1,402	1,501
Depreciation	3(c)	155	161
TOTAL EXPENSES		3,472	3,587
LESS:			
OWN-SOURCE INCOME			
Own-source Revenue			
Sale of goods and rendering of services	4(c)	68	1
Interest	4(b)	21	25
Total Own-source Revenue		89	26
Gains			
Gains from disposal of assets	4(d)	48	–
Total Gains		48	–
Total own-source Income		137	26
Net (cost of) services		(3,335)	(3,561)
Revenue from government	4(a)	3,457	2,709
(Deficit)/Surplus attributable to the Australian Government		122	(852)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Changes in asset revaluation reserves		–	–
Total other Comprehensive Income/(Loss)		–	–
Total Comprehensive Income Attributable to the Australian Government		122	(852)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2016

	NOTES	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
ASSETS			
Financial assets			
Cash	10	269	163
Total financial assets		269	163
Non-financial assets			
Plant and equipment	6(a)	440	451
Total non-financial assets		440	451
Total assets		709	614
LIABILITIES			
Provisions			
Employee provisions	7(a)	375	402
Total provisions		375	402
Total liabilities		375	402
NET ASSETS		334	212
EQUITY			
Asset revaluation reserve		14	14
Retained surplus		320	198
Total equity		334	212

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Retained Surplus/ (Deficit)		Asset revaluation reserve		TOTAL EQUITY	
	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Opening balance	198	1,050	14	14	212	1,064
Other Comprehensive Income						
Deficit for the period	122	(852)	–	–	122	(852)
Total Comprehensive income	122	(852)	–	–	122	(852)
Closing balance as at 30 June	320	198	14	14	334	212

CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL NATIVE TITLE REPRESENTATIVE BODY

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

	Notes	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Operating activities			
Cash received			
Revenue from government	4(a)	3,457	2,709
Interest	4(b)	21	25
Sales of goods and rendering of services	4(c)	67	2
Total cash received		3,545	2,736
Cash used			
Employees	3(a)	1,941	1,874
Suppliers	3(b)	1,402	1,501
Total cash used		3,343	3,375
Net cash from/(used by) operating activities	8	202	(639)
Investing activities			
Cash received			
Proceeds from sales of property, plant & equipment		106	–
Total cash received		106	–
Cash used			
Purchase of property, plant & equipment	6(b)	202	76
Total cash used		202	76
Net cash used in investing activities		(96)	(76)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		106	(715)
Cash at the beginning of the reporting period		163	878
Cash at the end of the reporting period	10	269	163

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Overview

The Central Land Council (CLC) is a Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) as prescribed in the Native Title Amendment Act 1998 and a Land Council under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*. It is a not-for-profit entity. Since being recognised as an NTRB, the CLC has performed the functions of the NTRB in association with other CLC functions. The CLC has reporting requirements specified in the Native Title Amendment Act 1998, Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (schedule 1) and through Financial Reporting Rule.

The NTRB is dependent on the continued release of these funds for its continued existence and ability to carry out its normal activities. The funding conditions of the NTRB are laid down by the *Native Title Act*, and any special purpose grant guidelines. Accounting for monies received from Department of The Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPM&C) is subject to conditions approved by the Land Rights Branch.

Basis of Preparation of the Financial Report

The financial statements of the Central Land Council as a NTRB are required by Section 203DC (4) of the *Native Title Amendment Act 1998* and section 42 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and are general purpose financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- Finance Reporting Rule (FRR) for reporting period ending on or after 1 July 2015; and,
- Australian Accounting Standards, including Australian Accounting Interpretations, and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that apply for the reporting period.

The CLC as a NTRB has prepared the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity and Cash Flow Statement applicable to the NTRB operation and function. All NTRB account balances have been identified from within the CLC financial information and accurately extracted from the CLC accounts, representing the completeness and existence of all assets and liabilities of the NTRB. The CLC maintains an NTRB revenue and expenditure cost centre and the Statement of Comprehensive Income is a complete and accurate record of NTRB revenue and expenditure.

The NTRB Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Financial Position have been prepared on an accrual basis and are in accordance with historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities at fair value. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or the financial position. The financial report is prepared in Australian dollars and values are rounded to the nearest dollars unless otherwise specified.

Unless an alternative treatment is specifically required by an Accounting Standard or directed by the FRRs, assets and liabilities are recognised in the NTRB statement of financial position when and only when it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the NTRB or a future sacrifice of economic benefit will be required and the amounts of the assets or liabilities can be reliably measured. However, assets and liabilities arising under executory contracts are not recognised unless required by an accounting standard.

Unless alternative treatment is specifically required by an accounting standard, income and expenses are recognised in the NTRB Statement of Comprehensive Income when, and only when, the flow, consumption or loss of economic benefits has occurred and can be reliably measured.

Significant Accounting Judgements and Estimates

In the process of applying the accounting policies listed in the notes, the NTRB has not made judgements that have the most significant impact on the amounts recorded in the financial statements.

CLC NATIVE TITLE REPRESENTATIVE BODY
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

No accounting assumptions or estimates have been identified that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next accounting period.

New Accounting Standards

Adoption of New Australian Accounting Standard Requirements

No accounting standard has been adopted earlier than the applicable dates as stated in standard.

New standards/revised standards/interpretations/amending standards issued prior to the sign-off date applicable to the current reporting period did not have a financial impact on the NTRB and are not expected to have future financial impact on the NTRB.

Future Australian Accounting Standard Requirements

The following new standards/revised standards/Interpretations/amending standards were issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board prior to the sign-off date, which are not expected to have a material financial impact on the NTRB for future reporting periods:

Standard	Nature of impending changes	Expected application date for CLC
AASB 124 Related Party Disclosure	CLC as NTRB will apply AASB 124 Related Party Disclosure in 2016–17. This Standard requires the disclosure of significant transactions with related parties. Related parties include key managers of the entity, relevant Ministers and other Australian Government entities.	2016–17
AASB 9 Financial Instruments	CLC as NTRB expects to apply AASB 9 Financial Instruments in 2018–19. This standard will require most financial assets to be measured at fair value, except for those that are held only for the collection of the principle and interest. Also, wherever there has been a significant increase in credit risk, the Standard will require an expense to be recognised for all expected losses over the life of financial assets. In other cases, an expense will be recognised for losses expected in the year after the reporting date.	2017–18
AASB 16 Leases	CLC as NTRB expects to apply AASB 16 Leases from 2019–20. This Standard will require the net present value of payments under most operating leases to be recognised as assets and liabilities.	2019–20

1.1 Revenue

The revenues described in this Note are revenues relating to the core operating activities of the NTRB:

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when:
 - the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred to the buyer;
 - the NTRB retains no managerial involvement or effective control over the goods;
 - the revenue and transaction costs incurred can be reliably measured; and
 - it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

- Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method as set out in AASB 139 Financial Instruments, Recognition and Measurement.
- Receivables for goods and services, which have 30 days credit term, are recognised at the nominal amounts due less any impairment allowance account. Collectability of debts is reviewed at the end of the reporting period. Allowances are made when collectability of the debt is no longer probable.
- Revenue from the rendering of a service, other than those contributions on receipt as per AASB 1004, is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract to provide the service at the reporting date. The revenue is recognised when:
 - the amount of revenue, stage of completion and transaction costs incurred can be reliably measured; and
 - the probable economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the NTRB.

The stage of completion of the contract at the reporting date is determined according to the proportion that costs incurred to date bear to the estimated total costs of the transaction.

Program Funding Agreements

Most agreements require the grantee to perform services or provide facilities, or to meet eligibility criteria. Receipts from agreements are recognised as income when received. Where agreement funds that have been paid in advance had a stand-ready obligation to return unspent funds, a liability is recognised.

Revenues from Government

Funding received or receivable from agencies are recognised as Revenue from Government when the entity gains control of the funding, except for certain amounts that relate to activities that are reciprocal in nature, in which case revenue is recognised only when it has been earned. Funding receivable is recognised at its nominal amounts.

Funding received or receivable from non-corporate Commonwealth entities (appropriated to the non-corporate Commonwealth entity as a corporate Commonwealth entity payment item for payment to this entity) is recognised as Revenue from Government unless they are in the nature of an equity injection or a loan. These are recognised at the time the Council becomes entitled to the funding or as contribution on receipt as per AASB 1004 Contributions.

1.1 Gains

Sale of Assets

Gains from disposal of assets are recognised when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

1.2 Employee Benefits

Employee Benefits

Liabilities for 'short-term employee benefits' (as defined in AASB 119 Employee Benefits) and termination benefits expected within twelve months of the end of reporting period are measured at their nominal amounts.

The nominal amount is calculated with regard to the rates expected to be paid on settlement of the liability.

Leave

The liability for employee benefits includes provisions for annual leave and long service leave. No provision has been made for sick leave as it is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by employees of the NTRB is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement for sick leave.

The leave liabilities are calculated on the basis of employees' remuneration, at the estimated salary rates that will be applied at the time leave is taken, including the NTRB's employer superannuation contribution rates to

CLC NATIVE TITLE REPRESENTATIVE BODY

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

the extent that the leave is likely to be taken during service rather than paid out on termination.

The estimate of the present value of the long service leave liability takes into account attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation.

Superannuation

The majority of employees of the CLC are members of Acumen Superannuation Funds. The Central Land Council makes employer contributions to the Acumen superannuation fund at the rate of 12.5% paid on a fortnightly basis. The CLC as a NTRB complies with the requirements of the superannuation choice legislation.

The liability for superannuation recognised as at 30 June represents outstanding contributions for the last fortnight of the year.

1.3 Financial Assets

The NTRB classifies its financial assets in the following categories:

- held-to-maturity investments, and
- loans and receivables.

The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the financial assets and is determined at the time of initial recognition. Financial assets are recognised and derecognised upon 'trade date'.

Effective interest method

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and of allocating interest income over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset, or, where appropriate, a shorter period.

Income is recognised on an effective interest rate basis except for financial assets that are recognised at fair value through profit or loss.

Held-to-maturity investments

Non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturity dates that the NTRB has the positive intent and ability to hold to maturity are classified as held-to-maturity investments. Held-to-maturity investments are recorded at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment, with revenue recognised on an effective yield basis.

Loans and receivables

Trade receivables, loans and other receivables that have fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market are classified as 'loans and receivables'. Loans and receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment. Interest is recognised by applying the effective interest rate.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets are assessed for impairment at the end of each reporting date.

- **Financial assets held at amortised cost:** If there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred for loans and receivables or held to maturity investments held at amortised cost, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The carrying amount is reduced by way of an allowance account. The loss is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.
- **Financial assets held at cost:** If there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred, the amount of the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount of the asset and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the current market rate for similar assets.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

1.4 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets are not recognised in the statement of financial position but are reported in the notes. They may arise from uncertainty as to the existence of a liability or asset or represent an asset or liability in respect of which the amount cannot be reliably measured. Contingent assets are disclosed when settlement is probable but not virtually certain and contingent liabilities are disclosed when settlement is greater than remote.

1.5 Acquisition of Assets

Assets are recorded at cost on acquisition except as stated below. The cost of acquisition includes the fair value of assets transferred in exchange and liabilities undertaken. Financial assets are initially measured at their fair value plus transaction costs where appropriate.

Assets acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, are initially recognised as assets and revenues at their fair value at the date of acquisition, unless acquired as a consequence of restructuring of administrative arrangements. In the latter case, assets are initially recognised as contributions by owners at the amounts at which they were recognised in the transferor's accounts immediately prior to the restructuring.

1.6 Plant and Equipment

Asset Recognition Threshold

Purchases of property, plant and equipment are recognised initially at cost in the Balance Sheet, except for purchases costing less than \$2,000 which are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

The initial cost of an asset includes an estimate of the cost of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located including any necessary make good provisions.

Revaluations

Fair values for each class of asset are determined as shown below:

Asset Class	Fair Value Measured at:
Plant & Equipment	Market selling price
Motor Vehicles	Market selling price

Assets that are surplus to requirement are measured at their net realisable value. At 30 June 2016 the NTRB held no surplus assets (30 June 2015: \$0).

Following initial recognition at cost, plant and equipment are carried at fair value less subsequent accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Valuations are conducted with sufficient frequency to ensure that the carrying amounts of assets are not materially different from their fair values as at reporting date. The regularity of independent valuations depends upon the volatility of movements in the market value of the relevant assets.

Revaluation adjustments are made on a class basis. Any revaluation increment is credited to equity under the heading of asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that it reverses a previous revaluation decrement of the same asset class that was previously recognised in the surplus/deficit. Revaluation decrements for a class of assets are recognised directly in the surplus/deficit except to the extent that they reverse a previous revaluation increment for that class.

Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amounts of the assets and the asset restated to the revalued amount.

CLC NATIVE TITLE REPRESENTATIVE BODY

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Frequency

Plant and equipment are subject to a formal independent valuation at a minimum of every three years. The Central Land Council (as a NTRB) policy is for formal valuations to be carried out by an independent qualified valuer. Between formal valuations assets are assessed for movements in fair value.

Depreciation

Depreciable plant and equipment assets are written-off to their estimated residual values over their estimated useful lives to the NTRB using, in all cases, the straight-line method of depreciation.

Depreciation rates (useful lives), residual values and methods are reviewed at each reporting date and necessary adjustments are recognised in the current, or current and future reporting periods, as appropriate.

Depreciation rates applying to each class of depreciable asset are based on the following useful lives:

	2016	2015
Motor vehicles	4 years	4 years
Plant and equipment	3 to 10 years	3 to 10 years

The aggregate amount of depreciation allocated for each class of asset during the reporting period is disclosed in Note 6(b).

Impairment

All the assets were assessed for impairment at 30 June 2016. Where indications of impairment exist, the assets recoverable amount is estimated and an impairment adjustment is made if the asset's recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount.

The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Where the future economic benefit of an asset is not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate future cash flows, and the asset would be replaced if The NTRB were deprived of the asset, its value in use is taken to be its depreciated replacement cost.

Derecognition

An item of plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no further future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal.

1.7 Taxation/Competitive Neutrality

The NTRB is exempt from all forms of taxation except fringe benefits tax and the goods and services tax (GST).

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of GST except:

- where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office; and
- for receivables and payables.

NOTE 2: EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

There were no significant events after balance date.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 3: EXPENSES

Note 3(a): Employee benefits	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Wages & salaries	1,737	1,652
Superannuation	193	191
Leave	(26)	52
Other employee benefits	11	30
Total employee benefit expense	1,915	1,925

There were no expenses incurred for separation or redundancy of employees.

All payments are within the terms of the 2012–2015 CLC Enterprise Agreement (EA). The CLC–NTRB makes regular contributions in addition to minimum superannuation Guarantee Legislation at a rate of 12.50%.

Note 3(b): Supplier Expenses

Goods and services supplied or rendered		
Accounting & Audit	10	9
Consultants	202	306
Travel, motor vehicle & meeting expenses	229	182
Accommodation & utilities	40	48
Other operating	794	874
Grant expenses	100	50
Total goods and services supplied or rendered	1,375	1,469
Other supplier expenses		
Workers Compensation & Professional Indemnity Insurance premium	27	32
Total other supplier expenses	27	32
Total suppliers expenses	1,402	1,501

Note 3(c): Depreciation

Motor vehicles	132	132
Plant and Equipment	23	29
Total depreciation	155	161

The aggregate amount of depreciation or amortisation expensed during the reporting period for each class of depreciable assets are detailed in Note 6: Analysis of Plant & Equipment.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 4: REVENUE

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Note 4(a): Revenues from Government		
DPM&C Grant – Operational	3,457	2,709
Total revenues from government	3,457	2,709

Note 4(b): Interest revenue

Interest from deposits	21	25
Total interest revenue	21	25

Note 4(c): Sale of goods and rendering of services

Rendering of services – External entities	68	1
Total sales of goods and rendering of services	68	1

Note 4(d): Net Gains from Sale of Assets

Motor Vehicles, Plant & Equipment		
Proceeds from disposal	106	–
Net book value of assets disposed	(58)	–
Net gain from disposal	48	–

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 5: DPM&C GRANT: NATIVE TITLE – OPERATIONAL

	2015–2016 Approved Budget \$'000	2015–2016 Actual \$'000
INCOME		
Other Project Income		
Bank Interest	24	21
Vehicle Trade-in	80	106
AGI – cost recovery	240	240
2014–15 Capital Funds C/fwd	163	163
DPM&C Funding		
Capital	169	169
Operational	3,188	3,188
PBC Basic Support	100	100
TOTAL INCOME	3,964	3,987
EXPENDITURE		
Capital		
Vehicles	249	202
Total Capital	249	202
Operational		
Salaries		
CEO/GM or equivalents	140	140
Corporate staff	369	357
Project staff	1,741	1,702
Services		
Accommodation	185	182
Motor Vehicles – Corporate	10	21
Motor Vehicles – Attributable	40	92
Repair and Maintenance – Equipment	23	14
Repair and Maintenance – Buildings	20	25
Bank Charges	2	–
Audit Fees	12	10
Consultants – Corporate	–	–
Consultants – Attributable	255	57
Communications, Telephones, Fax and IT	80	82
Insurance – Workers compensation	26	27

CLC NATIVE TITLE REPRESENTATIVE BODY

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

	2015–2016 Approved Budget \$'000	2015–2016 Actual \$'000
Insurance – Assets	16	12
Insurance Professional Indemnity	20	26
Corporate HR/Finance/Property Serv/Library	123	100
Training & Development		
Governing Committee	3	1
Staff	30	20
Meetings		
Governing Committee	10	12
Attributable Other meetings expenses	40	45
Travel & Allowances		
Chairperson	2	1
Other Governing Committee members	5	2
Members (Travel)		–
Claimants (Travel)	50	65
Staff (Travel) Corporate	20	24
Staff (Travel) Attributable	50	60
Supplies & Consumables		
Corporate Office Sup/office misc.	6	2
Other		
2014–15 Capital Funds C/fwd.	163	163
Misc. recoverable meetings attrib exp	175	174
PBC – Lhere Artepe	50	50
PBC – Gurindji Aboriginal Corporation	50	50
	3,715	3,718
Balance as at 30 June 2016	–	269

Consistent with Note 1.1, the NTRB maintains accounts on an accrual basis, however, this statement includes elements of cash accounting consistent with the terms and conditions of the Native Title Grant.

The surplus of \$268,829 is committed for consultancy projects, information and technology systems replacement and upgrades and acquisitions of capital items.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 6: NON FINANCIAL ASSETS

Note 6(a): Plant and Equipment	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Motor vehicles – at cost	805	914
Accumulated depreciation	(383)	(488)
	422	426
Office equipment – at cost	202	186
Office equipment – at fair value	92	92
Accumulated depreciation	(276)	(253)
	18	25
Total plant and equipment	440	451

At 30 June 2016, the accountable authority believe that all the non-financial assets are carried at the fair value and no indicators of impairment were found for non-financial assets.

No plant or equipment is currently held for sale or expected to be sold or disposed in the next 12 months.

Note 6(b): Analysis of Plant and Equipment

Table (A): Reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of plant and equipment 2015–16

	Motor Vehicles \$'000	Office Equipment \$'000	TOTAL \$'000
As at 1 July 2015			
Gross book value	914	278	1,192
Accumulated depreciation/amortisation	(488)	(253)	(741)
Net book value as at 1 July 2015	426	25	451
Additions			
By purchase	186	16	202
Depreciation Expense	(132)	(23)	(155)
Disposals – Gross Value	(295)	–	(295)
Disposals – Accumulated Depreciation	237	–	237
Net book value as at 30 June 2016	422	18	440
Net book value as at 30 June 2016 represented by			
Gross book value	805	294	1,099
Accumulated depreciation	(383)	(276)	(659)
Closing net book value	422	18	440

CLC NATIVE TITLE REPRESENTATIVE BODY

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Table (B): Reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of plant and equipment 2014–15

	Motor Vehicles \$'000	Office Equipment \$'000	TOTAL \$'000
As at 1 July 2014			
Gross book value	837	278	1,115
Accumulated depreciation/amortisation	(355)	(225)	(580)
Net book value as at 1 July 2014	482	53	535
Additions			
By purchase	76	–	76
Depreciation Expense	(132)	(28)	(161)
Disposals – Gross Value	–	–	–
Disposals – Accumulated Depreciation	–	–	–
Net book value as at 30 June 2015	426	25	451
Net book value as at 30 June 2015 represented by			
Gross book value	914	278	1,192
Accumulated depreciation	(488)	(253)	(741)
Closing net book value	426	25	451

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 7: PROVISIONS

Note 7(a): Employee Provisions	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Leave	375	402
Total employee provisions	375	402
Employee provisions are expected to be settled in:		
No more than 12 months	305	280
More than 12 months	70	122
Total employee provisions	375	402

NOTE 8: CASH FLOW RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents as per statement of financial position to cash flow statement

Cash and cash equivalents as per		
Cash flow statement	269	163
Statement of financial position	269	163
Discrepancy	–	–
Reconciliation of Net cost of Services to net cash from operating activities		
Net cost of services	(3,335)	(3,561)
Add revenue from government	3,457	2,709
Non-Cash Items		
Depreciation of plant & equipment	155	161
Gain on disposal of assets	(48)	–
Movements in Assets and Liabilities		
Increase/(Decrease) in employee liabilities	(27)	52
Net cash from operating activities	202	(639)

NOTE 9: DIRECTOR REMUNERATION

There were no director remuneration payments made during the period with NTRB funding.

NOTE 10: CASH

Cash at bank and on hand – NTU account	269	163
Balance of cash as at 30 June shown in the Cash Flow Statement	269	163

Cash is recognised at its nominal amount. Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand and any demand deposits in bank accounts with an original maturity of 3 months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

CLC NATIVE TITLE REPRESENTATIVE BODY

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 11: AUDITORS REMUNERATION

Remuneration to the Australian National Audit Office for auditing the financial statements for the reporting period.

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
The fair value of services provided was:	10	9
	10	9

The Audit Fees disclosed above report the costs associated with auditing each financial year.

Only audit services were provided by the ANAO during the reporting period.

NOTE 12: EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

The staffing levels for the NTRB as at 30 June 2016 were:	19	19
---	----	----

NOTE 13: FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Note 13(a): Categories of financial instruments

Financial Assets		
Loans and receivables		
Cash at bank	269	163
Carrying amount of financial assets	269	163

The carrying amounts of financial instruments are a reasonable approximation of fair value due to their short term nature.

Note 13(b): Net income and expenses from financial assets and liabilities

Loans and receivables		
Interest revenue (see note 4(b))	21	25
Net gain/(loss) loans and receivables	21	25
Net gain/(loss) from financial assets	21	25

There was no income or expense to be recognised from financial liabilities of the NTRB.

Note 13(c): Credit risk

Where incurred, all debtors are unsecured and as such, the carrying value of the net receivables represents the amount exposed to credit risk.

Note 13(d) Liquidity risk and market risk

The NTRB's liabilities are employee liabilities. The NTRB in its present form with its present programs is dependent on Government policy and on continuing appropriations by Parliament. The NTRB manages its budget to ensure it has adequate funds to meet payments as they fall due. Financial liabilities at 30 June 2016 are \$Nil.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 14: CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

At 30 June 2016, the NTRB had no significant legal claims in progress.

At 30 June 2016, the NTRB had no contingent assets or liabilities (2015: \$NIL).

NOTE 15: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

The different levels of the fair value hierarchy are defined below:

Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the assets or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability. The NTRB determines fair value for its non-financial assets using the level 3 inputs in the fair value hierarchy.

The following table disclose the fair value at 30 June 2016 and the valuation techniques used to derived its fair value:

	Fair value measurement – Valuation technique & Input Used for Non-financial Assets			
	Fair value \$'000	Category	Valuation Technique	Input Used & Range
Non-financial assets				
Motor Vehicles	422	Level 3	– Market comparables	– Market buying/selling price – Residual value of about 10–15% costs – Remaining useful lives of 3 to 4 years
Office equipment	18	Level 3	– Depreciated replacement cost	– Remaining useful lives of 3 to 10 years – Replacement cost based on comparable price of modern equivalents
Total Non-financial Assets	440			

For those motor vehicle and office equipment that are carried at cost, their cost approximates their fair market value. The highest and best use of the motor vehicles and office equipment approximates its current use.

The reconciliations for the recurring level 3 fair market value measurements of motor vehicles and office equipment are detailed in Note 6.

There were no changes in valuation techniques used by the NTRB during the year.

GLOSSARY

AAMC	Aboriginal Associations Management Centre
AAI	Accountable Authority Instructions
AAPA	Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority
AAS	Australian Accounting Standards
ABA	Aboriginals Benefit Account
Aboriginal land	(a) land held by a Land Trust for an estate in fee simple; or (b) and the subject of a deed of grant held in escrow by a Land Council
ALRA	<i>Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976</i>
ALT	Aboriginal Land Trust
ANAO	Australian National Audit Office
APONT	Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory
APSC	Australian Public Service Commissioner
ATV	all-terrain vehicle
BIITE	Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education
BMAP	Business Management Advisory Project
CATSI Act	<i>Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006</i>
CD	community development
CDP	Community Development Program
CLA	community living area
CLC	Central Land Council
CLM	conservation and land management
COAG	Council of Australian Governments
Corporate governance	The process by which agencies are directed and controlled. It is generally understood to encompass authority, accountability, stewardship, leadership, direction and control
Council	the CLC's 90-member governing council
CS	Computer Services
Cwth	Commonwealth
Depreciation	Apportionment of an asset's capital value as an expense over its estimated useful life to take account of normal usage, obsolescence, or the passage of time
DIISR	Australian Government Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
DLRM	NT Government Department of Land Resource Management
DME	NT Government Department of Mines and Energy
DNP	Director of National Parks
DVD	digital versatile disk
EDRMS	Electronic Document and Records Management System
EEO	equal employment opportunity
EO	equal opportunity
Eoi	expression of interest
EPA	Exploration Permit Application

Expenses	The full costs of an activity; that is, the total value of all the resources consumed in producing goods and services or the loss of future economic benefits in the form of reductions in assets or increases in liabilities of the entity. Expenses include cash items such as salary payments, as well as expenses that have been incurred, such as accruing employee entitlements that will be paid in the future.
Fair value	The amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction
FEP	Flexible Employment Program
FMA Act	Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997
FTE	full-time equivalent
4WD	four-wheel drive
GEP	Geothermal Exploration Permit
GMAAAC	Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation
GPS	global positioning system
Grants	Non-reciprocal transfers of economic resources, where the payer agency does not receive approximately equal value in return
HR	Human Resources
HSMA	Health and Safety Management Arrangements
HSR	Health and Safety Representative
IAS	Australian Government Indigenous Advancement Strategy
IBA	Indigenous Business Australia
ICT	information and communication technologies
IDA	Indigenous Desert Alliance
ILC	Indigenous Land Corporation
ILUA	Indigenous Land Use Agreement
IPA	Indigenous Protected Area
IPP	Indigenous Pastoral Program: Key partners in the IPP are the CLC, the NLC, the, the NT Department of Resources, the Department of Employment, Education and Workplace Relations (DEEWR), NT Cattleman's Association (NTCA)
IS	information systems
IT	information technology
JMO	Joint Management Officer
Kurra	Kurra Aboriginal Corporation
LAAC	Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation
Land Council	An Aboriginal Land Council established by or under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act
Land Rights Act	see ALRA
Land Trust	An Aboriginal Land Trust established under the Land Rights Act
LUTA	Land Use Trust Account
Mineral royalties	Royalties payable to the Australian Government or the Northern Territory in respect of the mining of minerals
NAA	National Archives of Australia
Native Title Act	<i>Native Title Act 1993</i> (Cwlth)
NGO	non-government organization
NIPE	National Indigenous Pastoral Enterprises
NLC	Northern Land Council

NNTC	National Native Title Council
NNTT	National Native Title Tribunal
NPARIH	National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing
NRWM Act	<i>National Radioactive Waste Management Act 2012</i>
NTA	Native Title Application
NTER	Northern Territory Emergency Response
NTRB	Native Title Representative Body
ORIC	Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations
Outcomes	The Outcomes are desired results, impacts or consequences for Aboriginal people as influenced by the actions of the Central Land Council. Actual outcomes are assessments of the end results or impacts actually achieved.
PBC	Prescribed Body Corporate
PCBU	person conducting a business or undertaking
PGPA Act	<i>Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (Cwlth)</i>
PM&C	Australian Government Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PPL	perpetual pastoral lease
PWCNT	Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory
RJP Program	Real Jobs Pastoral Program
RREO	regional rural enterprise officer
RTA	<i>Residential Tenancy Act (NT)</i>
sacred sites	Sacred sites may be parts of the natural landscape such as hills, rocks, trees, springs and offshore reefs – places that are not always spectacular or interesting to the non-Aboriginal eye. They may be places that are significant to Aboriginal people because they mark a particular act of a creation being. They also include burial grounds and places where particular ceremonies have been held.
TCRO	Tennant Creek Regional Office
TOld	traditional owner identification
TORAC	Traditional Owner Ranger Advisory Committee
traditional owners	In relation to land, a local descent group of Aboriginal people who have common spiritual affiliations to a site on the land, being affiliations that place the group under a primary spiritual responsibility for that site and for the land; and are entitled by Aboriginal tradition to forage as of right over that land
TRAKS	Trimagic Records and Knowledge Management System
UKTNP	Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park
URM	Uluru Rent Money
WDNWPT	Western Desert Nganampa Walytja Palyantjaku Tjutaku
WETT	Warlpiri Education and Training Trust
WHS	work health and safety
WYDAC	Warlpiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation

COMPLIANCE INDEX

COMPLIANCE INDEX OF PUBLIC GOVERNANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RULE 2014 (PGPA RULE) REQUIREMENTS FOR CORPORATE COMMONWEALTH ENTITIES

Requirement under 17BE of the PGPA Rule	Page(s)
Details of the legislation establishing the body:	
(i) A summary of the objects and functions of the entity as set out in the legislation;	7
(ii) The purposes of the entity as included in the entity's corporate plan for the period.	12, 22, 125
The names of the persons holding the position of responsible Minister or responsible Ministers during the period, and the titles of those responsible Ministers.	16
Any directions given to the entity by a Minister under an Act or instrument during the period.	114
Any government policy orders that applied in relation to the entity during the period under section 22 of the Act.	114
If, during the period, the entity has not complied with a direction or order referred to in paragraph (d) or (e) – particulars of the non compliance.	n/a
The annual performance statements for the entity for the period in accordance with paragraph 39(1)(b) of the Act and section 16F of this rule.	125–7
A statement of any significant issue reported to the responsible Minister under paragraph 19(1)(e) of the Act that relates to non compliance with the finance law in relation to the entity.	115
If a statement is included under paragraph (h) of this section – an outline of the action that has been taken to remedy the non compliance.	n/a
Information on the accountable authority, or each member of the accountable authority, of the entity during the period, including:	
(i) the name of the accountable authority or member; and	12
(ii) the qualifications of the accountable authority or member; and	12
(iii) the experience of the accountable authority or member; and	12
(iv) for a member – the number of meetings of the accountable authority attended by the member during the period; and	12
(v) for a member – whether the member is an executive member or non executive member.	12, 18
An outline of the organisational structure of the entity (including any subsidiaries of the entity).	20
An outline of the location (whether or not in Australia) of major activities or facilities of the entity.	7, 121
Information in relation to the main corporate governance practices used by the entity during the period.	16–19
The decision making process undertaken by the accountable authority for making a decision if:	
(i) the decision is to approve the entity paying for a good or service from another Commonwealth entity or a company, or providing a grant to another Commonwealth entity or a company; and	n/a
(ii) the entity, and the other Commonwealth entity or the company, are related entities; and	n/a
(iii) the value of the transaction, or if there is more than one transaction, the aggregate value of those transactions, is more than \$10 000 (inclusive of GST).	n/a
If the annual report includes information under paragraph (n):	
(i) if there is only one transaction – the value of the transaction; and	n/a
(ii) if there is more than one transaction – the number of transactions and the aggregate of value of the transactions.	n/a
Any significant activities and changes that affected the operations or structure of the entity during the period.	21–24

Requirement under 17BE of the PGPA Rule	Page(s)
Particulars of judicial decisions or decisions of administrative tribunals made during the period that have had, or may have, a significant effect on the operations of the entity.	115
Particulars of any report on the entity given during the period by:	
(i) the Auditor General, other than a report under section 43 of the Act (which deals with the Auditor General's audit of the annual financial statements for Commonwealth entities); or	nil
(ii) a Committee of either House, or of both Houses, of the Parliament; or	nil
(iii) the Commonwealth Ombudsman; or	nil
(iv) the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner.	nil
If the accountable authority has been unable to obtain information from a subsidiary of the entity that is required to be included in the annual report – an explanation of the information that was not obtained and the effect of not having the information on the annual report.	n/a
Details of any indemnity that applied during the period to the accountable authority, any member of the accountable authority or officer of the entity against a liability (including premiums paid, or agreed to be paid, for insurance against the authority, member or officer's liability for legal costs).	115
An index identifying where the requirements of this section and section 17BF (if applicable) are to be found.	192

Requirement	Page(s)
-------------	---------

ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS (NT) ACT 1976

Fees	PART IV, s.33A & s.33B	The CLC received \$582,390 in deed administration fees relating to Part IV (Mining). No fee types prescribed under s.33A. No fees were requested under s.33B
Determinations	s.35	160
Amounts held in trust	s.37(5)	160
Delegations	s.28 and s.28A	NIL
Committees	s.29A	16–19
Consultants	s.37(8)	166

OTHER

Environmental matters	s.516A EPBC Act	122–124
Work, Health & Safety Act	Item 4, Schedule 2	115–117
FOI Act	Reporting requirements	115



CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

Address

27 Stuart Highway
Alice Springs
NT 0870

Postal address

PO Box 3321
Alice Springs
NT 0871

www.clc.org.au**Phone** 08 8951 6211**Email** media@clc.org.au

FRONT COVER IMAGE: Angeline Shilling protests against the shortlisting of a site near Titjikala for a nuclear waste dump. Painting by Nita Ferguson.

BACK COVER IMAGE: Cecilia Martin and son at Willowra's early childhood centre.

IMAGES ON PAGES 42, 44, 72, 100, 104: courtesy Marie Rancon.

