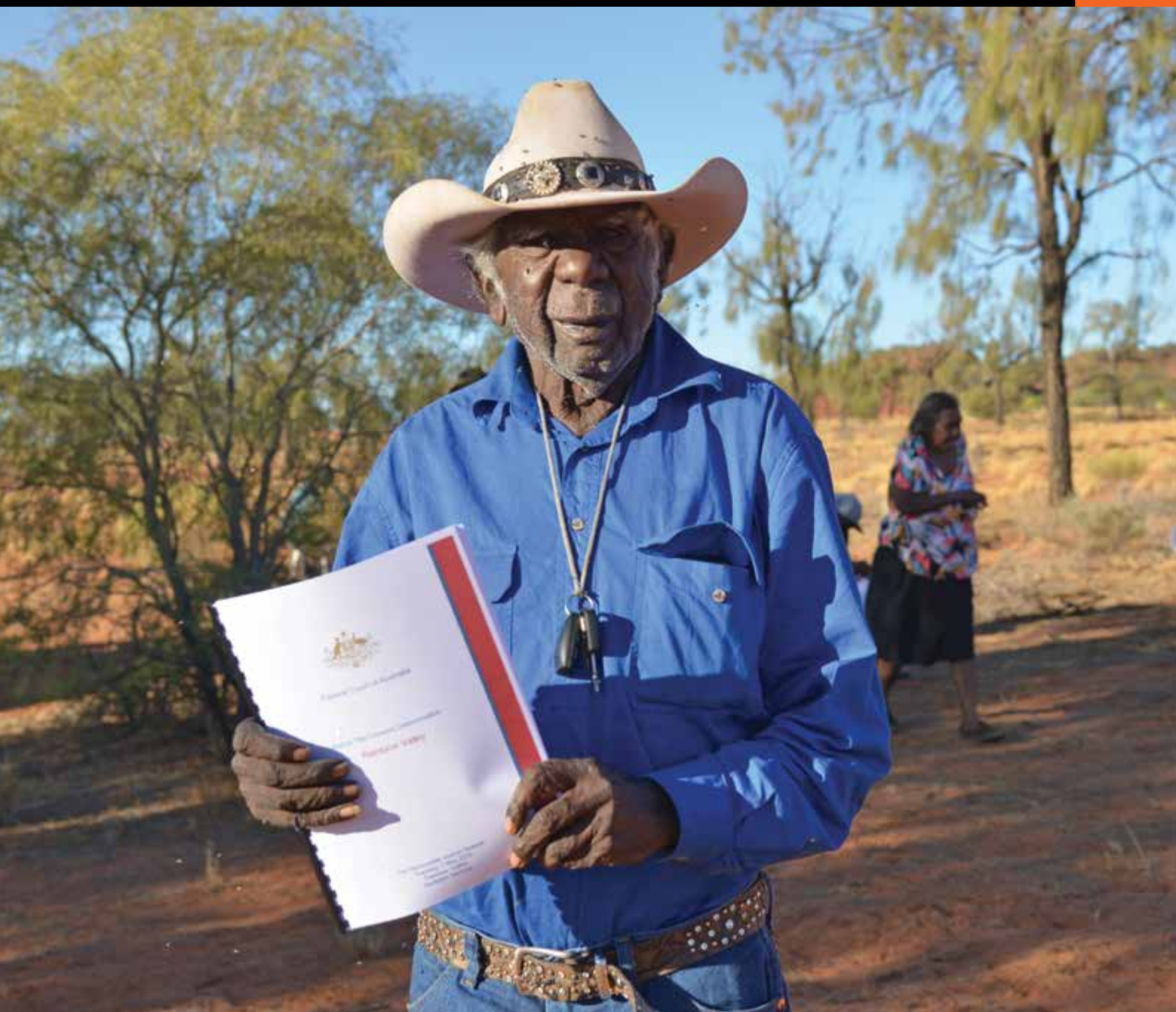


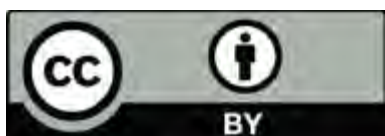


# CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2018–19



CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL



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ISSN 1034-3652

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CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

19 September 2019

Minister for Indigenous Australians  
Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP  
PO Box 6022  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (Cth), the *Native Title Act 1993* and the *Public Governance and Accountability Act 2013* (Cth) (the PGPA Act), I am pleased to approve and submit the Annual Report 2018–19 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 in accordance with the Commonwealth Authorities (Annual Reporting) Orders 2011.

Yours sincerely,

**Sammy Wilson**  
**CHAIR**

**Main Office:** 27 Stuart Highway, Alice Springs NT 0870 | **Post:** PO Box 3321, Alice Springs NT 0871 | **T:** (08) 8951 6211 | **F:** (08) 8953 4343 | **ABN:** 71 979 618 393  
**Regional Offices:** Alparra (08) 8956 9355 | Atitjere (08) 8956 9722 | Kalkaringi (08) 8975 0885 | Mutitjulu (08) 8956 2119 | Papunya (08) 8956 8658 |  
Tennant Creek (08) 8962 2343 | Yarnalumu (08) 8956 4118

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# CHAIRS' REPORTS

## FRANCIS KELLY

My last year as the chair of the Central Land Council started on a sombre note. In August 2018, we gathered at Yurrkurru outstation near Yuendumu with the families of the victims, survivors and perpetrators of the 1939 Coniston Massacre to commemorate the 90th anniversary of what many of us call 'the killing times'.

As we remembered our lost loved ones and listened to the apologies of former NT police commissioner Reece Kershaw and the descendants of Constable George Murray I wondered if the assembled politicians would consider our requests.

We asked them to support a national public holiday similar to ANZAC Day, for interpretive signs at massacre sites, and for our frontier history to be taught in our schools. That we never heard back about our requests following the event shows how far we still have to go as a nation when it comes to the Uluru Statement's call for truth telling.

One organisation we can always count on to put our stories, cultures and languages first is the Warlpiri Education and Training Trust. The WETT's advisory committee made us all very proud when they won the Indigenous Governance Awards in 2018. The committee and educators across the Tanami region are pushing ahead with the development of a Yapa curriculum called 'the Warlpiri theme cycle'.

One of the earliest supporters of the trust, CLC director David Ross, announced his retirement after four decades with the land council. Over the years we talked a lot about his succession and his decision, while no surprise, set the executive a steep challenge: to find a respected leader capable of filling his very big shoes at the helm of one of the country's most formidable Aboriginal organisations.

As a member of the subcommittee in charge of recruiting a new CEO I believe we were right to take our time to find that special person. Joe Martin-Jard started as CEO in February 2019 and took over the reins from Mr Ross at his and my last council meeting at Yulara Pulka, two months later.

I has been a great pleasure to work closely with Mr Ross during my two terms as the chair. At Yulara Pulka, one of his many prominent admirers described him as a "man of great integrity, of great honesty and great respect" and I could not agree more. My successor Sammy Wilson can look forward to receiving the same support and excellent advice from Mr Martin-Jard that I got from Mr Ross over the past six years.

One of the highlights of my time as chair has been to observe the development of our ranger program. As the father of a ranger the program has been close to my heart and there can be nothing better than to attend the CLC's annual ranger camp



Sammy Wilson (left) and Francis Kelly

and watch the confidence of individual rangers grow year after year. I only wish the program itself, arguably one of the most successful Aboriginal employment initiatives the Australian Government has ever funded, was allowed to grow as well.

The demand for ranger jobs continues to outstrip the number of positions we are able to offer and there are still so many communities without a ranger group. I know Mr Wilson will take up the fight for more and more secure jobs for Aboriginal rangers because he knows that nobody protects our country better, and few career paths in our communities motivate more children to come to school.

## SAMMY WILSON

The Central Land Council is a big, important organisation and as its chair I recognise the knowledge of the past delegates and the important work they have done, work that I intend to continue. I thank my predecessor, Francis Kelly, for his leadership over the past six years and his support following my appointment.

Mr Kelly has a really good sense of humour and made meetings enjoyable. He also showed a lot of respect to us delegates, the staff and the governance processes of the land council. I wish him all the best for his next adventures as a film maker.

My job now is to look forward.

One of my first meetings was with Australia's first Aboriginal cabinet minister and Minister for Indigenous Australians, Ken Wyatt, in June in Darwin. Mr Wyatt was really supportive of what our CEO, Joe Martin-Jard, policy manager Josie Douglas and I said to him, and I think he wants to help us move forward. When he goes back to Canberra, however, you see that his message has changed a bit when he is speaking from Canberra. That is why we also need to have our voices heard in the capital.

Some people ignore us because they haven't understood that even though we might look as if we are 150 years behind the modern world that does not mean that we are uneducated people. They tend to disregard us because they think we only have a child's understanding of the way things are. That is not the case. We have a lot of knowledge about our country and our affairs and we deserve respect.

The process started with the 1967 referendum, when I was a young child, but we need to keep moving forward like that, not just for our sakes but for the sake of everyone in Australia so



"You never know whether the little boy or the little girl you are taking on your tour and teaching about your culture may grow up and be the leader of the country one day." Sammy Wilson on tour near his homeland at Uluru.

that our rights are recognised and respected. We need to have our voice heard in Canberra and in the constitution.

We want to be taken seriously and we want to be part of the modern economy. At the official opening of the Tanami Gas Pipeline in May, which I attended with deputy chair Barbara Shaw and CEO Joe Martin-Jard, we heard that the pipeline employed 22 local Aboriginal people directly and another 13 worked for various subcontractors. A dozen found ongoing work elsewhere. The project was a good opportunity for people to experience work and get out of sitting in their community and thinking that's all that there is for them.

My family runs its own tourism business, Uluru Family Tours. We take visitors to Patji, our outstation near the Rock, and share our stories with them as we watch the sun set on Uluru. There is no need to climb it. Since I announced, in 2017, that we would close the climb we have had more visitors at Patji. We tell them that the closure has been a long time coming. It's something that Anangu have always wanted, from the beginning. People who have passed away in the meantime have always talked about their wish to close the climb.

Some other people reacted with shock, as if it is something we have made up. We're doing it because it is respecting not just the people who have fought for it but all the ancestors. It is something we need to honour to keep following our law. In October we will finally be able to honour it.

We want more support so we can become a much bigger presence in tourism, so that we can really share our cultures. When tourists come with their little children I hope that when these children grow up and have a family they bring their children with them. You never know whether the little boy or little girl you are taking on your tour and teaching about your culture may grow up and be the leader of the country one day. Hopefully that experience will then inspire their thinking.



# DIRECTOR'S AND CEO'S REPORTS

## DAVID ROSS

When you work as hard as we do at the Central Land Council it is important to have some fun. Mr Kelly encouraged this, ably assisted by his deputy Sammy Butcher who has been a lot of fun as well. A rock star and a film maker. These blokes did not think their lives revolve around the CLC, they had all these other lives. The same applies to our new chair, Sammy Wilson, who is a very capable man in his own right. I have thoroughly enjoyed the past six years with Mr Kelly and the fantastic people who are our elected members. I cannot thank them and my wonderful staff enough for their support.

One of the highlights of my last year at the CLC has been our collaboration with the other land councils to get the Gunner government to keep its promises about a treaty and announce Professor Mick Dodson as the NT's independent treaty commissioner. The consultation process Mick is about to embark on creates an opportunity for people in the Territory to have someone who can come out and discuss with them what a treaty means - someone who understands that when they talk about their country and their ownership they are talking from a sovereign position.

There are other opportunities with this NT Government, such as local decision making. They may very well be out of power after the next election but regardless of who wins that contest Aboriginal people have to stop getting side tracked and become single minded about what they want. If not, they are going to live in communities that are run by someone else, like the town councils of Alice Springs and other major towns. They are going to be in the same boat if they don't put in the effort and until they start doing that nothing will change in their communities.

Even after repeatedly changing the NT Government many Aboriginal people still don't fully understand or appreciate the power they have and how to use it. It requires a lot of effort, a lot of discipline on everyone's part. Unless people are willing to put in the effort and practice that discipline they may as well not bother, however if they want to remain distinct peoples with their own languages, laws and cultures it's not too late.

The CLC has done a phenomenal amount of work, from making agreements about gas pipelines to growing its community development and ranger programs. These initiatives are clearly helping people to plan for the future, to work and restore their pride.

The ABA homelands project team put in an enormous effort to give outstation residents the best shot at improving their communities with funding from the one billion dollar Aboriginals Benefit Account. It held detailed discussions across our region and collated an extraordinary amount of information



David Ross (left) and Joe Martin-Jard

about its outstations. The Australian Government is spending a lot less on this project in our region than the interest the ABA earned last year and the funds can only help 105 of the more than our 300 outstations. I trust the Minister for Indigenous Australians will see the wisdom of extending the project to benefit those outstations that missed out during the first round.

Community development has a life of its own these days. Once upon a time we had to convince people that it is a good thing to invest their collective income in their own projects rather than to distribute the money among themselves. Now there are so many people out there who are banging on the door wanting this to happen – a wonderful achievement that could likewise benefit from fresh thinking in Canberra.

Unlike our community development program our rangers rely on government money. We never get enough for new ranger groups on the eastern side of the Stuart Highway where people need all the support they can get. The program is a fantastic opportunity for younger people to work in their regions. They don't have to travel to somewhere else to get a job. They don't have to be rangers for the rest of their lives. They can use all that experience and skill to go and do other things. At the last ranger camp I talked about turning school attendance around. Not picking up kids and getting them to school like the former minister, but rangers taking them out bush and showing them what they are doing so they understand ranger work. Giving them something to look forward to so you don't have to run around chasing them but making them realise they have to go to school to learn to read and write if they want to operate machinery safely or follow weed killer instructions. That was a challenge I gave the rangers and hopefully things might pick up from there.

What gives me hope are the confident and energetic young people out there who are much better educated than I and previous generations and who may have other ways of going about doing things than the way we thought best. There is certainly a whole swag of young women and men whose fathers and grandfathers were the staunchest members of the land council who had to fight for their rights and their land. Hopefully these younger people find better ways of achieving what they want. We should all stand behind them and support them where they are willing to stand up and put in the effort. Give them a bit more experience on the council, I think, and we will see quite a turnover in the next couple of council elections.

All the positive stories out there that don't make the mainstream news have kept me going over the years. That's why we do *Land Rights News*, so we can run our own stories. We very rarely get the media coming in hordes when we have good stories to tell because they are more interested in conflict. The CLC is never going to be loved by everyone. The work we do, aligned with the people we work for, our constituents and members, is going to be at odds with shock jocks and that's just part of life, part of business. Under the leadership of CEO Joe Martin-Jard the CLC will continue to do a job that these people don't necessarily understand or appreciate. Its main duty is to the Aboriginal people we are here to serve, regardless of what everyone else says, does or thinks. They will continue to figure out what they want, put those things on the table and just go from there.

One group that is doing just that are the traditional owners of the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park. Since the 1985 handback of Uluru Anangu have put up with the wishes and demands of governments and industry, from consenting to joint management to letting tourists climb the Rock. After watching Anangu put up with everyone else's wishes for 30 years I am delighted that they have finally asserted their right to close the climb and look forward to celebrating with them on October 27.

## JOE MARTIN-JARD

I am grateful to the members of the CLC for the opportunity to lead their organisation and fortunate to have been entrusted with a highly regarded organisation. The CLC is in great shape after decades of stable leadership under one of Australia's most respected leaders, David Ross. I would like to thank David for the generous handover period since February 2019 and his team for their warm welcome and support. I could not have wished for a smoother transition.

My first trips as CEO took me to many of our communities to witness the CLC elections which take place every three years. I shared the delight of the council's elders in April, as we listened to the many first time delegates speak up during the governance workshop before the year's first council meeting. The workshop took place in the hall where the Uluru Statement was agreed in 2017 and there was the same respectful, generous spirit of listening to and learning from each other.

As one of the council's elders, Harry Nelson, put it at a meeting in Amoonguna community in 1977: "History has not been finalised". Indeed, the CLC and its allies continue to make history. Of all the agreements negotiated during my first months one stood out – the historic partnership between a coalition of peak Aboriginal organisations including the CLC and the Council of Australian Governments to jointly reform the failed Closing the Gap policy. That it has taken until 2019 for Aboriginal representatives from across Australia to get an equal say, for the very first time, in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of a policy that affects them is truly something to reflect on.

I was also pleased to see the NT Government abandon its opposition to offering the four Northern Territory land councils a seat at the table where decisions are made about housing in their communities. The national partnership agreement on remote housing between the NT and Australian governments does not go as far as the agreement with COAG – it does not include Aboriginal representatives as a signatory party –



On 20 June 2019 the CEOs of the four NT land councils met with the Minister for Indigenous Australians. L-R: Marion Scrymgour (NLC), Ken Wyatt, Joe Martin-Jard (CLC), Andrew Tipungwuti (Tiwi) and Mark Hewitt (Anindilyakwa).

however it is nonetheless a chance to contribute to sustainable solutions of the remote housing crisis and to hold both governments to account.

In June, the land councils embarked on a respectful dialogue with the Minister for Indigenous Australians, Ken Wyatt, about some of the unfinished business he inherited from his predecessor. Mr Wyatt agreed to meet with us three times a year and we will certainly take the opportunity to progress the resolution of some of our councils' priorities: the remote housing crisis, the reform of the constitution and the work-for-the-dole scheme known as CDP, Aboriginal control of the Aboriginals Benefit Account and the protection of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act.

As I promised the CLC's executive members in February, I will repay their trust by working hard to protect and advance their hard won rights and their efforts to achieve better social, economic, environmental and cultural outcomes for their communities.

# ABOUT THE CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

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

The CLC has performed its statutory functions with outstanding success, capturing more than 417,000 square kilometres of land as Aboriginal freehold under the Land Rights Act.

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

These activities are at the heart of the CLC's community development program. Indeed, this program is now the leading example of similar programs in the country. More and more, constituents use income from land use agreements to build and maintain infrastructure and to fund community-driven education and culture initiatives that benefit constituents.

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

A 90-member council governs the CLC. The council representatives are elected from Aboriginal communities across the CLC's region and meet three times a year in various bush locations. Council delegates many of its functions to a nine-member executive committee elected by council members; this executive is headed by a 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 *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (Cth) (the PGPA Act) and every year is audited by the Australian National Audit Office.

In 2018–19 Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) funding comprised \$19.38 million of the CLC's total revenue of \$44.1 million. Total operating expenses were \$44.1 million, and capital expenditure was \$3.0 million. The CLC is one of the largest employers of Aboriginal people in the NT. It employs 243.0 fulltime-equivalent staff, of whom 49.2 per cent are Aboriginal.

## HISTORY

The CLC's roots reach deep into the Aboriginal struggle for justice in Central Australia. The most prominent example is the famous 1966 Gurindji strike and walk-off at Wave Hill cattle station, whose 50th anniversary the CLC celebrated in August 2016. In response to Aboriginal demands at the walk-off, the Whitlam government set up a royal commission into land rights in the NT in 1973. One of its recommendations was that Central and Northern land councils be established 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, of the CLC, 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 camps' 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 federal 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.



Wenten Rubuntja was re-elected as CLC chair at a meeting at Amoonguna in 1977.





Anangu traditional owners celebrate the handback of Uluru in 1985.

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 their country lacked water and other essential infrastructure.

In 1983, in line with the recommendations of HC Coombs, members elected a new, regionally based executive. The CLC hired Patrick Dodson to manage what would become its

directorates and regional services section, while two research officers started the land management section.

In the same year, traditional owners 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* (Cth), but left the protection of sites to ministerial discretion.

In 1984, traditional owners gave the Alice to Darwin railway the all-clear, though 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 Commonwealth for joint management. In the same year, 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.



Arrernte custodians and supporters at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station waiting to hear the minister’s decision on the building of a dam on a sacred site, 1992.

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 Statement 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, in 1992 the Commonwealth 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 settlement of the long-running Lake Amadeus land claim.

Central Australian women formed an independent women's council in 1995. Set up with the support of the CLC, the council had been 15 years in the making.

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.

Land 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 1984* (Cth), 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 per cent 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 Reeves Review of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act. Its recommendations, which included the dismantling of the NT land councils, sparked an outcry.

The CLC's first ranger group started in Lajamanu in 2000, 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 Aboriginal Affairs minister to delegate core land council functions to Aboriginal corporations that may not be made up of traditional owners and/or may lack the capacity to carry out CLC functions.



Women have played an important role in land claims: Dolly Daniels Nampijinpa at a handback ceremony at Mt Wedge in 1996.

The first indigenous protected area (IPA) in the CLC region, the Northern Tanami IPA, was declared in 2007. That year was also a low point in indigenous affairs in the NT, with the declaration by prime minister Howard of the NT Emergency Response.

In 2008 the CLC commemorated the 80th anniversary of the 1928 Coniston massacre. In the same year, 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 the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, 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.

In 2010 the CLC delegates elected Tennant Creek's Gina Smith as the first female deputy chair 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 (APO NT), the Commonwealth in 2013 invested in a new Aboriginal



# Land Rights



**1975**

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

**1978**

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



**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.



**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.



**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.





# 1976-2019



**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 \$117 million of their royalty, compensation and rent income in many hundreds of community projects.



**2018**

The chairs of the four NT land councils and Chief Minister Michael Gunner sign the Barunga Agreement which outlines the process for consulting with Aboriginal people about a treaty.

**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 12 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.





**The protest convoy headed to the Australian bicentenary set off from the CLC's headquarters in Alice Springs in 1988.**

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 its 40th birthday with the opening of a new operational and training centre in Alice Springs that supports its 11 ranger groups.

The community development program celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2016. With its support, Aboriginal groups in 31 communities have driven their own development by investing \$58 million of their royalty, rent and compensation income in many hundreds of projects that benefit their communities.

On 8 June 2018, 30 years after the Barunga Statement that led to the broken promise of a national treaty, the chairs of the four Territory land councils and Chief Minister Michael Gunner signed the Barunga Agreement. The memorandum of understanding sets out the process for consultations about a treaty between Aboriginal Territorians and the NT Government. The CLC contributed to the terms of reference of the independent treaty commissioner, Professor Mick Dodson, who was appointed in February 2019.

In March 2019, a coalition of Aboriginal peak organisations, including the CLC and the NLC, entered into an historic partnership agreement with the Council of Australian Governments to reform the failed Closing the Gap policy. It is the first time Aboriginal peak bodies will have a say in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the policy. Also in March, the Australian and NT governments signed a partnership agreement for remote housing to address the Territory's housing crisis. For the first time, the NT land councils will be represented on the governments' steering committee, where they will lead a review of the existing housing model and associated leasing arrangements, as well as take part in policy and strategy decisions about remote housing spending.

## STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

The statutory functions of the CLC are described in section 23(1) of the Land Rights Act:

- 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 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 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 section 12:
  - 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
  - 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:
  - where the land is held by a land trust – on behalf of traditional owners (if any) of that land and of any other Aboriginals interested in the land; and
  - where the land is the subject of an application referred to in paragraph 50(1)(a) – on behalf of the traditional 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 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
- for land that is a community living area and in the area of the land council – to assist the owner of the land, if requested to do so, in relation to any dealings in the land (including assistance in negotiating leases of, or other grants of interests in, the land)
- 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



**CEO Joe Martin-Jard congratulated the CLC's second female deputy chair, Barb Shaw.**





Gibson Farmer Illortamini signs the Barunga Agreement in 2018 on behalf of the Tiwi Land Council.

- to negotiate, and enter into agreements, as necessary, for the purposes of subsection 70(4)
- to compile and keep:
  - a register recording the names of the members of the land council, and
  - 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

Sammy Wilson and Joe Martin-Jard are the Accountable Authority. Mr Wilson is a tourism operator and chairs the board of joint management of the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park. Elected chair of the CLC in April 2019, he has been a member of the council's executive committee since 2015. Mr Martin-Jard became the chief executive officer of the CLC in February 2019. He is a former senior public servant with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and held leadership positions at the Danila Dilba Health Service, the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance of the NT and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, and managed a labour hire company in Darwin.

For most of the period, the Accountable Authority was comprised of former chair Francis Kelly (until April 2019) and director David Ross (until February 2018). Mr Kelly is a Warlpiri elder, filmmaker and a leading figure in the Aboriginal media industry. He was a health worker, mechanic, machine operator, council supervisor and community adviser. A former deputy chair of the CLC, Mr Kelly was a delegate for 15 years. Mr Ross has been a CLC staff member since 1979. He has also



Sammy Wilson and Joe Martin-Jard at the council meeting at Ross River in August.

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 11 times during the reporting period.

# PERFORMANCE REPORT

## LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

OUTPUT	1.1	PERMITS
	1.2	LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

## LAND CLAIMS AND ACQUISITIONS SUPPORT

OUTPUT	2.1	LAND CLAIMS
	2.2	LAND ACQUISITION

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCIAL SERVICE

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

## ADVOCACY SERVICES AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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

## ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

OUTPUT	5.1	DISTRIBUTIONS
	5.2	ADMINISTER LAND TRUSTS
	5.3	DISPUTE RESOLUTION

## NATIVE TITLE

OUTPUT 6	NATIVE TITLE
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## 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.



## ACCOUNTABLE AUTHORITY DECLARATION

The Accountable Authority hereby presents the 2018–19 annual performance statement. In its opinion, it is based on properly maintained records accurately reflecting the CLC's performance and complies with subsection 39(2) of the PGPA Act.

## CLC PURPOSE

**VISION:** To promote and support central Australian Aboriginal people's society, country, secured rights, culture and economy to deliver a promising future.

**STATUTORY PURPOSE:** The powers, functions and responsibilities were mainly established by the Aboriginal Land Rights Act and the Native Title Act.

As described in the 2018–19 CLC corporate plan, the purposes are the powers and functions legislated in the Aboriginal Land Rights Act and responsibilities as a native title representative body under the Native Title Act. These functions and powers are embodied in the CLC's strategic goals. For the qualitative assessment of the achievement of these goals, refer to the sections of this annual report referenced below:

1. governance (refer CLC governance)
2. Aboriginal rights and interests protection (refer Output group 4)
3. land ownership and interests (refer Output groups 2 and 5)
4. culture and heritage protection (refer Output group 4.3)
5. economic development and income management (refer Output group 3)
6. strong communities, outstations, and regions (refer Output group 4)
7. sustainable land use and management (refer Output group 1)
8. rangers (refer Output groups 1 and 3)

## CORPORATE PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION FRAMEWORK

Corporate planning integrates longer-term objectives with performance driven by outputs and outcomes, and includes long-term financial planning. A corporate plan that guides future activities and priorities for the four-year period from 2018 to 2022 was published on the CLC website this financial year and presented to the minister in accordance with the PGPA Act. Action planning ensures that the objectives in the plan are achieved within the designated time frame. The PGPA Act requires that the CLC, as a Commonwealth entity, revise its corporate plan annually.

## RISK MANAGEMENT

Section 16 of the PGPA Act requires any Accountable Authority of a Commonwealth entity to maintain a system of risk oversight and management. The annual review of the CLC's risk management plan was completed – including a revised risk profile and action plan aligned to the corporate plan – and endorsed by the audit committee. The Comcover annual best-practice benchmarking is used as the basis for continuous risk management improvement.

## PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

The key organisational achievements are described in the respective output chapters. In summary, these include:

- working with traditional owners to manage their land and resources, protect sacred sites and foster 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 other constituents to realise their aspirations for community development (Output 4.4)
- negotiating commercial agreements with parties interested in using Aboriginal land and managing income arising from land use agreements (Output 3.4)
- representing the land interests and aspirations of Aboriginal people in central Australia (Output 3.1)
- managing community-based ranger groups to deliver a range of land management services (Output 3.2).

A performance information framework ensures that properly maintained records are the basis of the reported performance and facilitates the selection of performance information and metrics to measure organisational performance. Performance is monitored by metric 'dashboards', each including measures categorised by each of the eight strategic goals. The dashboards include a six-year history of actual performance, the corporate plan target, and forecasts for the following three financial years.



Long serving former CLC staff member Alan Drover, affectionately known as Yellowshirt, welcomes new CEO Joe Martin-Jard.



Dana Bohning and Francis Kelly at his farewell morning tea.

## ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

The Accountable Authority hereby presents the 2018–19 annual performance statement. In its opinion, it is based on properly maintained records accurately reflecting the CLC's performance and complies with subsections 39 (1a) and 39 (2) of the PGPA Act.

Table 1 contains 50 key performance items reported against the targets presented in the Corporate Plan 2018–2022.

**Table 1. Annual performance statement: actual v target**

Strategic goal	Performance criteria	Key performance indicators – description	Strategy Ref. (4)	2017–18	2018–19		Variation
					Target (5)	Actual	
RIGHTS	Successful communication of CLC's rights and interests advocacy activities to Aboriginal constituents and key stakeholders.	Number of external publications produced	A9	35	35	40	14.3%
		CLC web page access rate (visits) – by constituents and stakeholders (000)	A9	125	125	125	0.0%
LAND	ALRA land claims and native title claims – recognition of Aboriginal constituents' interests in land by successfully negotiating and obtaining land rights and native title determinations.	Land claims finalised (ALRA) (Note 1)	B1	–	2	–	-100.0%
		Ownership (square km) achieved	B1	418,548	418,548	418,548	0.0%
		CLC – total region size (square km)	B1	776,549	776,549	776,549	0.0%
		Native title meetings and consultations – post determination	B10	54	54	50	-7.4%
		Anthropological advice issued – determines relevant traditional owners (claims and interests)	B12	411	434	455	4.8%
		Native title claims finalised – consent determination handed down	B2	5	3	1	-66.7%
	Post land and native title claim negotiation and administration – administering ALRA permit access to Aboriginal land and negotiating post claim land use outcomes (leasing consents, mining consents, other future acts requests).	Total permits Issued – access to Aboriginal land	B11	9,078	11,253	7,965	-29.2%
		Leasing – consents obtained – all	B11	170	170	-29.2%	-78.2%
		Leasing – current leases and licences – all	B11	2,450	2,450	2,492	1.7%
		Native title non-mining ILUA (Note 2) – negotiated and registered	B3	4	4	3	-25.0%
		Mining/non mining – future act meetings – NT holder identification field trips	B5	1	–	–	
CULTURE	Activities protecting Aboriginal land and culturally significant sites and maintaining Aboriginal cultural heritage and languages by supporting traditional Aboriginal ceremony and funeral customs and developing heritage management plans.	Sacred site clearance certificates / other advice issued	C1	165	162	112	-30.9%
		Cultural heritage management plans / projects completed, progressed, supported	C2	19	20	31	55.0%
		Ceremony activity – regional payments – ABA – section 64(4) funded	C2	81,793	90,000	65,000	-27.8%
		Total funerals assisted – ABA and community funded	C8	315	287	430	49.8%
		Funeral payments – ABA section 64(4) funded (\$)	C8	268,207	260,000	319,000	22.7%
ECONOMIC	Activities supporting economic development (including mining and agricultural interests) of Aboriginal land and the effective management of income derived from the use of the land.	Exploration (mining) titles applications – completed (includes those withdrawn during the negotiating period)	D1	36	51	15	-70.6%
		Exploration agreements (licences and permits)	D1	59	69	69	0.0%
		Mining agreements – ALRA	D1	11	12	12	0.0%
		Native title – mining agreements	D1	–	–	3	
	Pursuing and negotiating employment opportunities derived from the use of the land.	Employment placements (mining, exploration, road construction, rail line maintenance, remote employment services, pastoral industry)	D5	14	20	48	140.0%
RANGERS	Performance measures related to achieving the requirements of this grant funded program – improving employment and training outcomes, ranger program staff retention.	Ranger program – rangers employed – fulltime equivalent	F1	49	55	71	29.1%
		Ranger program – turnover (annual/trend) %	F1	34%	30%	26%	-13.3%
		Ranger program – training – certificates awarded	F4	16	16	17	6.3%
	Ranger program land management activities.	Ranger program – fire management burns	F8	14	14	15	7.1%

Strategic goal	Performance criteria	Key performance indicators – description	Strategy Ref. (4)	2017–18	2018–19		Variation
					Target (5)	Actual	
COMMUNITIES	Actions to support the development of strong communities and outstations.	Community development expenditure – five-year lease money (\$000)	E4	578	1,700	1,278	-24.8%
		Granites Mines Affected Areas compensation community development – annual value committed (\$000)	E4	3,013	5,000	12,883	157.7%
		Community development project expenditure – CLC region – total (\$000)	E4	8,226	11,350	14,592	28.6%
		Homelands/outstations consulted – ABA funding approved by Minister of IA (Note 3)	E1		300	280	-6.7%
USING LAND	Activities to remove feral animals from Aboriginal land.	Feral animals culled	G	406	375	5,293	1311.5%
GOVERNANCE	Governance meetings to administer the requirements of the ALRA and Native Title Act, and to provide council members with regular cultural engagement opportunities.	Council meetings	H	3	3	3	0.0%
		Executive committee meetings	H	8	8	9	12.5%
	Effective and sustainable management of CLC operational assets.	Vehicles in operation	H	107	107	108	0.9%
		Vehicle resale – proceeds as a % of purchase price	H	46.4%	42.6%	38.4%	-9.9%
	Human resources planning, capability and health/safety.	Total staff working days in field (remote working measure)	H	8,178	8,000	7,686	-3.9%
		Staff turnover (terminations/average staff) (%) – ranger program	H	38	30	26	-13.3%
		Staff turnover (terminations/average staff) (%) – other	H	29	22	28	27.3%
		Leadership program (Aboriginal) participants (from 2016–17)	H	5	6	14	133.3%
		New staff study agreements	H	4	10	8	-20.0%
		Lost days – injury	H	11	50	221	342.0%
		Health and safety representatives	H	5	5	–	-100.0%
	Information and communications technology capability	Information systems – user roles supported	H	250	250	250	0.0%
		Maps produced for meetings and logistics	H	804	800	749	-6.4%
		Records (move to electronic) – new files added (paper)	H	755	750	–	-100.0%
	Investments in renewable energy for operations and reduction of carbon emissions.	Renewable energy – solar electricity produced (kWh) (5)	H	42,500	132,000	46,831	-64.5%
		Renewable energy – CO <sub>2</sub> savings (tonnes) (Note 5)	H	29	170	32	-81.2%
	Effective and compliant administration of Aboriginal corporations (CLC engaged under ALRA) in accordance with <i>Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act (2006)</i> (Cth).	AAMC meetings held – AGMs	H	31	27	27	0.0%
		Office of Registrar of Indigenous Corporations – general reports lodged	H	31	31	31	0.0%

## NOTES

1 No new ALRA land claims permitted under the legislation – only two claims remaining in CLC region.

2 Indigenous land use agreement  
3 Involvement in ABA homelands project to be negotiated with PM&C in 2017–18, to be finalised in 2019–20.

4 Strategy reference – refer to the strategy matrix on pages 12–15 of the 2018 Corporate Plan

5 Minister approved main office solar energy project with four-year pay-back period (commenced in 2019).



## ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY

Section 516A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* requires Commonwealth authorities to report on environmental matters. Various operational aspects are specifically concerned with the environment. Refer to other outputs in this report, in particular Output 1.2. Corporate management actions on environmental matters include:

- ongoing development of performance information framework and metrics

- waste reduction
- reporting of the recommended environmental measures for all Commonwealth entities (see table 2).

During 2018–19 the federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs approved a major project for the installation of solar panels at 27 Stuart Highway, Alice Springs, the CLC's main office. Ogden was appointed after a select tender and will complete installation in early 2019–20. The cost of the system will be recouped after an estimated three years due to lower electricity bills.

Table 2. CLC's performance against Commonwealth-recommended environmental measures

Theme	Performance measure	Indicator(s)	Measure	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19
ENERGY EFFICIENCY	Total consumption of energy – includes all energy consumed when undertaking the functions of the agency, such as energy consumed for office buildings and transportation	Electricity purchased	\$	163,304	200,000	220,415	242,179	233,616
		Electricity consumed	kWh	702,904	700,000	692,957	780,799	748,901
		Gas purchased	\$	27,229	29,000	21,410	25,531	23,523
		Other fuels purchased / consumed	L	541,876	520,000	566,140	556,604	558,145
		Other fuels purchased	\$	1,125,166	859,566	965,203	1,034,513	1,038,150
		Air travel distances	km	691,312	700,000	757,791	887,952	1,066,075
	Greenhouse gas emissions	Air travel greenhouse gas (CO <sub>2</sub> )	tonnes	86	90	92	108	132.1
		Electricity greenhouse gas (CO <sub>2</sub> )	tonnes	858	850	845	953	671
		Gas greenhouse gas (CO <sub>2</sub> )	tonnes	33.2	30.0	14.9	17.8	15.8
		Other fuels (CO <sub>2</sub> )	tonnes	1,463	1,400	1,415	1,599	1,507
	Relative energy use per employee	Electricity used	kWh	3,017	2,900	3,000	3,295	3,482
		Gas used	Gj	116.9	110.0	64.7	63.2	59
		Other fuels used	L	2,326	2,000	2,451	2,701	2,052
RENEWABLE ENERGY	Renewable energy	Electricity produced	kWh	56,634	60,000	51,201	42,500	46,831
		Savings	\$	13,026	13,000	11,776	9,775	10,770
		CO <sub>2</sub> savings	tonnes	39	45	35	29	32
		Renewable electricity in % of total electricity consumed and produced	% kWh	7.5	9.0	6.9	5.7	6.3
WASTE	Total waste	Going to landfills	cubic metres	356	400	410	435	468
	Total waste	Going to recycling facilities	cubic metres	156	150	260	260	260
	Relative waste production	Waste per employee	cubic metres	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.8
WATER	Total water consumption	Water consumed	kl	8,811	9,200	7,522	8,280	8,855
	Relative water consumption	Consumption per employee	kl	37.8	48.0	35.6	34.9	33
CO <sub>2</sub> OFFSETS	Feral animals removed under National Feral Camel Project	Camels removed by muster	number	244	200	0	406	2,271
		CO <sub>2</sub> emission savings	tonnes	5,773.4	0	0	0	0
	Feral camels removed	Feral camels removed	number	6,294.0	244	718	0	406
		CO <sub>2</sub> emission savings	tonnes	234.2	192	0	0	423
	Feral horses removed	Removed by joint management	number	4,651	1,000	2,280	0	3,022
		CO <sub>2</sub> emission savings	tonnes	6,000	1,290	2,375	0	2,901



## ANALYSIS OF PERFORMANCE AGAINST PURPOSE

The factors that influence achievement of purpose are mainly:

**Resource constraints:** reliance upon estimates (budget) approved annually by the federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs for allocations from the ABA and the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (for programs such as native title representative body functions and the ranger program); the Australian Government pursues a policy of strict control and productivity improvement for all entities.

**External demand:** key statutory functions include obtaining traditional owner consent for use of Aboriginal land, mostly related to mining exploration and agreements. The downturn in the mining industry is continuing to have an impact on the overall level of 'use' applications, although there are signs of improvement. Some functions (e.g. community development, native title and prescribed bodies corporate support) increased their activities, offsetting the mining downturn.

**Aboriginal constituent services demand:** Aboriginal groups receive royalties, rent and compensation related to mining and other land use activities. Groups assigned increased amounts from these proceeds to community development activities which are supported and administered by the CLC's community development program.

**Improved productivity:** greater productivity enables the organisation to improve services. A key project has been the implementation of a number of (non-cash) productivity improvements that arose from enterprise bargaining under the Australian Government's enterprise agreement policy. These gains exceeded the value of salary increases. The non-financial results for 2018–19 generally indicate outcomes aligned to expectations, with variations related to economic demand offset by other social demands.

**Specific significant variations** against the corporate plan target:

- unexpected reduction in requests for sacred site clearances against trend for many years, although expected to increase again in 2019–20
- native title determinations – one delayed until July 2019
- significant reduction in the number of requests for permits to access Aboriginal land related to mining exploration due to the downturn in the mining industry

- reduction in the number of expected requests for leases of Aboriginal land
- significant increase in the number of funerals supported by the ABA funded program
- community development projects committed increased by 158% in value, mainly related to the Granites Mines Affected Area compensation-funded projects
- large increase in culling of feral animals – funded by 10 Deserts project and partly caused by drought impact
- solar energy savings and emission reductions delayed due to later implementation of solar panel project at 27 Stuart Highway building – to be completed in August 2019.

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

NT land councils are funded on a cash basis, with annual estimates of revenue less expenditure forecasts approved on a 'break-even' basis. The actual surplus for the financial year ended 30 June 2019 was \$0.503 million compared to a surplus of \$2.067 million in the previous year. Operational sources of revenue are portrayed in figure 1.

Continuing the trend of recent years, outputs and outcomes were further improved, despite funding constraints.

Outputs of \$11.2 million, or 27 per cent, classified under **natural resource management**, were the largest expenditure and greater than the expenditure level of the previous year (\$10.0 million). As well as achieving land management objectives, significant program elements relate to employment, education and training (Output 3.2). Funding for the ranger program is only approved until 2021, and the federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs has been requested to extend the funding envelope (both in time and the number of groups supported).

The next largest expenditure output group, \$907 million (23 per cent of total expenditure), was for **economic development and commercial services**, incorporating land use agreements; employment, education and training; mining; and commercial assistance. This output group includes 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** expenditure was \$7.1 million, or 17 per cent. There continues to be an unmet and increasing demand for community development resources. Further details of work performed within the output groups is described elsewhere in this report.

**Cost-recovery opportunities** are actively identified to lessen the effect of any reduction in the level or quality of service delivery. Productivity improvements, which have been proposed during the enterprise bargaining process, are being progressively implemented and will improve organisational effectiveness.

The financial statements adhere to Australian accounting standards. Annual funding is not provided for non-financial asset depreciation nor 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 \$0.503 million is attributable to the Australian Government and is approximately 0.1 per cent of operating expenditure.

Figure 1. Sources of revenue chart, 2018–19

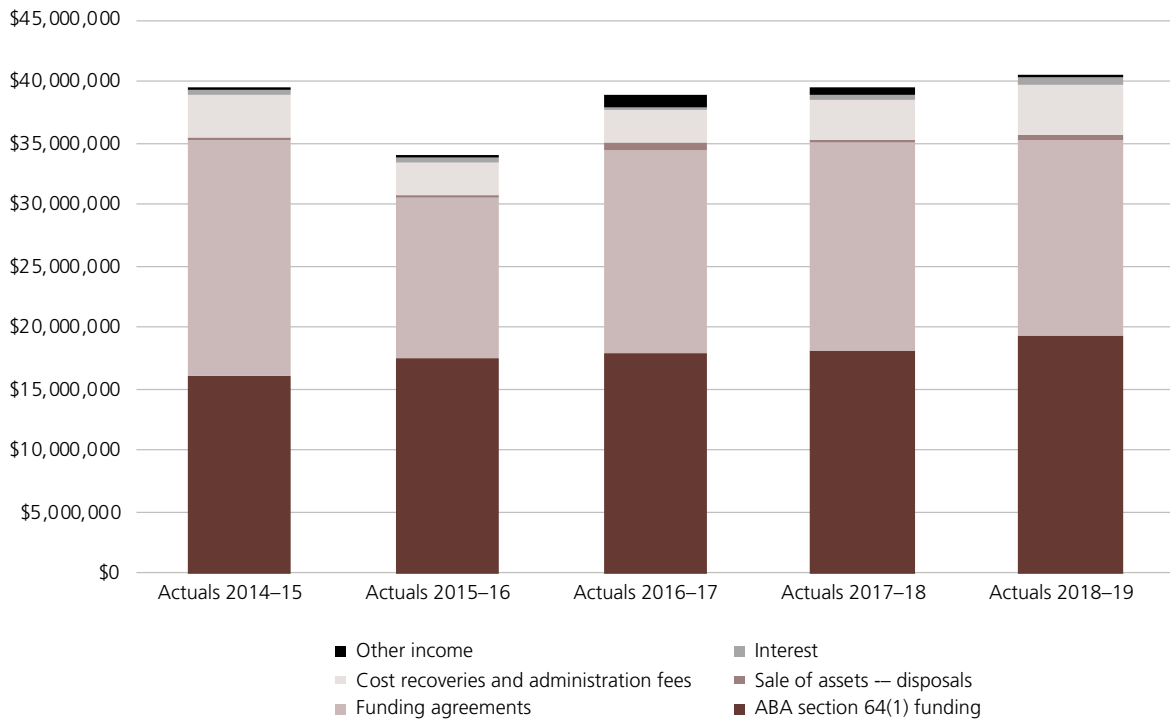
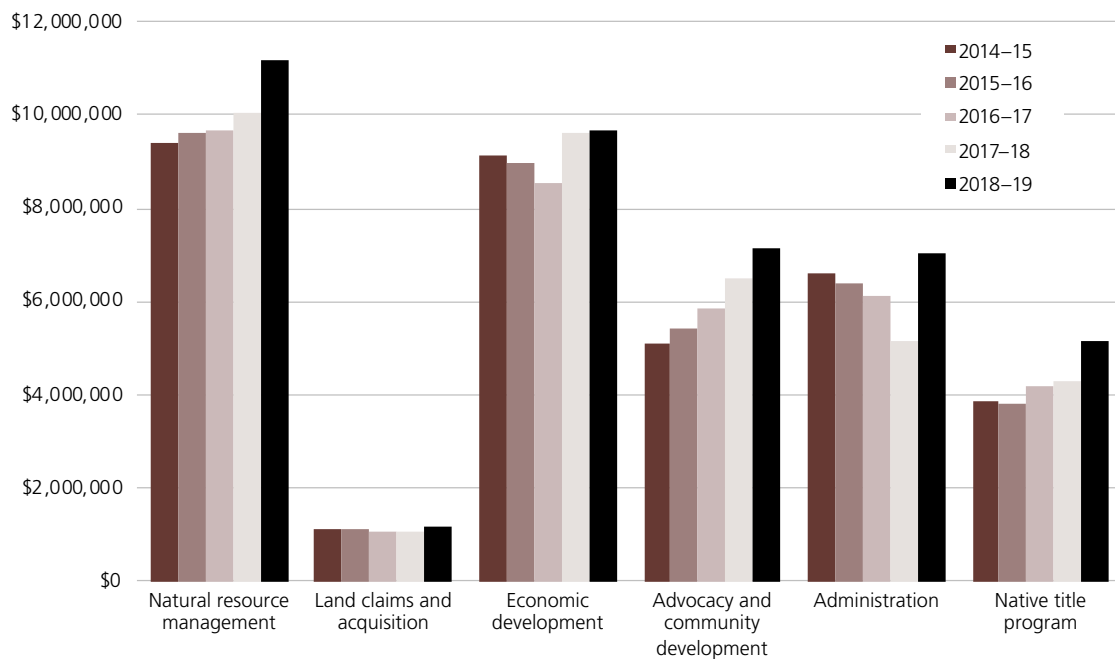
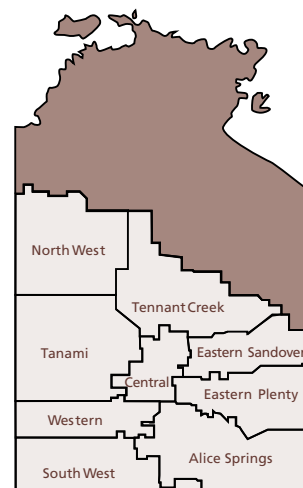


Figure 2. Expenditure classified by output groups, 2018–19



# CLC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

The CLC covers nine regions and has 90 elected members who represent 75 communities. Its chair is Sammy Wilson and its deputy chair is Barbara Shaw. Elected members of the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) advisory committee are Barbara Shaw, Leah Leaman, Harry Nelson, Tony Scrutton and the late W. Johnson.



## CLC CHAIR



SAMMY WILSON

## CLC DEPUTY CHAIR



BARBARA SHAW

## ABA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS



LEAH LEAMAN



TONY SCRUTTON



HARRY NELSON



W. JOHNSON (DECEASED)



BARBARA SHAW

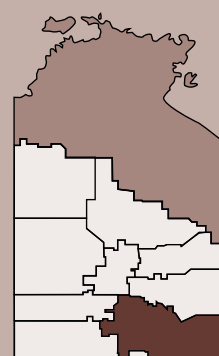


## REGION 1 • ALICE SPRINGS



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: **Raymond Palmer**  
(alternate: Conrad Rataru)

Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa): **Raymond Palmer**; Titjikala: **Rodney Katatuna**; Wallace Rockhole: **James Abbott**; Amoonguna: **Rosanne Ellis**; Uruua: **Raeleen Silverton**; Yatemans Bore outstations: **Patrick Oliver**; Alice Springs town camps: **Barbara Shaw**; Alice Springs native title holders: **Sabella Turner, Graeme Smith**; Alice Springs outstations: **Martin McMilan**; Iwupataka: **Alan Campbell**; Ntaria (Hermannsburg): **Conrad Rataru**; Ntaria outstations: **Mark Inkamala, Roxanne Kenny, Eric Fly**

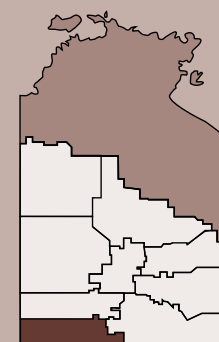


## REGION 2 • SOUTHWEST

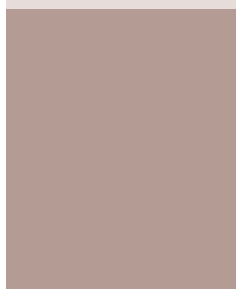


EXECUTIVE MEMBER: **Robert Hoosan**  
(alternate: Craig Woods)

Imanpa (Mount Ebenezer): **David Wongway, Charles Gibson**; Utju (Areyonga): **Gordon Tiger**; Aputula (Finke): **Robert Hoosan**; Kaltukatjara (Docker River): **Marlene Abbott**; Kaltukatjara outstations: **Brendon Mitchell**; Mutitjulu: **Sammy Wilson, Craig Woods**; Watarrka (Kings Canyon) outstations: **Stephen Clyne**; Ukaka (Tempe Downs): **Bruce Breaden**

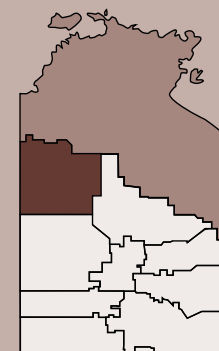


## REGION 3 • NORTHWEST



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: **Vacant** (Mr Johnson until 20 June 2019)  
(alternate: Leah Leaman)

Bamboo Springs: **Desley Rogers**; Mistake Creek: **Natasha George**; Daguragu: **Dianne King**; Daguragu outstations: **Leah Leaman, Justin Paddy**; Lajamanu: **Sharon Anderson, Alistair Jigli**; Lajamanu outstations: **vacant**

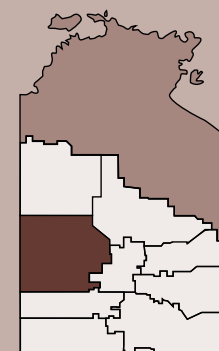


## REGION 4 • TANAMI



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: **Harry Nelson**  
(alternate: Teddy Long)

Nyirripi: **Jacob Spencer**; Yuendumu: **Harry Nelson**; Yuendumu outstations: **Tess Ross, Warren Williams**; Tanami Downs: **Ross Rockman**; Willowra: **Teddy Long, Dwayne Ross**; Mount Barkly: **April Martin**; Mount Denison: **Roslyn Jones**





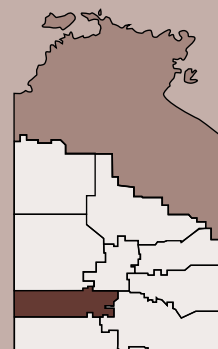
## REGION 5 • WESTERN



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: **Martin Jugadai**

(alternate: Lynda Lechleitner)

Papunya: **Jason Butcher**; Papunya outstations: **Lynda Lechleitner**; Ikuntji (Haasts Bluff): **Jeffery Zimran**; Ikuntji outstations: **Douglas Multa**; Amundurrngu (Mount Liebig): **Martin Jugadai**; Amundurrngu outstations: **Roderick Kantamara**; Walungurru (Kintore): **Tommy Conway**; Walungurru outstations: **Raymond Maxwell**; Mbunghara: **Terry Morris**



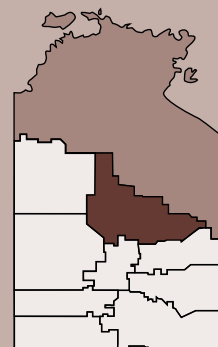
## REGION 6 • TENNANT CREEK



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: **Sandra Morrison**

(alternate: Derek Walker)

Mangalawarra: **Dianne Stokes**; Ngurratiji (Nguyarrmini): **Jorna Murphy**; Kunayungku: **Ronald Brown**; Karlanjarriyi: **Sandra Morrison**; Wutunurrura (Epenarra): **Owen Torres**; Tennant Creek native title holders: **Brian Crafter**; Tennant Creek: **Michael Jones, Patricia Frank**; Canteen Creek: **Basil Mick**; Wunara: **Tony Willy**; Alekarengge: **Peter Corbett, Derek Corbett**; Imangara (Murray Downs): **Ned Kelly**



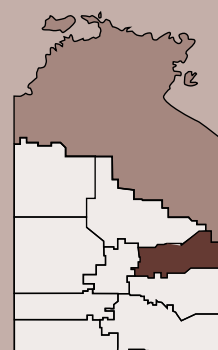
## REGION 7 • EASTERN SANDOVER



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: **Michael Liddle**

(alternate: Jackie Mahoney)

Alpururulam (Lake Nash): **Pamela (Pam) Corbett, John (Jackie) Mahoney**; Ampilatwatja: **Roger Morton**; Utopia homelands: **George Club, Michael Liddle**; Alparra: **Esau Nelson, Sammy Club**; Irrultja: **Elton Ross**; Atnwengerrpe: **John Lewis**



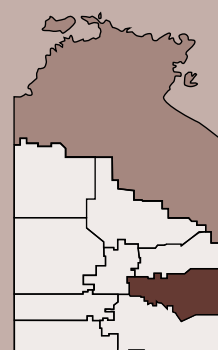
## REGION 8 • EASTERN PLENTY



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: **Neville Petrick**

(alternate: Eric Petrick)

Bonya: **Andrew Rieff**; Urlampe outstations: **Joshua Rankine**; Alcoota: **Kevin Bloomfield**; Irrerlirre (McDonald Downs): **Neville Petrick**; Mount Eaglebeak: **Nigel Bloomfield**; Akarnenhe Well: **Philip Andrews**; Atitjere (Harts Range): **Eric Petrick**



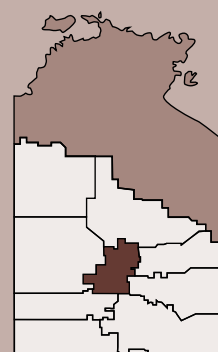
## REGION 9 • CENTRAL



EXECUTIVE MEMBER: **Ron Hagan**

(alternate: Timothy Price)

Adelaide Bore (Woola Downs): **Bob Purvis**; Yuelamu (Mt Allen): **David McCormack**; Pmara Jutunta (Ti Tree Six Mile): **Tony Scrutton**; Nturiya (Ti Tree Station): **James Glenn**; Wilora (Stirling): **Jeremy Purvis**; Laramba (Napperby): **Peter Stafford**; Barrow Creek outstations: **Vacant**



# CLC GOVERNANCE

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

## PURPOSES STATEMENT

The powers and functions of the CLC are set out in the ALRA. The CLC also has the functions of a native title representative body under the Native Title Act. The role of the CLC is described in its published documents including the corporate plan, this annual report, and a half-yearly report to its minister. The Australian Government has not published a key priorities and objectives statement under section 34 of the PGPA Act (CLC Corporate Plan 2018–2028, p. 8).

## ENABLING LEGISLATION

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

## RESPONSIBLE MINISTER

The responsible minister, Senator Nigel Scullion, federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs, announced his retirement before the May 2019 federal election. Following the election, prime minister Scott Morrison appointed the Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP as the Minister for Indigenous Australians. He is the first Aboriginal Commonwealth cabinet minister and the minister responsible for the new National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA), formerly the Indigenous Affairs Group of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C). The NIAA will lead and coordinate Commonwealth policy development, program design and implementation and service delivery for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and advise the prime minister and the Minister for Indigenous Australians on whole-of-government priorities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

## MINISTERIAL DIRECTIONS

The Australian Government's Minister for Indigenous Affairs and the Minister for Indigenous Australians issued no directions, general policies or general policy orders.

## STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

The statutory functions of the CLC are described in section 23(1) of the Land Rights Act and are detailed on pages 12 and 13 of this document.

## COUNCIL

The CLC is a council of Aboriginal people from across the southern half of the NT. Its 90 members represent 75 remote



Council elections at the Yulara Pulka meeting.

communities and outstations. Any Aboriginal adult is eligible for membership provided they are living in or are traditional owners of land within the CLC area, and they meet the eligibility requirements set out under the Land Rights Act. Council elections are held every three years.

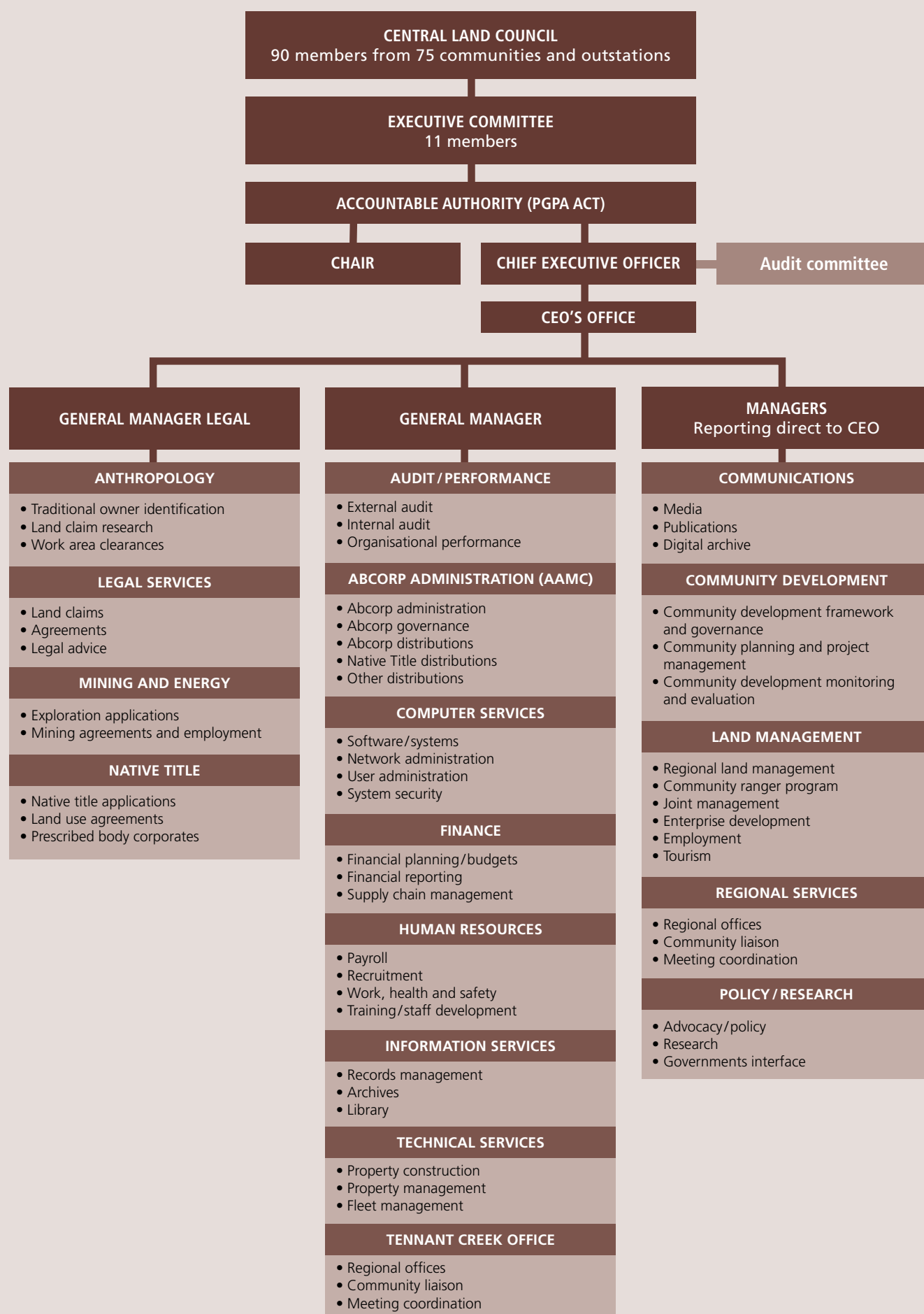
## COUNCIL ELECTION PROCESS

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 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.

## COUNCIL GOVERNANCE PROCESSES

The CLC takes its responsibility to ensure that council members are fully informed about their role, rights and obligations very seriously. It updated its council governance document, the CLC governance handbook, <https://www.clc.org.au/files/pdf/CLC-Governance-Manual.pdf>, and its executive refined processes for considering third-party requests to present to the executive or the council. A full-day governance training day for the incoming council took place on Tuesday 9 April 2019 at Yulara. The training preceded the first meeting of the new council, at which elections were held for chair, deputy, Aboriginal Benefits Account (ABA) advisory committee and executive members. The governance training day laid the foundations for further training

Figure 3. CLC organisational structure





and the consolidation of governance expertise over the three-year life of the council.

**Table 3. Council meetings, 2018–19**

Meeting dates	Location	Resolutions passed
21, 22, 23 August 2018	Yuendumu	2
13, 14, 15 November 2018	Arlparra	7
9, 10, 11 April 2019	Yulara Pulka	4

## THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The 11-member executive is a committee of the council, pursuant to section 29A of the Land Rights Act. It comprises nine members who represent the CLC's nine administrative regions, plus a chair and deputy chair.

The executive held 11 meetings in the 2018–19 financial year, all in Alice Springs.



Senator Pat Dodson farewells David Ross at the April 2019 council meeting.

Pursuant to section 28 of the Land Rights Act, the council has delegated all of its powers capable of delegation to the executive, except those powers delegated to the director (and since 10 April 2019 to the chief executive officer), chair and the chief financial officer. In practice, this means that most matters that require a formal resolution, such as land use agreements and mining matters, are brought to the executive leaving the council to make decisions on policy.

**Table 4. Executive committee meetings, 2018–19**

Meeting dates	Resolutions passed
11 and 12 July 2018	10
8 August 2018	20
13 September 2018	7
24 and 25 October 2018	14
21 November 2018 (special meeting about CEO recruitment)	1
12 and 13 December 2018	13
19 and 20 February 2019	3
13 and 14 March 2019	4
5 April 2019	3
29 and 30 May 2019	12
26 and 27 June 2019	7

## ROLE OF THE CHAIR

The chair is elected by the members of the CLC for a three-year term. The chair is also a member of the Accountable Authority in accordance with the PGPA Act. Francis Kelly served as chair and Sammy Butcher as deputy chair from July 2018 to April 2019. At council elections on 10 April 2019 at Yulara Pulka, Sammy Wilson was elected chair and Barbara Shaw was elected deputy chair.



Former chair Francis Kelly (centre) congratulated new chair Sammy Wilson and deputy chair Barbara Shaw.

## OUTPUT GROUP 1

### LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

OUTPUT	1.1	PERMITS
	1.2	LAND AND 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.
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# OUTPUT 1.1. PERMITS

Access to Aboriginal land is managed effectively and efficiently.

The use of permits to enter Aboriginal land is authorised in section 73 of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (Cth) and contained within the *Aboriginal Land Act 1978* (NT). The permit system, administered by land councils, gives all visitors, workers and researchers regulated access to Aboriginal land. Traditional owners use permits to manage visitation to their lands and to uphold their responsibilities to visitors. Visitors to Aboriginal lands can apply for entry, transit, media (news of the day), mining and special purpose permits.

Following the Northern Territory Emergency Response, the Howard government amended the ALRA, allowing access to public areas of larger communities without a permit. Permits are still required outside these areas. In accordance with the wishes of traditional owners, however, many visitors to communities apply for permits even if not required to assure themselves of the consent of residents. The CLC appreciates these displays of goodwill.

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

Table 5. Permits issued, 2014–19

Permits	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19
Entry	658	872	709
Special purpose (research and media)	30	26	24
Mining	910	3,682	2,352
Transit	4,293	4,498	4,880
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,891</b>	<b>9,078</b>	<b>7,965</b>

## ENTRY AND SPECIAL PURPOSE PERMITS

The CLC processed 7,965 permit applications by consulting with traditional owners and negotiating with applicants.

It received seven permit applications in relation to Aboriginal land under joint management that required consultations with the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT (PWC NT) for parks and reserves, and a further eight new applications or alterations to existing permits for the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park.

Sammy Wilson tells the ABC's 7.30 Report why traditional owners are closing the Uluru climb.





# OUTPUT 1.2. LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The CLC assists traditional owners to sustainably manage their land and natural resources.

More than half of the CLC region is Aboriginal freehold land under the Land Rights Act; however, not all constituents live on Aboriginal land. Some also live in townships, on community living areas and pastoral leases. Land is of immense cultural and spiritual significance to its Aboriginal owners. A fundamental aspiration of traditional owners is to maintain cultural and spiritual connection to their country and ensure that future generations have the same opportunity.

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

Traditional owners want to manage their land sustainably and generate livelihoods from it. The CLC supports them to build the capacity of people to manage and protect environmental and cultural values. It provides advice and assistance with land use and management planning, fire management, cultural heritage supported discussions about additional customers protection,

feral animal and weed management, and traditional owner involvement in the management of protected areas.

Indigenous rangers occupied most of the 142 positions in the CLC's land management section. The rangers are the eyes and ears of the bush and respond to natural and cultural management issues (see ranger program annual report annexure 2018–19 for more details).

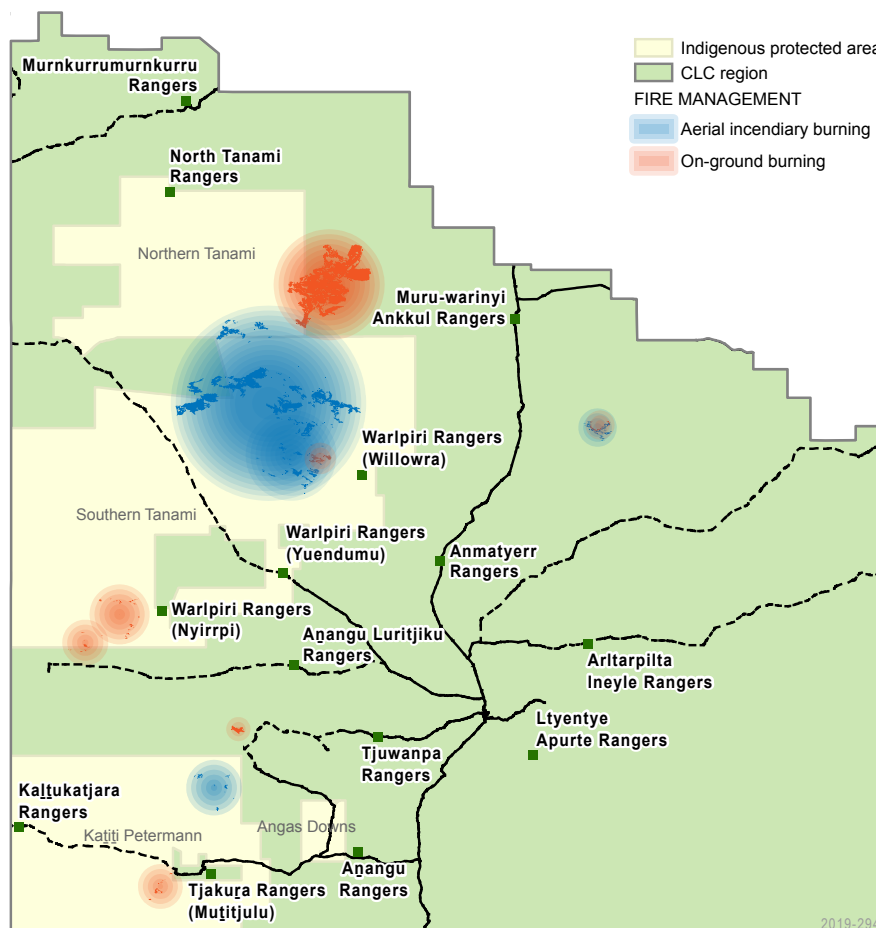
CLC anthropologists prepared 29 traditional owner identifications and gave advice in relation to a bush medicine project in the Sandover and Plenty regions; joint management planning for Ruby Gap Nature Park; Arltunga Historical Reserve and the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park, ranger work planning; burning activities on the Haasts Bluff ALT; the Katiti Petermann and Northern Tanami IPAs; the Uluru climb closure consultations; and feral herbivore removal in four locations.

## REGIONAL LAND MANAGEMENT

### *Land resource information and planning*

The CLC has created a new data collection app to replace the aging Cybertracker app staff currently use to record field data

Figure 4. Fire management activity, 2018–19



on tablets. The new app, to be rolled out over the coming year, will complement the multilingual Tracks app the rangers use to record animal tracks, scats and burrows. The CLC continued to review and store the data the rangers collected.

A review of current land condition monitoring procedures led to the trial of a new livestock management system. The system uses both satellite and ground-based monitoring methods to provide information on land condition.

The University of Sydney evaluated the CLC's Tanami regional biodiversity-monitoring project, a long-term project undertaken with financial support from Newmont Goldcorp. The review found that the project was broadly meeting its goals, and recommended improvements. The CLC is working with interested parties to decide on the future course of the project.

The CLC completed the plan of management for the Daguragu and Hooker Creek ALTs.

### Fire management

The CLC attended a NT Bushfires Council meeting in November 2018 and two regional bushfires committee meetings in Alice Springs. The Warlu committee of traditional owners and rangers, which represents the Tanami region, met at

Yaripilangu outstation in October 2018 to plan fire operations. Rangers from Western Australia observed the meeting. The Waru committee for the southwest region met in February at Mutitjulu to plan fire operations. Representatives from South Australia and Western Australia also attended to enable cross-border fire operations planning.

A small grant from the NT Government's ranger grants program (*Protecting Country, Creating Jobs*) funded strategic fire operations in the Tennant Creek region. Rangers installed firebreaks north of the town and participated in a joint controlled burning project with the NT's Parks and Wildlife Commission in the Itwelepenty/Davenport Range National Park.

The CLC held two aerial incendiary training courses in 2018. Rangers increased their capabilities in aerial burning and aircraft safety. Both were vital for conducting prescribed burns on a regional scale.

In response to regional high fire risk the CLC worked with Bushfires NT and neighbouring landowners on prescribed burns across the southern NT. In extended dry periods it is critical to carefully plan burns. The CLC conducted numerous planning and consultation sessions leading to prescribed burns in the Southern Tanami Indigenous Protected Area (IPA), Watarrka National Park, Katiiti-Petermann IPA and Tennant Creek area.



CLC rangers Benedict Mosquito and Helma Bernard take off for some aerial burning.

### Water resource management

After completing water allocation plans for the Western Davenport and Ti Tree, in conjunction with the NT Government's water resources branch, the CLC worked with traditional owners to identify groundwater-dependent cultural and ecosystem values. It organised three site visits and a workshop to establish a monitoring program which will ensure that water extraction licensed under the plans does not harm cultural and ecosystem values.

### Invasive species management

#### FERAL ANIMALS

Below average rainfall between 2017 and 2019 has kept feral animal management staff busy. The lack of food and water for animals has put enormous pressure on the country. Feral animals congregate around a few remaining water sources and often perish there.

Table 6. Feral animals removed, 2018–19

Location	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Cattle	Total
Hermannsburg area	188	1864	40	4	2096
Mulga Bore Outstation	–	153	–	–	153
Santa Teresa ALT	–	54	–	–	54
Yalpirakinu ALT	58	133	–	372	563
Yuendumu ALT	2	222	–	167	391
Haasts Bluff ALT	429	77	–	–	506
Petermann ALT	427	24	–	–	451
Central Desert ALT	1167	19	3	256	1445
Wirlijarayyi ALT	–	–	–	73	73
Pmere Nyente ALT	–	220	–	327	547
<b>Total</b>	<b>2271</b>	<b>2766</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>1199</b>	<b>6279</b>

The CLC helps traditional owners manage feral cattle, horses, pigs, donkeys and camels through planning, consultation and partnerships. This year, it consulted with traditional owners from the Dagaragu, Yuendumu, Yalpirakinu, Santa Teresa, Central Desert, Ntaria, Rodna, Roulpmaulpma, Ltalaltuma, Haasts Bluff and Pmere Nyente Aboriginal land trusts and Mulga Bore outstation. Usually, traditional owners don't support animal culls, especially if carcasses are left to waste; however, this year they found themselves with no other alternative as many animals were perishing or in poor condition. A total of 6,279 feral animals were culled or sold.

The 10 Deserts project funded camel control across the Petermann and Haasts Bluff Aboriginal land trusts and the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation (ILSC) funded an emergency horse cull at Mulga Bore.

If animals were fit for transport, the CLC pursued alternatives to culling. It assisted with the sale of 220 feral horses and 866 feral cattle.

Table 6 provides a summary of this year's feral animal management activity.

## WEEDS

Weed infestations impact significantly on the cultural and natural values of the country. Weeds displace bush foods, and cause changes in fire regimes and declines in native plant diversity. CLC rangers conduct most of the weed management on Aboriginal land, but as their resources can only cover a fraction of all weed infestations, they prioritise areas of high cultural and ecological value.

Table 7 summarises targeted weed species and work locations for 2018–19.

## Significant and threatened species management

Traditional owners' interests and priorities guide the CLC's management of significant and threatened species. The CLC develops partnerships with other science-based agencies to manage these species. This year it participated in Territory Natural Resource Management's threatened species forum. The forum considered management options for species such as the central rock rat, cabbage palm, Slater's skink, black-footed rock wallaby and night parrot. It also discussed how the rangers can survey night parrots and black-footed rock wallabies with NT Government agencies.



Gladys Brown and Kylie Sambo recorded black-footed rock wallaby scat with the Tracks app.

Table 7. Weed management, 2018–19

Name	Status	Work areas
Athel pine ( <i>Tamarix aphylla</i> )	WONS A/B	Huckitta Station Finke River Alkwert ALT
Mexican poppy ( <i>Argemone ochroleuca</i> )	B/C	Santa Teresa ALT
Parkinsonia ( <i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i> )	WONS B/C	Santa Teresa ALT North Tanami IPA South Tennant Creek
Buffel grass ( <i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i> )	not declared	Katiti Petermann IPA Angas Downs IPA Southern Tanami IPA
Rubber bush ( <i>Calotropis procera</i> )	B/C	Dagaragu ALT Southern Tanami IPA Mungkarta ALT
Neem tree ( <i>Azadirachta indica</i> )	B/C	Dagaragu ALT

A/B = necessary to eradicate and prevent introduction into the NT  
 B/C = Necessary to prevent the growing, spreading and introduction of the declared weed in the NT.  
 WONS = Weed of national significance

Table 8. Significant and threatened species surveys, 2018–19

Survey species	Location	Ranger group
Slater's skink ( <i>Liopholis slateri slateri</i> )	Arletherre ALT Haasts Bluff ALT	Ltyentye Apurte Rangers Anangu Luritjiku Rangers
Night parrot ( <i>Pezoporus occidentalis</i> )	Haasts Bluff ALT	Anangu Luritjiku Rangers
Black-footed rock wallaby ( <i>Petrogale lateralis</i> )	Mungkarta ALT	Muru-warinyi Ankkul Rangers
Ninu (Greater bilby – <i>Macrotis lagotis</i> )	Karlantjpa North and South ALTs North Tanami IPA	Muru-warinyi Ankkul Rangers North Tanami Rangers
Tjakura (great desert skink – <i>Egernia kintorei</i> )	Katiti Petermann IPA	Tjakura Rangers
Quandong ( <i>Santalum acuminatum</i> )	Angas Downs IPA	Anangu Rangers (Angas Downs)
Fox ( <i>Vulpes vulpes</i> )	Southern Tanami IPA	Warlpiri Rangers
Cat ( <i>Felis catus</i> )	Mungkarta ALT	Muru-warinyi Ankkul Rangers



## CASE STUDY: Feral animal control

Deep in the Tanami Desert there is a special water place called Kamira. The spring is part of a *ngapa* (water) songline and was once an important meeting place for people from the Northern Territory and Western Australia. Kamira flowed all year round and was a precious source of fresh clean water feeding a small creek that flowed into a large salt lake during the Wet.

"Kamira my country, used to walk around everywhere when I was a young fella. No whitefella then," said 102-year-old Henry Jakamarra Cook, one of the last elders who grew up living off the land. "Everyone walking around Kamira to get *ngapa*. Everyone come in, east, north, everyone. Big mob." Mr Cook remembers "chasing goanna and kangaroo. Spring water, good country that one".

Kamira is now a muddy wasteland, trampled by feral cattle after two exceptionally dry seasons and a record-smashing heatwave.

"It makes me feel sad to see it like this," said CLC ranger and traditional owner for Kamira, Silas Jampijinpa Ross.

Before the CLC organised an emergency cull of more than 1,400 feral cattle, horses, camels and donkeys near Lajamanu in June 2019, thirsty and starving animals congregated around the spring and other water sites. They ate some plants and trampled the others, compacting the soil so new plants couldn't grow. Native animals struggled to compete for the remaining muddy water.

While Mr Ross and the other North Tanami rangers were working to restore and protect Kamira, their colleagues in



This social media image of the mass death of feral horses at Ltyentye Apurte made international headlines in early 2019. (Photo: Ralph Turner)

Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa), found themselves at the centre of international media attention when they discovered around 100 dead and starving horses at Apwerte Uyerreme, the normally reliable waterhole south of Alice Springs. It had dried out during the hottest NT summer on record and the driest in 27 years. Ranger Joe Palmer said residents could not remember a time when there were so many wild horses in the community, nor could they recall a similar mass death of brumbies.



Before: Elder Henry Cook drinks from Kamira in 2004.



The CLC immediately responded to the gruesome discovery with an emergency cull, one of the first in a series that removed almost 6,300 feral animals from Aboriginal land across the region before the summer was over. The Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation kicked in funding at short notice, so did the 10 Deserts project. Working closely with shooters from the NT Parks and Wildlife Commission the CLC reduced animal suffering while the search for sustainable solutions continued.

On a hot and dusty day in March, Ltyentye Apurte rangers had the unenviable task of removing the horse carcasses from Apwerte Uyerreme as requested by the traditional owners.



Ltyentye Apurte rangers helped clean up the waterhole following the horse deaths.



Ranger co-ordinator Craig Reid and ranger Silas Ross cleaned Kamira spring and creek in 2016.

"Some of them were on the bank and probably 60 horses in the waterhole," Joe Palmer told the ABC.

"We had to pull them first so that the backhoe could pull them out of the creek," his colleague Malcolm Hayes added. "It was horrible. There was too much smell."

It is little wonder that preventing a repeat of the tragedy is high on everyone's agenda. Many traditional owners think the best prevention is to muster feral horses during good years, when they are fat and healthy.

Finding a market for brumbies is challenging at the best of times but it is far too late when the animals are close to death. Mustering and other preventive solutions, such as regular aerial surveys to monitor feral animal numbers, require consultations with many traditional owner groups, careful planning and ongoing funding for helicopters. Neither come cheaply.

Lucky for Ltyentye Apurte and three other regions in central Australia, the NT Government agreed to fund the CLC to develop healthy country management plans. In May 2019 it invested \$200,000 in planning with traditional owners around Ltyentye Apurte, Ntaria, Tennant Creek and Ti Tree. Over the next two years, the CLC will work on the plans with traditional owners. One of the questions it will put to them is: What is the best way to manage feral populations on their country?



After: Kamira in 2019.





Rangers from Tennant Creek and Ti Tree visited a *ninu* (bilby) dreaming site near Kalka community with their South Australian colleagues.



CLC rangers took part in a purple-crowned fairy wren survey near Timber Creek in the Northern Land Council region.



Table 8 summarises ranger groups' surveys.

Following the success of the 2016 Ninu Festival at Kiwirrkurra – which brought together ranger groups, scientists, conservation organisations and government representatives to share knowledge and ideas about looking after the threatened marsupials – the Indigenous Desert Alliance (IDA) held a similar workshop focusing on other significant desert species. Rangers from across the region, including 35 from the CLC, gathered in Mulan (Western Australia) in June for three days to discuss how to protect important species. Rangers learnt about survey methodologies and produced a map of areas with suitable habitat for the night parrot. This workshop will inform future surveys.

## STRUCTURED COMMUNITY-BASED LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

Nine years of consolidated funding from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet's Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) and the ILSC's Real Jobs programs have allowed the CLC's 12 ranger groups to manage cultural and natural resources on Aboriginal land. Four groups manage IPAs that contribute more than 195,000 square kilometres to the national reserve system (see the ranger program annual report annexure 2018–19 for more details).

Table 9 shows the areas of operation of the 12 ranger groups.

From their base in Muṭitjulu, the CLC's newest team, the Tjakura Rangers expanded their footprint in the Kaṭiṭi Petermann IPA and established great working relations with the Kaṭṭukatjara ranger group in the west of the IPA and the Anangu ranger group on the Angas Downs IPA.

The high value that remote Aboriginal communities place on the program is evident from the large numbers of residents who apply for the limited number of ranger jobs, and by the enthusiasm of traditional owners who direct and oversee the work of the rangers. This critical collaboration strengthens intergenerational knowledge exchange and community engagement.



CLC delegate and former ranger Kim Brown gave a speech at the 10-year anniversary celebration of the Anmatyerr Rangers in Ti Tree.

The CLC's ranger employment model emphasises training and mentoring, and provides career pathways both within the program and to other employment. Rangers regularly transfer the skills and capacities they develop through the program to other employment and leadership roles.

Of the CLC's 99 rangers, nine were employed fulltime, 68 worked parttime and 22 as casuals. Twelve ranger group coordinators and nine program staff support the groups.

Community demand for ranger employment and for the establishment of additional ranger groups remains high and the CLC continues to advocate for funding to expand the program. The 10 Deserts Project funded the CLC's work with Arlparra in the northeast and Kintore in the west. These two communities have long wanted to establish their own ranger groups. Kintore's emerging ranger team has the strong support of traditional owners, who constantly push the CLC for more activity in their area. The development of the Kintore ranger project has given CLC rangers from other areas leadership opportunities, and traditional owners in the community teach young people about the ecology of the threatened great desert skink. The emerging Utopia ranger group from Arlparra attended the CLC ranger camp. Over the next two years,

Table 9. Ranger groups and areas of operation

Ranger group	Areas of operation
North Tanami	Lajamanu and Northern Tanami IPA
Warlpiri	Yuendumu, Nyirpi, Willowra and Southern Tanami IPA
Muru-warinyi Ankkul	Tennant Creek region
Tjuwanpa	Hermannsburg ALTs and adjoining national parks
Kaṭṭukatjara	Kaṭṭukatjara (Docker River) and Western Kaṭiṭi–Petermann IPA
Ltyentye Apurte	Santa Teresa ALT and surrounds
Anmatyerr	Ahakeye ALT (Ti Tree) and wider Anmatyerr region
Anangu Luritjiku	Papunya and surrounding Haasts Bluff ALT
Murnkurrumurnkurru	Daguragu ALT and surrounds
Arltarpilta	Inelye Atitjere region, Huckitta Station and surrounds
Anangu Luritjiku	Angas Downs IPA, Imanpa
Tjakura	Muṭitjulu, Eastern Kaṭiṭi–Petermann IPA, collaboration with Uluru – Kata Tjuṭa National Park

Figure 5. Ranger group areas

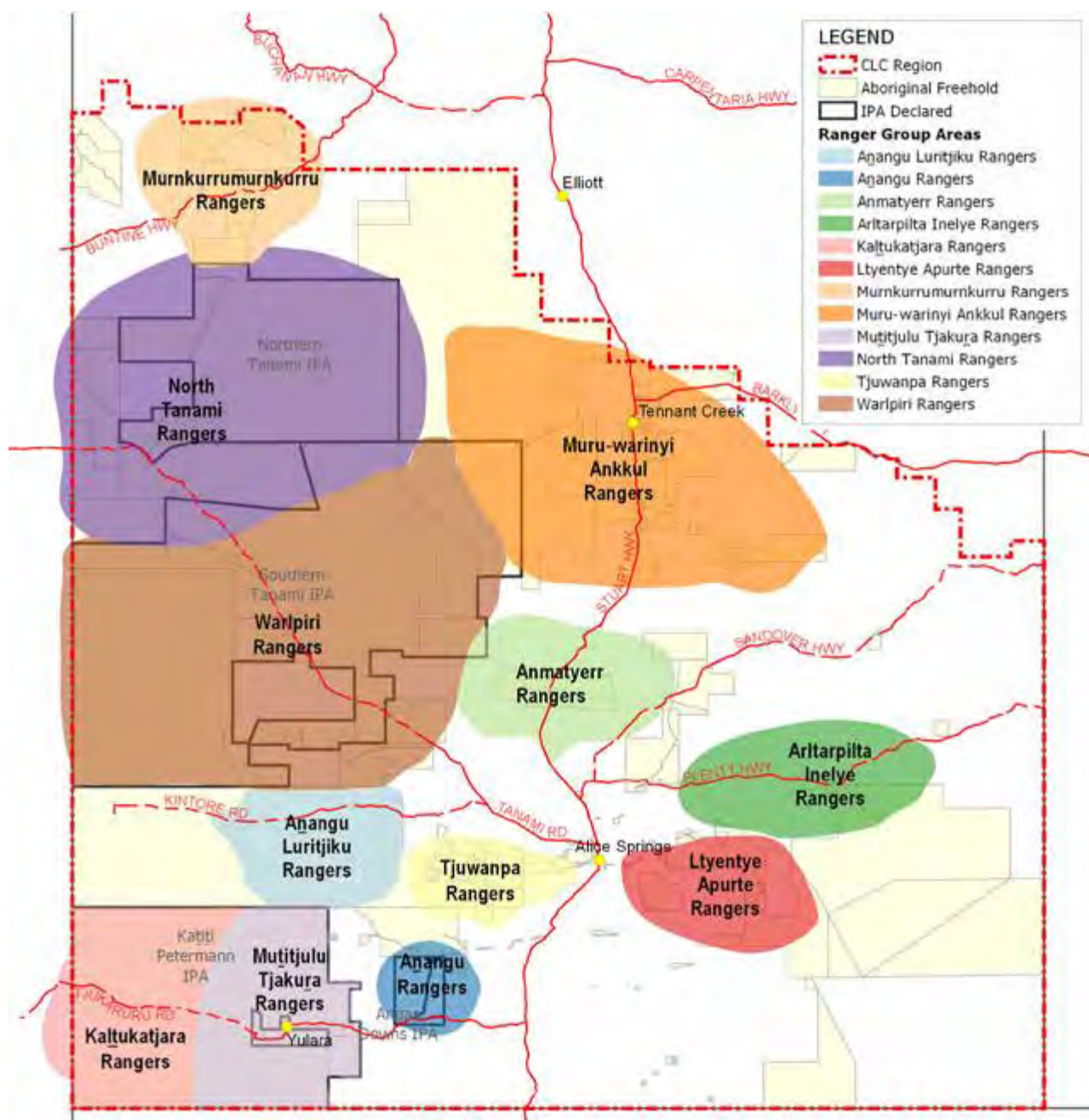
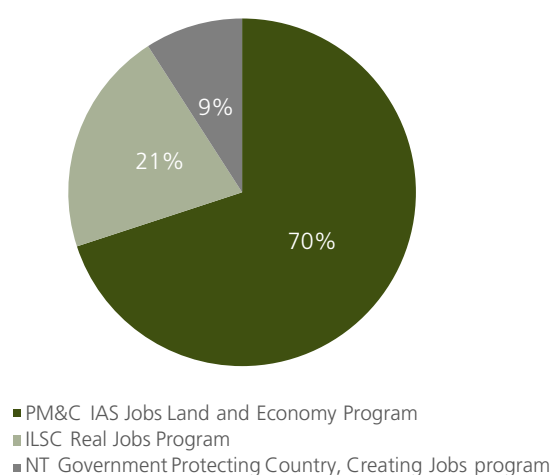


Figure 6. Ranger program funding, 2018–19



Kintore and Arlparra will continue to lay the foundations of their ranger groups and the CLC will continue to lobby the Commonwealth for secure ongoing funding.

### Funding

Ranger jobs are secure until June 2021, thanks to the IAS and the ILSC.

The effectiveness, recruitment and retention of rangers depends heavily on workplace health and safety-compliant infrastructure for ranger coordinator housing, ranger offices and workshop facilities. The NT Government supported the rangers with a \$900,000 Aboriginal ranger grant. It funded workplace improvements such as asbestos removal, and additional sheds and vehicles. The grant also paid for the grading of firebreaks and access tracks to significant sites and outstations, and for the development of land management plans for several land trusts.



## Work program development

Ranger employment develops not only individual rangers but also the capacity of traditional owners who contribute to and develop and oversee ranger work plans. A governance framework of traditional owner ranger advisory committees and IPA management committees enables traditional owners to incorporate their own land management aspirations into the cultural and natural resource management objectives of the program.

The NT Government funded the CLC to contract Social Ventures Australia to explore the current and potential market for income generation through fee-for-service work and other commercial opportunities for rangers. The contractor reported that current market opportunities are modest but offer diverse additional benefits for rangers. The report identified the niche tourism sector and environmental services as having the most potential for growth.

## MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS

### Joint management of NT national parks and reserves

The CLC has statutory consultative and representative functions under the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1976* (NT) in respect to the joint management of 20 NT national parks and reserves. Traditional owners hold Aboriginal freehold or NT Parks freehold title to 16 of these parks and have leased them back to the NT Government. Traditional owners jointly manage these parks with the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT. The other four parks are jointly managed under indigenous land use agreements (ILUA) registered with the National Native Title Tribunal.

The CLC has supported traditional owners to participate in joint management of the 20 parks and reserves since 2004. A PWC NT-funded joint management officer at the CLC assists traditional owners to plan and make decisions about the parks.

### Park management planning and governance

The NT legislative assembly passed the joint management plans for the Watarrka and Tjoritja/West MacDonnell national parks. The joint management partners began to draft a joint management plan for the Ruby Gap Nature Park, east of Alice Springs.

The CLC facilitated 13 joint management committee and working group meetings for a variety of visitor management projects. One is the proposed Red Centre Adventure Ride in the Tjoritja/West MacDonnell National Park, a complex project that spans the length of the park and requires extensive consultations. NT Government funds allowed the CLC to carry out consultations and sacred site clearances with 215 traditional owners of the Tyurretye, Rodna, Roulmaulpma and Ivupataka Aboriginal land trusts. Consultations occurred in the course of nine country camp meetings, one meeting with all traditional owners, seven follow-up family meetings and one traditional owner working group meeting.

### Park permits and concessions

Most jointly managed parks and reserves have permit guidelines with standard terms and conditions for the efficient processing of permit applications. Permit applications that fell outside these conditions and required consultation and review by the CLC are listed in table 10.



Utopia rangers Clayton Hunter, David Nelson, Willy Kamara and Robin Ross took part in the CLC's ranger camp.



Figure 7. Jointly managed national parks and reserves in the CLC region

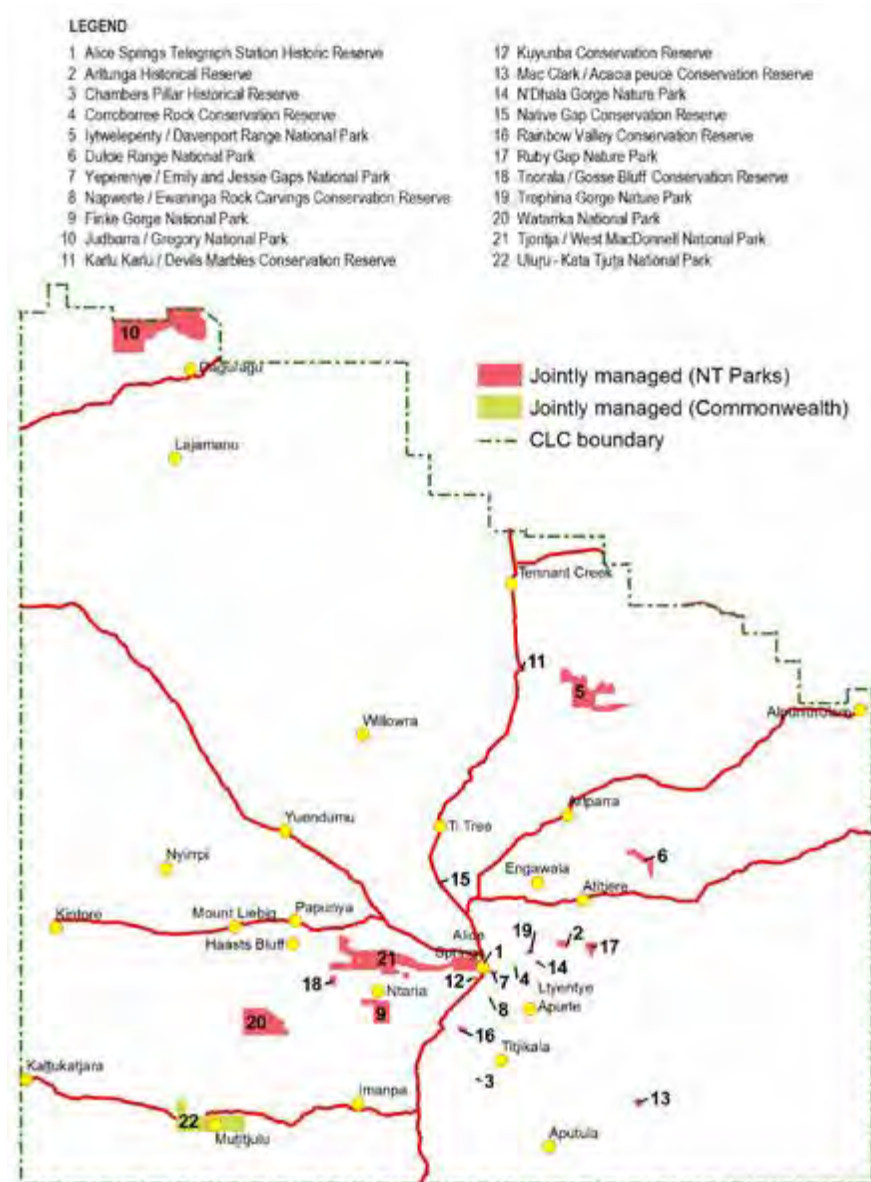


Table 10. Park permit applications, 2018–19

Park/reserve	Number	Type
Dulcie Ranges National Park	2	Research
Watarrka National Park	1	Research
Finke Gorge National Park	4	Research, access

## ULURU – KATA TJUTA NATIONAL PARK

Since 1985, the CLC has carried out statutory functions in the management of the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park (UKTNP) under the terms of the lease with the Director of National Parks. It has maintained a joint management officer position to consult traditional owners and support their involvement in joint management since 2002. Funding for the position runs out at the end of December 2019.

The CLC continued to support the UKTNP board of management and its consultative committees. It helped Anangu board members prepare for four board meetings and provided

representation and support at 11 consultative committee meetings. It also consulted with traditional owners about park management programs, permit requests, commercial tourism proposals and the review of the plan of management.

## INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AREAS

The CLC supports traditional owners to develop and manage the natural and cultural values of their land through voluntary agreements with the Australian Government that do not affect land tenure. The four indigenous protected areas (IPAs) in the CLC region cover approximately 195,000 square kilometres of Aboriginal freehold land. The Kaṯiṯi–Petermann, Angas Downs, Southern and Northern Tanami IPAs have management committees that develop and review annual work plans. Each IPA has an associated ranger group that implements the work plans. The Kaṯiṯi–Petermann IPA has two ranger groups, one based in Kaṯṯukatjara and one in Muṯiṯjulu.

The success of the Southern Tanami Digital Storybook, a Warlpiri-language digital version of the IPA's management plan,

inspired traditional owners of the Northern Tanami IPA to invest \$250,000 of their mining compensation income to produce the Northern Tanami Digital Storybook. The CLC convened four meetings of a project steering committee and created 30 videos involving 21 traditional owners and North Tanami rangers.

The Australian Government invited applications for the establishment of new IPAs in February 2019. The CLC submitted applications for the Haasts Bluff ALT and the Simpson Desert. If successful, traditional owners will develop management plans for their country and decide whether to proceed with an IPA.

## Cross-border collaboration

### INDIGENOUS DESERT ALLIANCE

The CLC became a member of the newly incorporated Indigenous Desert Alliance (IDA), a coalition of indigenous land management organisations in desert regions of Western Australia, South Australia and the NT. The alliance aims to support Aboriginal rangers across the region to achieve cultural, environmental, economic and social benefits. Two CLC rangers serve as directors on the alliance's inaugural board and CLC staff attended its annual workshop in Perth.

### 10 DESERTS PROJECT

In late 2016, Aboriginal land management organisation Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa invited the CLC to join the 10 Deserts project, an indigenous-led partnership supporting traditional owners to look after their country. Other partners are the Central Desert Native Title Services, Kimberley Land Council, Nyangumarta Warrarn, Natural Resources Alinytjara Wilurara, IDA, Arid Lands Environment Centre, Nature Conservancy and Pew Charitable Trusts. The Desert Support Services (DSS) administers the project, which was launched in 2018 with financial support from the BHP Billiton Foundation.

The project's area encompasses all Australia's 10 deserts, totalling approximately 2.8 million square kilometres, and features the world's largest connected network of protected areas and indigenous-managed lands. As a member of the project steering committee and associated working groups, the

CLC contributed to the development of the project's governance and the implementation of activities.

Figure 8. 10 Deserts project area



The CLC signed a memorandum of understanding that defines the project governance responsibilities of the partners and the DSS. The DSS contracted the CLC in September 2018 to implement the project in the CLC region.

In early 2019, the CLC delivered a range of activities under the project agreement. It supported emerging ranger groups at Kintore (Haasts Bluff ALT) and Arlparra (Angarapa ALT) by consulting with traditional owners about ranger work plans. The emerging Kintore ranger group and traditional owners visited an important site to facilitate knowledge transfer and site assessment. Traditional owners and the emerging Utopia ranger group in Arlparra conducted seven site visits to assess impacts to the sites' cultural values. Residents of both communities want sustainable long term support for their rangers.

Rangers and traditional owners have asked the CLC for many years for additional opportunities to learn from each other. The rangers want to balance mainstream education and training with learning about the country from senior Aboriginal people. A CLC workshop with a group of traditional owners and rangers supported the concept of peer to peer learning. The CLC responded by setting up a project reference group to work out how to realise this idea.

It initiated two projects to support intergenerational knowledge transfer through a contract with Tangentyere Land and Learning. Tangentyere engaged two classes from the Kintore school in activities such as identifying animals and learning the Pintupi language with rangers and senior traditional owners. Students from the Arlparra school took part in similar activities.



The CLC's Gladys Brown (left) presented at the Indigenous Desert Alliance workshop at Mulan.



## OUTPUT GROUP 2

### LAND CLAIMS AND 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 ALYAWARRA

Settlement of the Land Rights Act claim has been delayed due to unrelated litigation which affects the processing of the settlement agreement. In May 2019, the Federal Court in *Northern Land Council v Quall [2019] FCAFC 77* decided that a representative body cannot delegate its certification function under section 203BE(1) (b) of the Native Title Act. Consequently, the Canteen Creek Area Indigenous Land Use Agreement, which deals with native title related aspects of the Wakaya Alyawarre repeat land claim (No. 130), has had to be retained for certification by the council at one of its three annual meetings rather than by delegation.

The agreement provides for the joint request by the CLC and the NT Government to the federal Minister for Indigenous Australians for the grant of the claim area as ALRA freehold (excepting Canteen Creek). It also provides for the withdrawal of the land claim over the Canteen Creek community, extinguishment of native title within the community, and grant of NT freehold over non-NT Government assets within Canteen Creek.

## FRANCES WELL

The finalisation of the claim continues to be frustrated by issues related to a proposed realignment of the Chambers Pillar road. The NT Department of Infrastructure Planning and Logistics has failed to progress the road, yet insists that the issues need to be resolved prior to the grant of title.



## OUTPUT 2.2. LAND ACQUISITION

As a result of negotiations for the settlement of native title claims the CLC is assisting with the acquisition of land identified in the following ILUAs:

### ***Ammaroo (DI2014/003) – ILUA registered 27 March 2015***

In accordance with this settlement agreement the land area defined as NTP 7364 was scheduled for grant as Aboriginal freehold on 4 April 2019. The amendment to the ALRA enables the land to be granted as Aboriginal land and the CLC is seeking a title handover date in October 2019.

### ***Red Gum Store ILUA (DI2017/002) – land swap; ILUA registered 30 January 2018***

The native title holder parties executed all relevant Land Titles Office documents some time ago and the documents are still awaiting execution by the mortgagee of Macdonald Downs Perpetual Pastoral Lease (PPL). Once title is issued, the Tyerreng Aboriginal Corporation ICN: 8471 will become the landowner.



## OUTPUT GROUP 3

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES

OUTPUT	3.1	LAND USE AGREEMENTS
	3.2	EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND 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.
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## 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.

### TANAMI GAS PIPELINE

The CLC implemented agreements negotiated in the last reporting period for the Tanami Gas Pipeline and began to monitor them when construction started in June 2018. The underground pipeline connects Newmont Tanami Pty Ltd's mining operations at the Dead Bullock Soak and The Granites mines to the Amadeus–Darwin Gas Pipeline. DDG Operations Pty Ltd completed construction in December 2018.

The high-pressure 440 kilometre pipeline runs from the Amadeus–Darwin Gas Pipeline on Narwietooma Station to Dead Bullock Soak on the Central Desert ALT. It traverses the Yuendumu, Yalpirakinu, Ngallurrutju and Mala ALTs, and Napperby, Narwietooma and Mount Doreen stations.

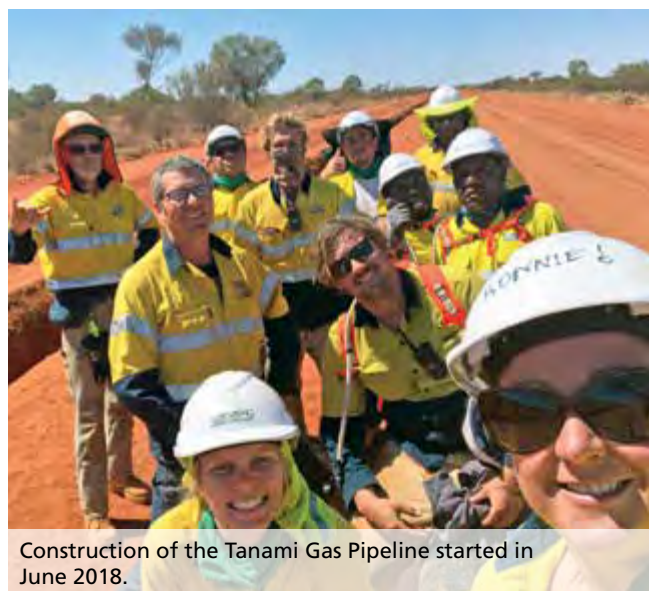
### MUJITJULU SUBLEASE

The Mujiṭjulu sublease commenced on 16 March 2017. The CLC has since attended a number of sublease consultative forum meetings convened by the Executive Director Township Leasing to provide input and assistance to traditional owner members. The CLC liaises with her office on legal and other practical sublease matters that may affect the rights and interests of traditional owners. It continued to work with traditional owners towards the eventual transfer of the sublease to an Aboriginal corporation.

### LAND USE AGREEMENTS

The CLC dedicates significant effort to the processing of lease applications on Aboriginal land. It consults on and responds to requests for variations, assignments, subleases and surrenders in connection with leased premises.

It prepared 14 traditional owner identifications to ensure the right people were consulted about activities relating to land use



Construction of the Tanami Gas Pipeline started in June 2018.

Table 11. Applications received, 2018–19

Lessee/licensee	ALRA communities	Community living areas
Australian Government	1	4
NT Government	3	4
Local government	2	2
Non-government	29	7

Table 12. Consents obtained, 2018–19

Lessee/licensee	ALRA communities	Community living areas
Australian Government	5	1
NT Government	2	0
Local government	7	3
Non-government	15	4

Table 13. Consultations conducted, 2018–19

Lessee/licensee	ALRA communities	Community living areas
Australian Government	1	0
NT Government	6	6
Local government	21	0
Non-government	14	6

Table 14. Leases and licences at 30 June 2019

Lessee/licensee	ALRA communities	Community living areas
Australian Government	1,060	340
NT Government	360	88
Local government	254	98
Non-government	275	17

agreements and continued to consult with and implement the instructions of traditional owners about the application of rent from leases. Its community development program works with traditional owners who decide to use leasing income to plan and implement community-driven projects. When instructed to distribute money to traditional owners, the CLC's Aboriginal Associations Management Centre (AAMC) manages the distribution.

The CLC's land use trust account receives money from rental payments to 10 Aboriginal corporations and associations that hold community living area titles. It provided them with planning and legal assistance to ensure that funds are used for the benefit of the communities according to the corporations' rules.



The CLC's Katrina Budrikis, Barbara Shaw and Sammy Wilson with traditional owner James Smith and CEO Joe Martin-Jard at the opening of the Tanami Gas Pipeline in May.

### ***Australian Government***

The Australian Government holds leases over 1,060 lots on Aboriginal land and 340 lots on community living areas in the CLC region. It obtained consents for leases over six lots.

### ***NT Government***

The NT Government holds leases over 360 lots on Aboriginal land and 88 lots in community living areas. It obtained consent for leases over two lots during the year.

The CLC discussed with the NT Government how to finalise the leasing of reticulated services in communities and to ensure the ongoing management and compliance with existing leases.

It continued to press for a solution to the impasse between the NT and Australian governments about the provision of improved housing to the five communities in the CLC region that are not currently subject to a community housing lease. In April 2019, the NT Government advised that it would apply for five-year housing leases in these communities. By 30 June 2019, the CLC had not received the lease applications.

### ***Local government***

The Central Desert, MacDonnell, Barkly and Victoria Daly regional councils are responsible for local government services in communities of the CLC region.

They collectively hold land use agreements, including leases and licences, over 254 lots in communities on Aboriginal land in the CLC region and 98 lots on community living areas. The CLC continues to consult traditional owners, communities and residents of community living areas about new and outstanding land use applications and negotiates with the councils about the ongoing management of land use agreements.

### ***Non-government organisations***

Non-government organisations operating in communities – mostly Aboriginal organisations, such as art centres and stores – currently hold leases over 275 lots on Aboriginal land and 17 lots on community living areas. These organisations demonstrate a commitment to secure tenure over assets on Aboriginal land by negotiating land use agreements. The CLC continues to receive lease and licence applications from organisations operating on Aboriginal land and community living areas. Tables 11 to 14 summarise the number of lease and licence applications; the number of consultations regarding these applications, and the management of lease and licence agreements; the number of leases and licences issued; and the number of all leases and licences currently issued.

## **PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT**

The CLC supports traditional owners in negotiations with proponents seeking grazing licences over Aboriginal land and monitors licence conditions.

It ensures that proponents create training and employment opportunities for traditional owners and residents of remote communities, adhere to grazing levels compatible with cultural and natural values, and develop pastoral infrastructure that continues to benefit traditional owners.

Grazing licences are typically issued for five years with an option of a further five years or longer. The CLC also issues grazing licences or subleases to Aboriginal pastoral companies to enable them to operate commercially on Aboriginal land.

The CLC continued to monitor 20 grazing licences and subleases, with seven more under negotiation. It consulted about new and existing applications with traditional owners of the Arletherre, Haasts Bluff, Ahakeye, Petermann, Mungkarta, Warumungu, Pawu, Mala, Ngallurrju, Pmere Nyente, Pwanye, Atneye, Anatye, Daguragu and Alkwert ALTs. It also responded





to three incidents of neighbouring pastoralists illegally grazing their cattle on Aboriginal land. Negotiations in relation to these incursions and new proposed grazing licences are ongoing.

### ***Commercial feral animal harvest***

The CLC held 15 meetings and discussions with proponents and traditional owners about the management of feral horses, cattle and camels on Aboriginal land. It consulted with traditional owners about the Ngaanyatjarra Camel Company's proposal to reduce the camel population around Kalitukatjara (Docker River). Traditional owners of the Pmere Nyente, Yuendumu and Yalpirakinu ALTs consented to the mustering and sale of horses and cattle.

## **ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT**

The CLC assists proponents to incorporate job and business opportunities for remote community residents and traditional owners. This assistance can improve the prospects of proposals during consultations and negotiations of land use agreements. Two significant long term proposals for jointly managed national parks demonstrate the benefits of this approach.

### ***Red Centre adventure ride***

The CLC received a proposal for a mountain bike trail spanning the length of the jointly managed Tjoritja/West MacDonnell National Park with potential for exclusive use campgrounds associated with the trail. The CLC informed traditional owners of the park about the proposal, including mountain bicycle tourism and industries and related activities, such as track-building, camping facilities and cultural talks. It held individual consultations, presented to family groups and organised larger

traditional owner meetings to discuss how the proposed project and related economic opportunities matched traditional owner aspirations.

It participated in numerous meetings with the NT Government to negotiate elements of the project on behalf of the traditional owners and also took part in meetings of the project management group.

### ***Watarrka National Park***

The NT Government proposed investing in the jointly managed park in early 2018 to stimulate the region's economy. The CLC helped the traditional owners to negotiate a strategy that supports their aspirations for environmentally and socially sustainable employment and business development. They want tourism businesses that provide employment for their families as well as a level of ownership through, for example, joint ventures. The CLC investigated exclusive walking trails and other development opportunities that attract high value customers and held regular discussions with the traditional owner working group. The group is increasing its understanding of business models such as joint ventures and partnerships.

The CLC also assisted Aboriginal entrepreneurs to better align their proposals for business developments on Aboriginal land with the ideas of the traditional owners ahead of consultations about land use agreements. Proposals included a family-run campground with cultural tours, a livestock mustering business, and two youth diversionary services at outstations. It also facilitated business planning, identified and pursued government grants and community development funds, and sourced advice.



## 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 aimed at employee retention. It converts employment opportunities arising from land use agreements into jobs for Aboriginal people and has built 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

At the end of June 2019, the CLC maintained an employment register of 146 Aboriginal job seekers. It provided pre-employment support with job applications and employment placements. It made 185 referrals to prospective employers, of which 26 per cent resulted in employment.

The CLC continued to work with Newmont Goldcorp's Tanami operation to implement the Tanami Desert Ten Year Plan (see page 59). It referred 43 job applicants to Newmont or its contractors and four were employed. It also helped 90 constituents to apply for jobs and training on the Tanami Gas Pipeline. Sixteen of the applicants were successful.

### NATIONAL PARKS

The CLC helped the NT's Parks and Wildlife Commission and Parks Australia to employ and train Aboriginal people in jointly managed national parks. CLC staff and traditional owners on the two organisations' selection panels supported and encouraged Aboriginal people through the recruitment process; however, the number of Aboriginal people employed in these parks remains well below the expectations of traditional owners. Since the demise of the NT Government's casual employment options and parks apprenticeship program there is limited opportunity for local Aboriginal people to obtain employment on jointly managed parks.

The CLC assisted with community consultation and local job seeker referrals to a subcontractor of the Red Centre Adventure Ride project. Of the 23 Aboriginal people it referred, nine found jobs on the project.

### CULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: CLC RANGER PROGRAM

The Commonwealth's Working on Country and the ILSC's Real Jobs (Ranger) programs fund the CLC's rangers. In 2018–19, the CLC employed 99 rangers across 12 ranger groups, on staff or as casuals. This equates to 71.2 fulltime equivalent (FTE)



Rangers Troyden Fisher, Maxwell Blue, Martin Bloomfield and Angela Purvis get ready for all-terrain vehicle training.



CLC rangers graduated from the Batchelor Institute in September 2018.

positions. Real Jobs funded 18 positions, or a quarter of the CLC rangers.

The CLC created entry-level positions to build capacity and interest among young Aboriginal people with little or no previous work experience. It offers casual employment on larger projects requiring additional staff, such as surveys, fire management and largescale weed control or fencing. Casual rangers often progress to permanent positions after they gain experience on these projects.

### ***Employment outcomes and ranger retention***

Nine rangers were in fulltime positions at 30 June 2019, 68 were parttime and 22 were casuals. Between 2010 and 2019, 900 Aboriginal people worked as CLC rangers. They were aged between 16 and 67 years and had a wide range of knowledge and skills. In 2018–19, the CLC increased the number of ranger support officers from two to three. The position is a stepping stone to the ranger coordinator role. Two rangers took non-ranger temporary positions in the CLC's land management section.

Figures 10 and 11 show that the program employed twice as many men as women for the second year in a row. This represents a decrease in female employment compared with previous years. Groups with strong female leaders employ more female rangers than other groups.

A variety of employment options are needed to accommodate the responsibilities of and demands on remote community residents. Many prefer parttime and casual employment as this allows time to attend to family and community needs.

### ***Quality targeted training and professional development***

Training and professional development are important components of the CLC's ranger program. Training targets

developing basic work skills and competencies for new rangers, supporting experienced rangers to complete studies in conservation and land management, and facilitating the promotion of rangers to ranger support officer and coordinator roles.

Rangers participated in 34 training events. Twenty-eight of these delivered 16,838 hours of accredited training while six events delivered 706 hours of non-accredited training; for example, workshops delivered internally or for specific work-related activities. Forty-eight per cent of accredited training hours were towards Certificate II in conservation and land management, 51 per cent towards Certificate III and 1 per cent towards Certificate I. The ranger program continues to mature and stabilise, and more rangers have Certificate III qualifications than ever before.

The CLC coordinated 128 new enrolments in accredited courses: 13 in Certificate I, 63 in Certificate II and 52 in Certificate III. Two rangers graduated in Certificate I, 10 in Certificate II, three in Certificate III and four in Certificate IV.

At the start of 2019 there were no new enrolments in the Certificate IV because the only local registered training provider, the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education (BIITE), was unable to offer the certificate following significant staff cuts and the subsequent loss of its registration to deliver the certificate. The enrolment waiting list for this certificate increased from 12 to 18 rangers until the CLC made a convincing case for the re-registration of the Certificate IV to BIITE. By June 2019, BIITE had committed to 12 Certificate IV enrolment places for CLC rangers to commence in the 2019–20 period; six rangers remain on the waitlist.

As the ranger program continues to expand, equitable distribution of training resources among ranger groups becomes increasingly challenging. Groups with a relatively stable workforce and experienced group coordinators complete

Figure 9. Ranger employment snapshot at 30 June 2019

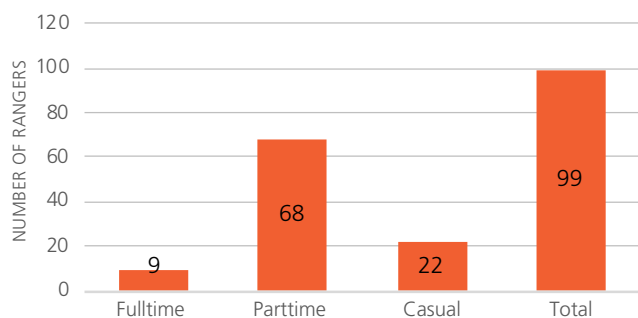


Figure 10. Ranger employment type by gender, 2018–19

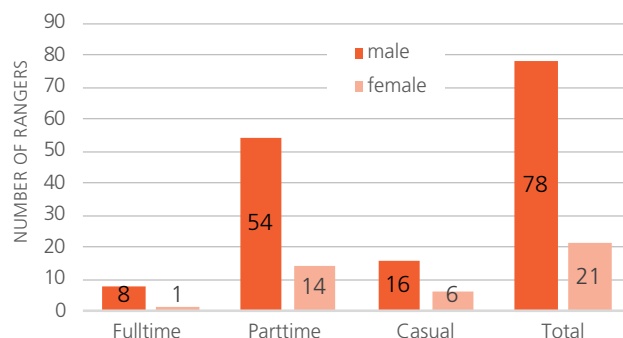


Figure 11. Male and female rangers, 2010–19

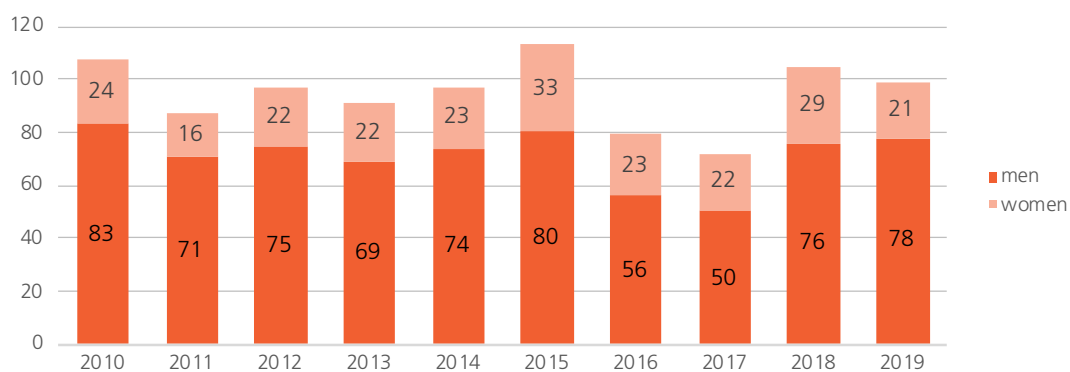


Figure 12. Ranger employment type, 2010–19

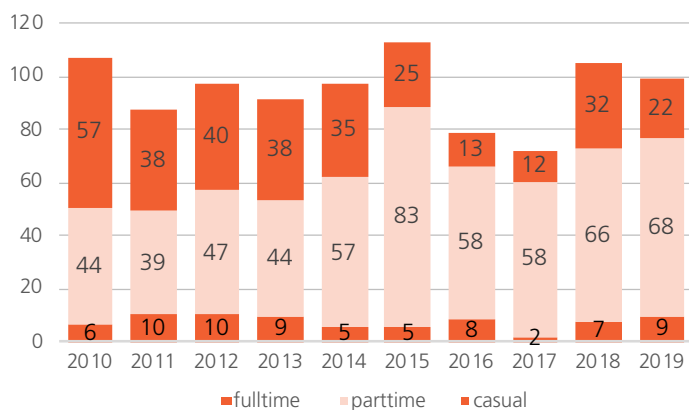


Figure 13. Percentage of women rangers, 2010–19

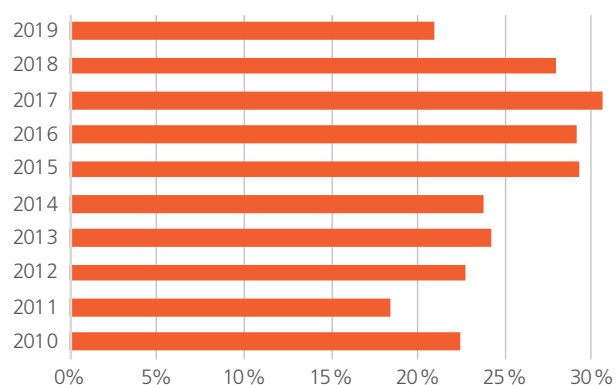


Figure 14. Ranger retention at 30 June 2019

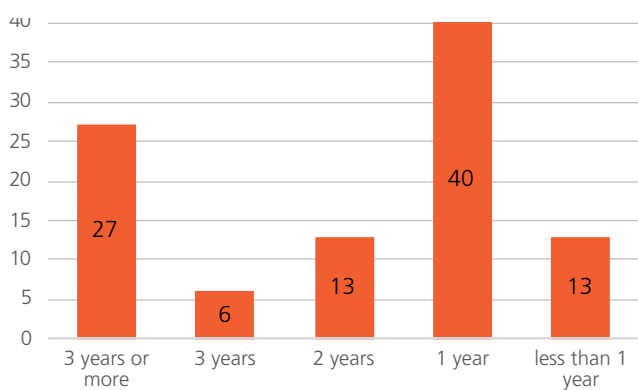


Figure 15. Ranger retention by gender at 30 June 2019

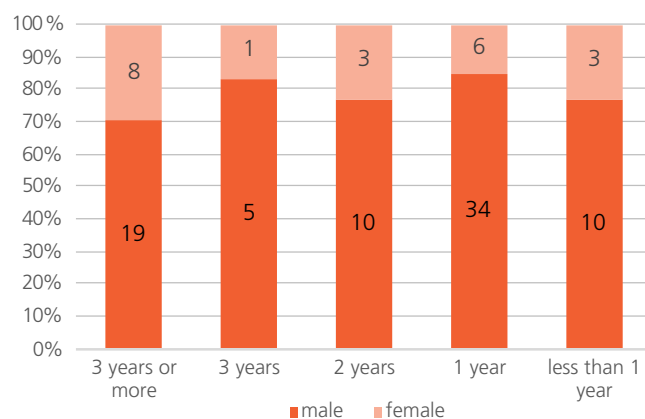




Figure 16. Number of rangers undertaking each certificate level, 2018–19

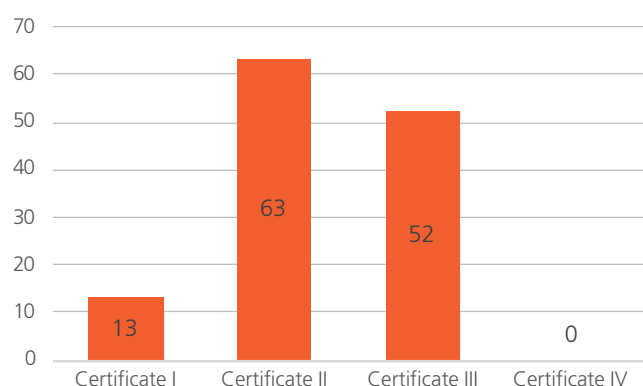


Figure 17. Number of rangers undertaking WHS training, 2018–19

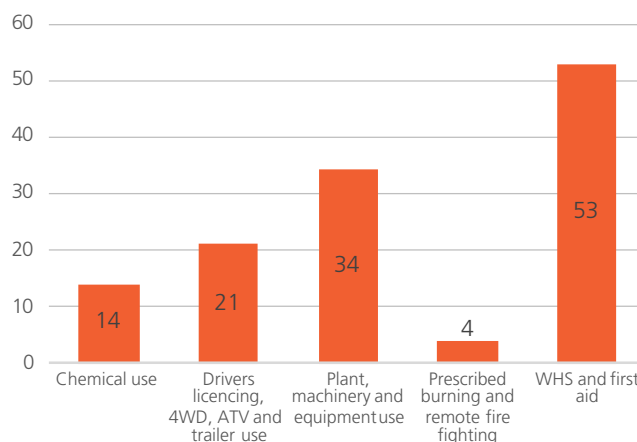


Figure 18. Hours of accredited training, 2018–19

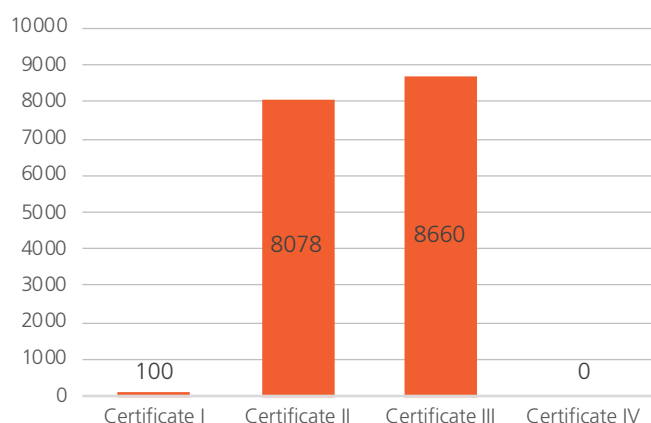
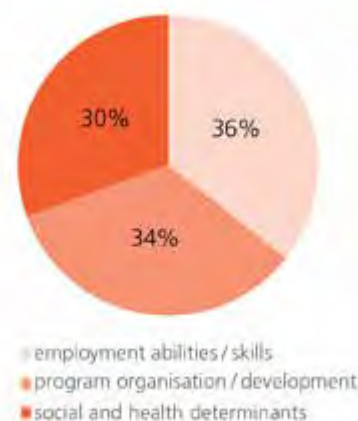


Figure 19. Ranger mentor activity: type of engagement, 2018–19



Barbara Williams at her graduation.

more training hours, while those without stable coordinators and workforces miss out. Groups that participate in more advanced levels of training also complete more training hours; for example, the small Arltarpilta Inelye ranger group completed more training hours than other groups because two long-serving rangers consistently undertook Certificate III units.

The Muru-warinyi Ankkul, Ltyentye Apurte and Anmatyerr ranger groups benefited from their workforce stability and the experience of senior rangers in their ranks. Good planning and local capacity led to improved training participation among these groups. Rangers in very remote communities tend to miss out on training because of the high cost and other delivery challenges. This explains why the Anangu, Kaltukatjara, Murnkurumurnkurru and Tjakuṛa rangers undertook less training than other groups.

Low computer literacy continues to limit ranger careers. A working group with representation from four ranger groups – Arltarpilta Inelye, Ltyentye Apurte, Murnkurumurnkurru and Muru-Warinyi Ankkul – identified the benefits of computer ‘champions’ within the workplace to provide support and encouragement to their less experienced peers. The CLC continued discussions with potential training providers on basic computer-use training across the ranger program.

CLC rangers undertook 5,386 hours of compulsory workplace health and safety (WHS) training. Twelve rangers took part in accredited all-terrain vehicle training and 18 rangers attended accredited training in the preparation, storage and safe handling of chemicals. First aid and WHS remained a core training priority. Of the 28 rangers who undertook this training eight completed more advanced remote first aid training.

The CLC engaged the Centre for Appropriate Technology to deliver plant operator training for erosion control, track maintenance and large boundary fence projects. As part of a fencing project on the Angas Downs IPA four Anangu rangers completed on-the-job grader operations training. A further 15 rangers completed skid steer loader operations training.

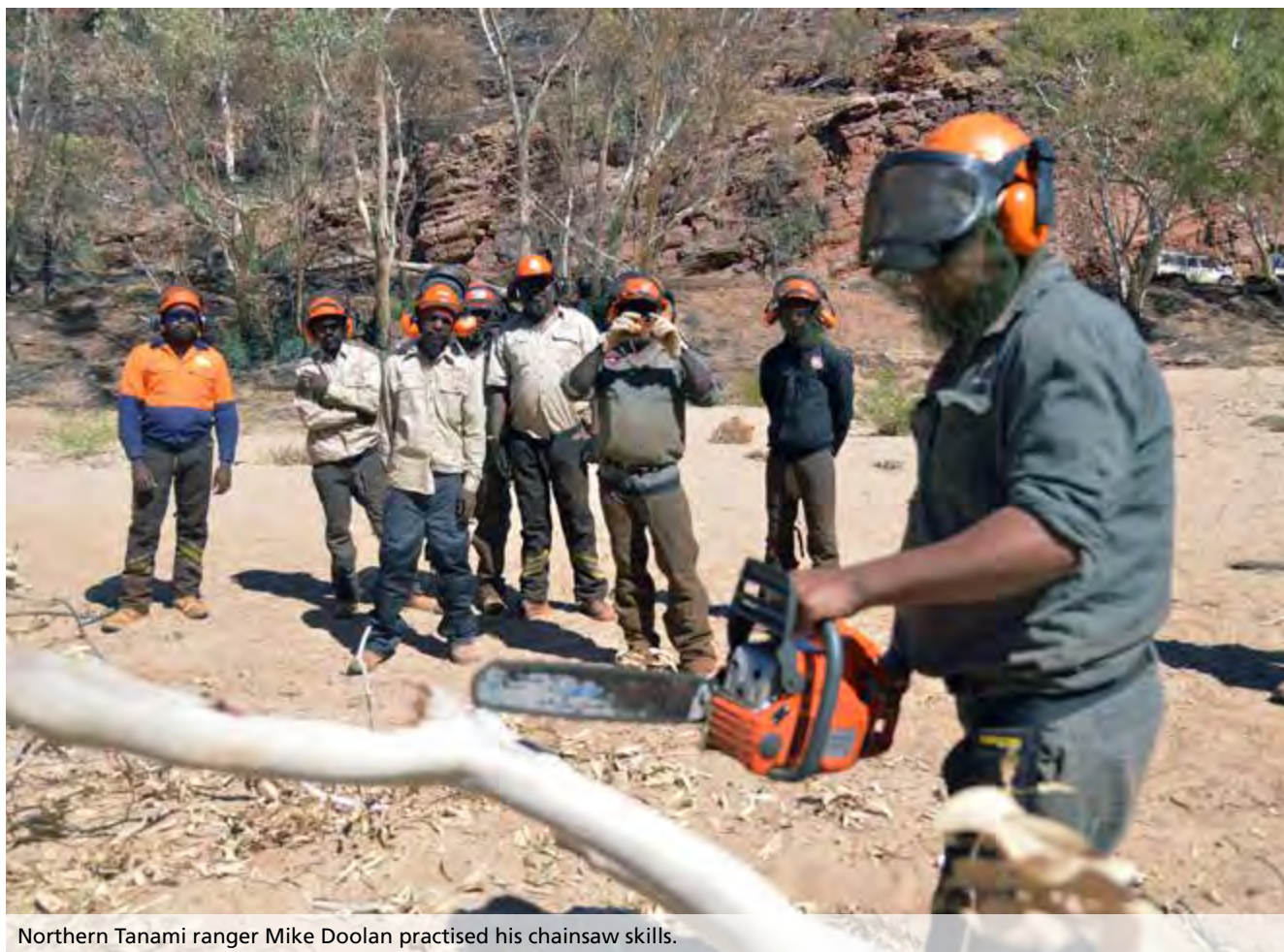
Fifty-seven rangers participated in non-accredited training. This included Aboriginal mental health awareness, venomous snake handling, safe food handling, leadership training, a soil erosion course and an unconscious bias awareness workshop.

### ***Ranger camp***

More than 70 CLC rangers attended the annual ranger camp at the Tjoritja/Glen Helen Resort in April 2019. Five rangers from the NT Parks and Wildlife Commission, four from the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park, 14 from Western Australia (Kiwirrkurra and Kunawarriti), and four from the emerging Utopia ranger group at Arlparra also attended. Special guests included NT ministers Lauren Moss and Eva Lawler, former CLC chair Francis Kelly, CLC CEO Joe Martin-Jard and BIITE CEO Dr Wendy Ludwig.



During the ranger camp's wellbeing workshop, Carl O'Cleary was asked to pick up one rock for every challenge in his life.



Northern Tanami ranger Mike Doolan practised his chainsaw skills.



Ten training providers delivered 16 training and development activities. Ranger wellbeing was a key theme of the camp. Researchers from the Australian National University presented the results of the ranger wellbeing survey undertaken at previous ranger camps and helped the rangers complete follow-up surveys. More than 100 rangers took part in a well-received workshop about the impacts of trauma, alcohol and other drugs. Three ngangkari, traditional Aboriginal healers, presented on the Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yangkuntjatjara Women's Council's ngangkari services. Fifteen rangers had one-on-one consultations with the ngangkari about physical, emotional and social issues. Thirty-eight rangers received influenza vaccinations.

### School-based capacity building

The rangers' school-based capacity building program continues to work closely with students in remote communities.

Rangers interact with students in classrooms and on country, demonstrate employment pathways and the value of ranger employment. This motivates the students to stay in school longer and contributes to their learning outcomes.

All ranger groups worked with junior ranger programs, traditional owners, parents and other interest groups. They facilitated the intergenerational transfer of knowledge and provided work experience by sharing their skills. A highlight was the development of the Kunpulu (Sawfish) junior rangers in partnership with the Kalkaringi school. The Murnkurumurnkurru rangers hosted a 'back to country' trip connecting the junior rangers with traditional owners and elders who shared their knowledge about sacred sites, dances, songs, bush tucker and bush medicine.

Figure 20. Training hours by ranger group, 2018–19

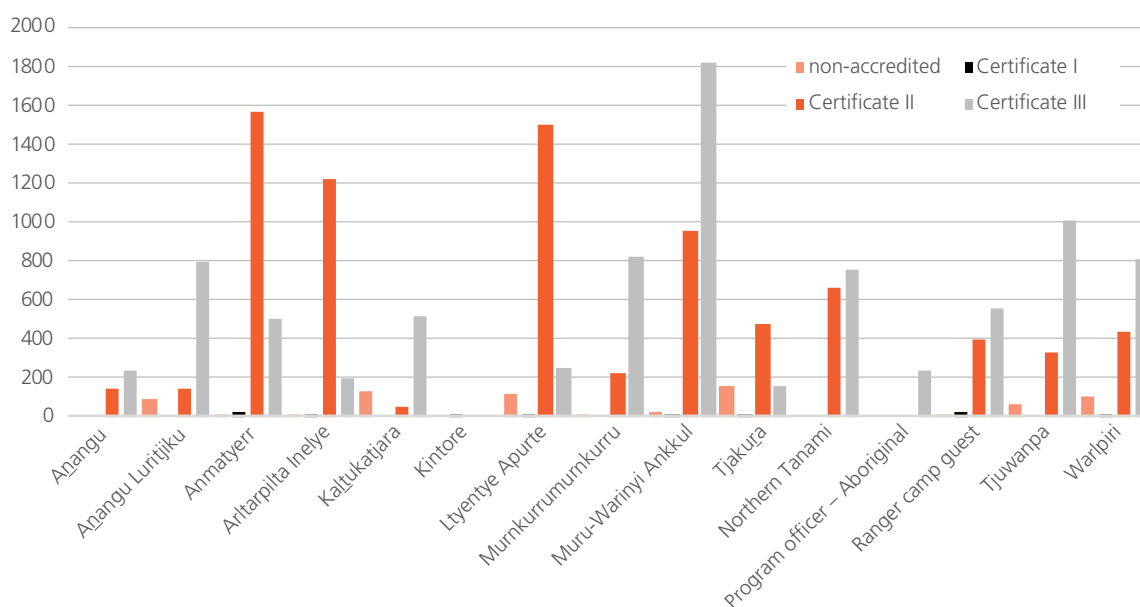
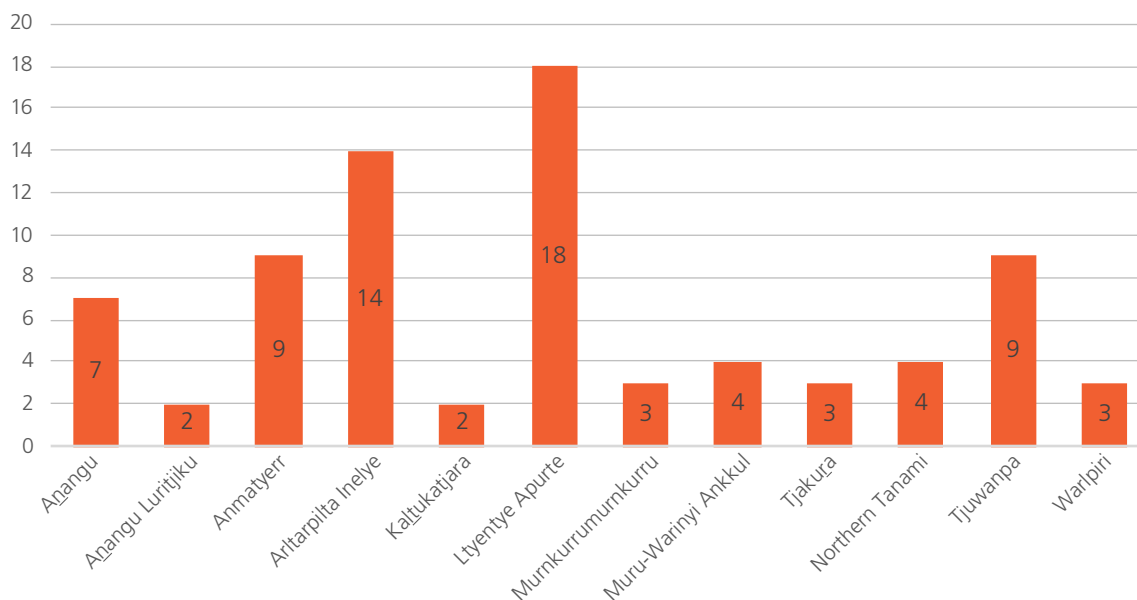


Figure 21. Ranger mentor visits to ranger groups, 2018–19







Topsy Dodd led junior rangers at a ceremony at Cattle Creek in June 2019.

### ***Ranger mentoring support***

Requests for support from ranger mentors led to 1,215 mentoring engagements. During 78 visits to ranger groups, mentors built the capacity of rangers to self-manage issues affecting attendance and performance. Work-related coaching accounted for most of the mentoring activities, although

support around health and wellbeing, alcohol and drug use, and financial and legal referrals were also important.

Additional funding from the ILSC enabled the CLC to expand its ranger mentor team from two to four staff. Lower mentor-to-ranger ratios will allow the team to implement more proactive ranger development initiatives.



Kunpulu junior rangers Doniella Donald and Tom Barry on the 'back on country' excursion to Cattle Creek.



Elders from Kalkaringi and Daguragu supervised junior rangers.



## OUTPUT 3.3. MINING

Mining on Aboriginal land continues to contribute significantly to the NT's mining and energy industries. One of the most productive gold mines in Australia is in the Tanami Desert, some 500 kilometres northwest of Alice Springs. Newmont Goldcorp's mine at The Granites has yielded millions of ounces of gold over the past 20 years. Gold exploration continues in the Tanami and Tennant Creek regions. Oil and gas production occurs at Mereenie, west of Alice Springs, Palm Valley and the new Dingo gas field south of Alice Springs. The new Northern Gas Pipeline has allowed Mereenie to ramp up production and Palm Valley to resume production.

Mining and related agreements deliver benefits to traditional owners, such as community-driven development projects, compensation payments, employment, training, sacred site and environmental protection, and cultural awareness.

When negotiating with exploration companies about access to Aboriginal land the CLC must ensure that traditional owners are fully informed before they make decisions about exploration and mining. Only where there is informed group consent can agreements be made. Adherence to the legislative process provides certainty to Aboriginal people and companies.

### EXPLORATION LICENCE AND PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Exploration for minerals and petroleum is regulated under the NT's *Mineral Titles Act 2010* and the *Petroleum Act 1984*. Exploration licences allow the holder or operator to explore for minerals over the area of the licence. Exploration permits generally cover the very large areas that are required for oil and gas exploration.

On Aboriginal land in the CLC region, exploration licences and permits can be granted only 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 Minister for Primary Industry and Resources 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 to applications, the CLC organises meetings to consult the relevant traditional owners and ascertains their views. The applicant is entitled to present their exploration proposals to the traditional owners at the first meeting. A representative of the minister can also attend this part of the meeting.

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



Ada Lechleitner and Michelle Pareroultja at the drilling of the PV13 at Palm Valley gas field near Ntaria (Hermannsburg).



Henry Cook (seated centre) celebrates his 101st birthday during a visit to The Granites.

Where Aboriginal landowners consent to exploration, they cannot refuse any subsequent mining. A mining agreement must be in place before mining can proceed. Mining generally involves significant impacts on the environment and can affect neighbouring communities. Landowners, therefore, enjoy little certainty when they make their decision at the exploration application stage. The decision to allow mining occurs at the very start of the development process, when little is known about the nature and scope of the proposed development.

The CLC's statutory obligation is to ensure traditional owners are as well informed as possible when making such far reaching and risky decisions. Landowners must understand the nature and purpose of exploration before they consent to an agreement. The CLC conducts exploration and mining consultation meetings to ensure that landowners affected by applications exercise their rights under the Land Rights Act. Table 15 shows recent data for the processing of applications.

In 2018–19, the CLC prepared 29 traditional owner identifications ahead of meetings about exploration licence applications over Aboriginal land. It conducted 10 consultation meetings with traditional owners who considered 37 individual exploration titles. Although higher than last year, this number continues the decline in applications processed. Twenty-five titles were considered at nine meetings in 2017–18 and 35 titles at 11 meetings in 2016–17. By comparison, traditional owners discussed 116 titles in 2013–14 and 115 in 2014–15. This year's decline reflects the continued difficult market conditions for exploration investment, low commodity prices (except for gold) and uncertainty around onshore gas exploration. Of the 37 titles considered, 33 were discussed for the first time. This

is nearly twice as many as the number discussed at meetings for each of the last three reporting periods. All 33 were for minerals. Exploration permit applications (EPAs) for oil and gas were not discussed due to uncertainty about onshore gas application processing and regulation. Thirty EPAs remain under negotiation and once new processes are in place and Aboriginal people in the region have received comprehensive information about the regulatory changes, the CLC will start to process the titles. Some are in geologically non-prospective areas and may be subject to regulation about 'no-go zones'. The scientific inquiry into hydraulic fracturing in the NT recommended that areas not prospective for onshore gas or where co-existence is not possible be declared reserved blocks under section 9 of the *Petroleum Act 1984* (NT); that is, they become no-go zones. Areas to be reserved include areas of high tourism value, towns and residential areas, national parks, conservation areas, high ecological value areas, high cultural significance areas, and indigenous protected areas. Once declared, exploration or drilling for petroleum resources cannot occur in these zones.

The CLC held meetings in Tennant Creek, Willowra, the Tanami region, Kaltukatjara (Docker River) and Kintore. Remote area meetings require careful planning and are resource intensive. Meetings can involve several mining companies and numerous traditional owner groups from many different communities, as well as various mineral commodities. They may cover many thousands of square kilometres. Grouping of titles for consideration at a single meeting saves resources but is complex and challenging. It depends on factors such as the number of traditional owner groups, whether it is appropriate to bring groups together, the number of companies involved and their



ability to progress negotiations, and the availability of CLC staff and vehicles to bring the traditional owners to the meeting.

Figure 22 compares the number of exploration licence applications and exploration permit applications processed during the reporting year with those of the previous five years.

The NT Government issued 77 titles with consent to negotiate in 2018–19, more than twice the 33 titles of the previous year. However, 15 EPAs were recounted because new consents to negotiate were issued when the negotiating periods had expired. This improves the low processing figures seen over the previous five years. Figure 23 shows the trend in the processing of exploration titles on Aboriginal land for the past nine years.

Despite the difficult investment climate, interest in gold exploration continued due to the high and stable commodity price, the shifting global political landscape that has led to increased investment in gold, and the significant interest in the Tanami's world class Callie deposit. Other mineral commodities in the CLC region are copper, rare earths, base metals, uranium, tungsten, phosphate and potash. Poor oil prices, the high cost of transporting gas from remote areas to markets on the east coast, investor caution and community concern about hydraulic fracturing impacted oil and gas exploration title processing. The completion of the Northern Gas Pipeline to Mt Isa at the end of 2018 and the new Tanami Gas Pipeline to Newmont Goldcorp's Tanami operations in February 2019 has created new gas markets in the NT and interstate. However, the lifting of the two-year moratorium on shale gas exploration and hydraulic fracturing in April 2018 is yet to have an impact on onshore gas activity on Aboriginal land in the CLC region. Processing of 30

EPAs in the CLC region will restart when the NT Government implements the recommendations of the inquiry. Petroleum exploration in the Amadeus Basin using conventional methods involved the drilling of wells at Palm Valley and near Imanpa.

Despite central Australia's highly prospective geology, low commodity prices, remoteness and a lack of investor confidence continued to impact on the number of new exploration applications. Forty-six of the 77 applications received were new, 11 were no longer under a moratorium (when traditional owners refuse consent and an exploration licence is frozen for five years) and five titles had consent to negotiate withdrawn and re-issued and new applications were submitted. The remaining 15 titles (EPAs) had consent to negotiate re-issued after the statutory negotiation period expired. Only eight titles were withdrawn before the processing of the title was complete and six titles were withdrawn during the negotiation period. This is the lowest recorded number in two decades and suggests that many of the more speculative titles and junior applicants have withdrawn. The Australian Bureau of Statistics figures for mineral exploration expenditure showed a downward trend since the record high years of 2010–12. However, the NT Government reported a continued recovery in 2018, with an increase in exploration expenditure and reported on-ground activity.

### Oil and gas

The NT experienced an oil and gas rush several years ago. EPAs and granted titles continue to blanket the jurisdiction, reflecting the increased prospectivity of the region's hydrocarbon

**Table 15. Processing of applications for consent to the grant of exploration titles under mining provisions of the Land Rights Act**

Performance measures	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19
Number of exploration titles (licences and permits) effectively progressed to an initial traditional owner meeting	64	18	18	18	33
Total number of exploration titles considered at traditional owner meetings (includes first and further meetings)	115	48	35	25	37
Number of exploration titles processed to a final decision	25	44	13	19	15
Number of exploration titles completed (includes those withdrawn during negotiating period)	62	77	24	36	15
Average number of years between application received and either consent or refusal	4.0	2.9	3.0	3.0	1.3

**Table 16. Exploration titles (exploration licence applications and exploration permit applications) on Aboriginal land**

	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19
Consent to negotiate from NT Government	25	74	25	18	33	77
Application for consent to the grant*	37	72	33	29	37	77
Withdrawn during negotiating period	54	37	43	11	17	6
Refused	8	9	12	10	4	9
Consent to the grant	5	16	22	3	15	0
Granted by NT Government	20	6	8	30	22	0
Under negotiation as at 30 June 2019	226	220	169	149	153	172

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

basins, the targeting of deep shales and tight rocks, and the use of horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing together with increased global demand for gas. The 160,000 square kilometre Wiso Basin between Tennant Creek and Barrow Creek and the 170,000 square kilometre Amadeus basin southwest of Alice Springs are subject to numerous applications. The applications cover several Aboriginal land trusts and some areas have never been considered at meetings with landowners. The huge Georgina Basin northeast of Alice Springs (which extends into Queensland and covers some 330,000 square kilometres) initially had blanket coverage of applications and granted titles. However, three exploration permits that covered nearly 35,000 square kilometres were surrendered following the unsuccessful exploration of deep shales in the southern parts of the basin. Explorers are also targeting the 150,000 square kilometre Pedirka Basin, which lies southeast of Alice Springs and straddles the border with South Australia, for underground coal gasification and thermal coal.

Individual application areas for oil and gas may be up to 16,000 square kilometres each, are generally very remote and are often difficult to access. One EPA is counted as one title even though it may coincide with, or equate to, the total area covered by 20 or more mineral exploration licence applications. When processed these applications would be counted as 20 titles.

Shale gas exploration in the NT has recently recommenced in the highly prospective Beetaloo Basin north of the CLC region. Exploration is subject to strict controls following the implementation of the recommendations of the scientific

inquiry. Baseline data has been collected and exploration is under close scrutiny. Applications in the CLC region will be processed when an independent information program for affected Aboriginal people is delivered (recommendation 11.6 of the inquiry). Hydraulic fracturing remains highly contested in the CLC region, despite the findings of the inquiry that such activity can be managed. Concerns about climate change and the protection of groundwater are key issues.

The CLC is processing approvals for conventional oil and gas exploration in production areas. Wells were drilled at west Mereenie in 2018 and Palm Valley in 2019, and drilling of an exploration well into Amadeus Basin rocks near Imanpa, south of Alice Springs, is underway.

### *Processing applications*

The CLC did not consent to any titles in the reporting period. Likely reasons are the impact of the moratorium on shale gas exploration and hydraulic fracturing and the subsequent inquiry, and the lack of capital of some applicants. Several companies requested the cancellation or postponement of meetings. A number of mineral explorers with significant portfolios of applications and granted titles under agreements are involved in protracted negotiations.

As was the case last financial year, significant ground remains available for application by mineral explorers. This contrasts sharply with the exploration boom years of 2010–12 when there was little available ground.

The lifting of the moratorium on fracking is highly contested across the NT. (Photo Jeff Tan)





Table 16 compares the number of exploration licence applications, both consented to and refused, with previous periods.

The average time for the processing of applications that were either consented to or refused was 15 months. This is below the standard negotiating period of two field seasons, or 22 months, specified under the Land Rights Act. The time required to negotiate an agreement varies considerably and depends on factors such as applicants' familiarity with the process and access to exploration capital. The CLC has to wait until a company is ready to progress negotiations or, if there is lack of progress, may refuse the titles and place them under moratorium.

The negotiating period can be extended by agreement. Many applications, which may take years to conclude, are delayed by applicants seeking joint venture partners when they are unable to explore in their own right. Such searches are often unsuccessful. A title may be subject to multiple joint venture attempts. Extremely tight funding for exploration programs in Central Australia can result in serious delays in processing applications, yet processing time is a key performance indicator for the CLC.

The CLC had 172 title applications under negotiation at the end of the financial year, meeting its target of fewer than 200 applications under negotiation. This is 19 more than last year's 153 ELAs under negotiation.

The CLC processed as many mineral applications to first meeting stage as possible. Negotiations can take considerable time as applicants search for joint venture partners, come to terms with the draft deeds, or change their funding or exploration priorities. Uncertain economic conditions also influence the completion of negotiations.

The NT Government used section 41 of the Land Rights Act to withdraw consent for one ELA from a non-performing company. No ELAs had consent withdrawn in 2017–18, compared with seven in 2016–17. While withdrawing consent helps avoid 'warehousing' of titles and has improved the active participation of bona fide applicants in negotiations, some 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 a major factor limiting these applicants.

The CLC received no new EPAs in the reporting period but has 30 current EPAs over Aboriginal land applied for between eight and 15 years ago. Many old applications do not address shale gas and are silent on the use of hydraulic fracturing. The CLC worked with applicants and NT Department of Primary Industry and Resources to get new consents so new applications could be submitted reflecting the changes to onshore gas exploration, production and regulation. No traditional owner meetings were held during the moratorium and the inquiry. The CLC replicated its uranium information strategy approach for shale gas. It delivered education sessions about shale gas to traditional owners and arranged two hydraulic fracturing forums for council delegates with a scientific expert. It continues to collaborate with the CSIRO, the Australia Petroleum Production and Exploration Association, governments and other parties with land and environmental interests in shale gas to provide traditional owners with comprehensive and



Traditional owners Anslem Impu and Douglas Multa inspect a 'pig', a tool for cleaning gas pipelines.

balanced information in plain English. The CLC has agreed to join a working group, made up of government, industry and Aboriginal representatives, that will guide the development of an onshore gas industry-funded information program about the industry. The format of the information and who will communicate it is yet to be determined.

Once the program has been communicated to Aboriginal people affected by any onshore shale gas industry meetings will recommence. The number, size and complexity of consultations required for oil and gas EPAs will present a challenge for the CLC in processing titles during the next few years.

### ***Uranium and other commodities information meetings***

Central Australia remains highly prospective for uranium; however, no applications that identified uranium as a target commodity were received in 2018–19. In 2017–18, 21 per cent of exploration applications received were for uranium whereas in previous years they made up 95 per cent. A uranium price below US\$25 per pound over the last few years is a factor in this trend. Traditional owners have mixed views on the exploration, mining and use of uranium. The opposition of many traditional owners to uranium and proposed nuclear waste repositories at Muckaty Station, the Tanami region and near the date farm south of Alice Springs has been widely reported.

Applications to explore for uranium bring with them unique issues: transport, use, regulation, radiation protection, and waste storage. Traditional owners need to be aware of these if they are 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 through the support of the CLC.

The CLC is ready to disseminate its uranium information strategy again if there is renewed interest. The strategy aims to provide affected Aboriginal communities and traditional owners with facts about uranium mining, radiation, downstream processing and storage. It is visual and in plain English, using print and DVD, and has made traditional owners aware of the contested nature of the nuclear industry.

## AGREEMENT MAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION

When 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; approvals for work programs and access permits; environmental protection and rehabilitation; employment, training and contracting; and liaison, reporting and inspection.

Table 17 summarises the CLC's new and current exploration and mining agreements, including the total area of land under exploration agreements. On 30 June 2019, it had 56 current exploration agreements in respect of 186 exploration titles and the area of land under agreement was 68,452 square kilometres.

Eleven mining agreements relate to 16 mineral leases or production licences for operations at the Tanami and The Granites mines, in Utju (Areyonga) and Tennant Creek, as well as oil and gas fields at Mereenie and Palm Valley near Ntaria (Hermannsburg), and the Surprise oil field near Kintore. These numbers do not include native title agreements.

The CLC was not able to finalise any new exploration agreements in the reporting period. Northern Star Resources withdrew seven titles that the CLC had consented to and re-applied, thereby restarting the process.

### Tanami mining agreement

Newmont's Tanami operation mines gold ore from the Callie deposit and mills it 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 with an endowment of 13 million ounces of gold. Production ramped up from 80,000 ounces per year in 2017 to 425,000–475,000 ounces per year after the completion of a \$150 million expansion project which was officially opened in October 2017. The Tanami Gas Pipeline began to supply new gas-fired power stations at The Granites and Dead Bullock Soak mine sites in February 2019.

The CLC monitored the mining agreements and toured the mines in August 2018 with the liaison committee for the two mines. The committee includes representatives from traditional owner groups, Newmont and the CLC. In November 2018, a workshop reviewed progress under the Tanami Ten Year Plan and planned actions for 2019. Traditional owners, the CLC and Newmont developed the plan in 2017 after Newmont announced it would extend the mine's life for a decade. It aims to improve employment and education outcomes in remote communities and to strengthen residents' voices through better collaboration between the communities, Newmont and the CLC.

Tanami Gold acquired Newmont's tenements around the Tanami mine in 2010 but was unable to return the mine to production. Northern Star acquired an interest and continued to explore with a view to re-opening the mine. Traditional owners met with the company in July 2018 to discuss progress.

The Twin Bonanza mine remains in care and maintenance, with no activities reported.

The Edna Beryl gold mine near Tennant Creek did not operate due to ongoing maintenance issues but the company plans to re-open it in late 2019 or early 2020.

### Oil and gas production agreements

Central Petroleum acquired a 50 per cent stake in the Mereenie oil and gas field from Santos and became its operator. Macquarie Mereenie Pty Ltd holds the remaining interest. The mature field still produces after more than 30 years of operation. In May 2018, drilling commenced for gas destined for east-coast markets via the nearly completed Northern Gas Pipeline. The pipeline connects the Mereenie field to the Darwin pipeline and to eastern Australia via Mount Isa. Central Petroleum drilled at its Palm Valley gas field in August and September 2018.

At a CLC liaison committee meeting for the Mereenie field in September 2018, Central Petroleum informed the traditional owners about its previous year's activities and future plans, and showed them the newly rehabilitated WM26 well site.

The company returned the Palm Valley gas field to production in November 2018. Traditional owners visited a newly drilled well during a liaison committee meeting in September 2018. Ntaria (Hermannsburg) residents were concerned the well might be subject to hydraulic fracturing, but learned that the technique was not used at any of the wells drilled in 2018 at Mereenie or Palm Valley.

Table 17. New and current exploration and mining agreements

Type of agreement	New in 2018–19	Total current at 30 June 2019	
		Total agreements	Number of licences, permits and leases associated with agreements
Exploration	0	56	186
Mining	0	11	16
Total area of Aboriginal land under ELAs and EPAs			68,452km <sup>2</sup>

A further Central Petroleum asset, the Surprise oil field near Kintore, has been closed since August 2015 due to the low price of oil but the agreement is still in place.

### Exploration agreements: minerals

Exploration under agreements was most active in the Tanami and Lake Mackay regions because the relevant companies had secured exploration capital. Some new companies and applications emerged in the Arunta Block, a geological terrain covering around 200,000 square kilometres north and west of Alice Springs, and also at several areas northwest of Tennant Creek and in the Petermann Ranges area, southwest of Alice Springs.

The CLC held three liaison committee meetings in June 2019 for Independence Group's Lake Mackay exploration project which covers around 7,700 square kilometres and targets gold and base metals. The meeting discussed drilling, soil sampling, geophysical survey results, and future drilling plans. The central liaison group visited a drilling rig in operation. The CLC undertook complex and extensive sacred site clearances that brought together numerous traditional owners across the vast project area. Their transport and the use of helicopters required significant planning and resources.

Prodigy Gold (formerly ABM Resources) regrouped as an exploration company following the closure of the Twin Bonanza mine in 2016. It continues to explore with new partners across the Tanami. The CLC has several exploration or mining

Figure 22. Exploration titles on Aboriginal land applied for and processed, 2011–19

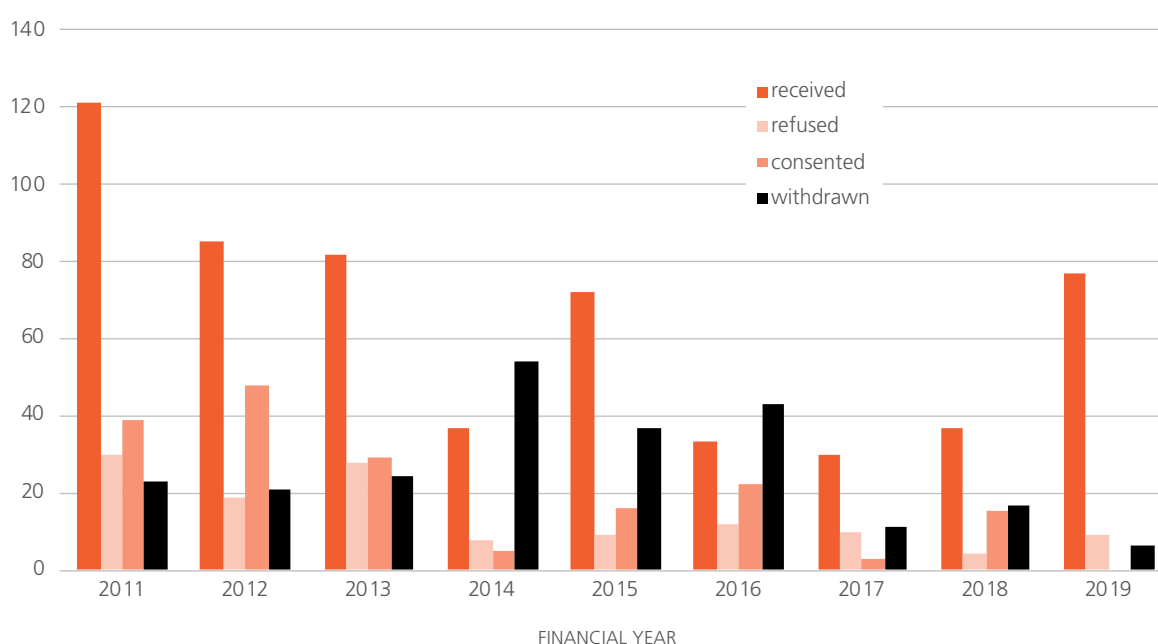
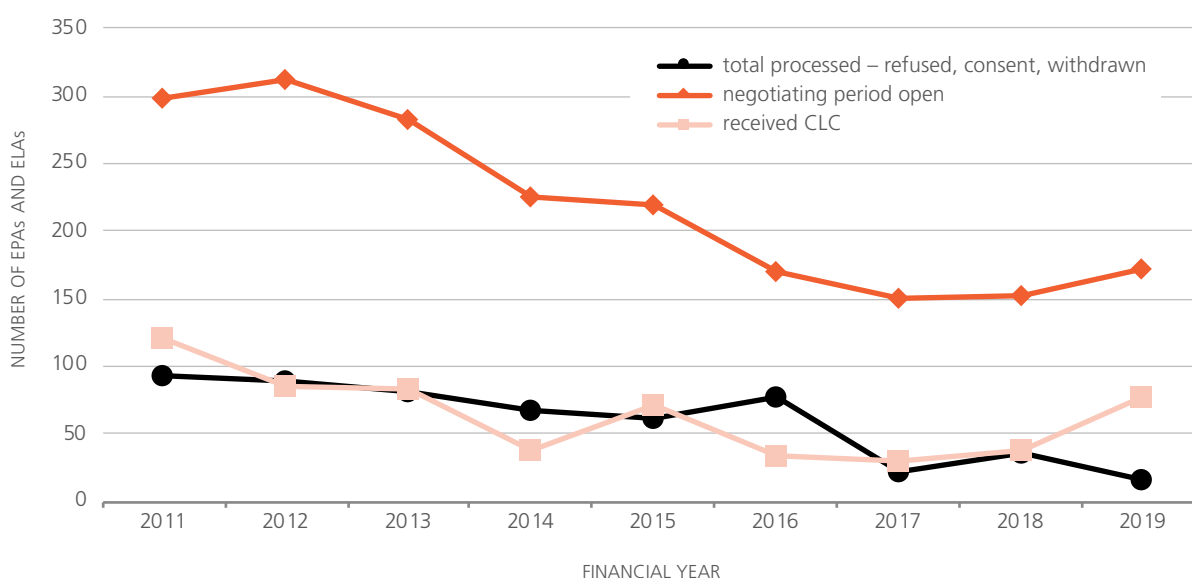


Figure 23. Trends of the processing of exploration titles on Aboriginal land, 2011–19





agreements with Prodigy. It held a liaison committee meeting in October 2018 to discuss the EL 9250 agreement and plans further meetings once results from Prodigy's exploration programs in the central and western Tanami area are available.

In response to Newmont's ambitious exploration programs close to the Dead Bullock Soak, The Granites and Windy Hill mines, the CLC invested significant planning and resources in a series of extensive sacred site clearances between September 2018 and May 2019. The company reported on its 2018 exploration activities at a meeting of the combined liaison committee for The Granites, Dead Bullock Soak and exploration areas at The Granites in August 2018.

The CLC also updated traditional owners about changes to Emerson Resources' exploration titles on the Tennant Creek gold field. Evolution Mining and Territory Resources also hold a significant interest in the titles. The companies are exploring for gold around old mines such as Nobles Nob and Susan. At a liaison meeting with the companies in October 2018, traditional owners and the CLC discussed future exploration plans and gold processing options.

Exploration drilling continues at the historic Hatches Creek tungsten project of GWR Group. The company confirmed multiple high grade polymetallic tungsten deposits.

Other key projects on the pastoral estate include work on agreements for Tellus Holdings' proposed Chandler salt mine and deep geological waste repository near Titjikala, KGL Resources' Jervois base metal project near Bonya, TNG Limited's Mount Peake vanadium project west of Wilora, Tri-Star Energy's Pedirka coal project near Aputula (Finke) and Arafura Resources' Nolans rare earth project near Aileron.

### ***Exploration agreements: oil and gas***

No exploration was conducted on oil and gas exploration permits on Aboriginal land in 2018–19. Santos plans to drill a well on EP 112 on the Mt Ebenezer pastoral lease near Imanpa in 2019 with no plans for hydraulic fracturing. The Northern Gas Pipeline commenced operation in January 2019.

## **GOVERNMENT LIAISON**

The CLC participates in several onshore gas forums. They include the Chief Minister's onshore shale gas community and business reference group, the geological and bioregional assessment program, the Beetaloo sub-basin user panel, and the gas industry social and environmental research alliance's NT regional research advisory committee and stakeholder roundtable group. The CLC is planning a workshop with key NT Government departments to gain a better understanding of the regulatory framework for Tellus' Chandler project.

It is also in ongoing discussions with the NT Department of Primary Industry and Resources to enable explorers to submit new applications pursuant to the Land Rights Act with updated information, including any use of hydraulic fracturing. Consultations with traditional owners about onshore gas and shale gas applications will recommence when better information is available and delivered to Aboriginal people.

The NT Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics and the CLC continued to discuss access to gravel for road building.



Robert Hoosan addresses a meeting with Tri Star at Aputula.



Heather Armstrong spoke at the meeting with Tri Star at Aputula.

The CLC has improved its process for monitoring and managing gravel extraction on Aboriginal land.

## 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 support of Aboriginal-led commercial activities across a range of industries. It supported them with advocacy, policy development, and direct business support, such as business planning and mentoring. It helped constituents access resources and finance through Indigenous Business Australia (IBA), the Business Enterprise Centre and the NT Department of Business.

The CLC provided intensive support to the Imanpa Development Association, an Aboriginal association which owns a roadhouse, pastoral lease and commercial rental property. It has assisted the association with governance and business planning, coordinated legal and financial services, and mentored its directors.

### TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

The sole ABA-funded Aboriginal tourism development officer continued to support emerging Aboriginal tourism enterprises with, for example, business planning.

The CLC assisted Petermann ALT traditional owners to start special interest 4WD tag-a-long tours to Lasseter's gravesite at Marura in the Petermann Ranges. It helped identify and target markets for off-road tours in remote areas, establish a visitor campground at Ngankur outstation where the tours are based, protect the infrastructure through fire management, and upgrade access tracks to the site in time for the 2019 tourism season. It also negotiated special purpose conditions for permits for tour operators to facilitate their initial tours.

It assisted traditional owners of Walka outstation and cave, south of Kaltukatjara (Docker River) and also on Petermann ALT, to take part in a developing series of cultural tours with the same tour operators, concurrently with the Ngankur outstation's tag-a-long tours. The traditional owners undertook cultural heritage and rock art conservation activities and identified the visitor infrastructure needed to manage and minimise the impacts of tourism at one honey ant site.

Twelve residents participated in CLC-designed and delivered training at Ngankur and eight took part at Walka. The training developed residents' skills to lead tours and share their knowledge and information with their families and tourists. The CLC mentored them in tour group management, safe work practices, use of radios, and how to seek feedback from tourists.

The CLC helped Kaltukatjara's community council upgrade and re-open the community's campground. It provided text and images for interpretive signage and advised the council about tours. It also progressed discussions about the role of the Kaltukatjara ranger group in the campground's management.

At the Batton Hill bush camp at the Hay River on the Atnetye ALT, the CLC helped traditional owners seek funding to upgrade toilet facilities and infrastructure for the growing numbers of

visitors to their 4WD guided bush tucker and sunset tours. It also processed transit permit applications for the Hay River Track.

The CLC continued to support the Yalka Ratara Aboriginal corporation, an emerging tourism business which offers special interest camps, talks and 'welcome to country' activities on its sublease at Palm Valley in the Finke Gorge National Park. It planned traditional owner guided short walks and tour guide training with the owners.

The CLC represented the tourism interests and concerns of constituents at interagency meetings and regional tourism and economic development forums, such as the stakeholder meetings about the Barkly region and East MacDonnell – Plenty Highway visitor masterplans and the 10 Desert project's indigenous regional tourism strategy. It sought funding from Tourism NT to redevelop the Kunjarra (Devil's Pebbles) visitor area in the Barkly, and the Muru-warinyi Ankkul Rangers assisted with site management, including rubbish removal, toilet cleaning, fire management and installing visitor management signs.

### PROTECTED AREAS

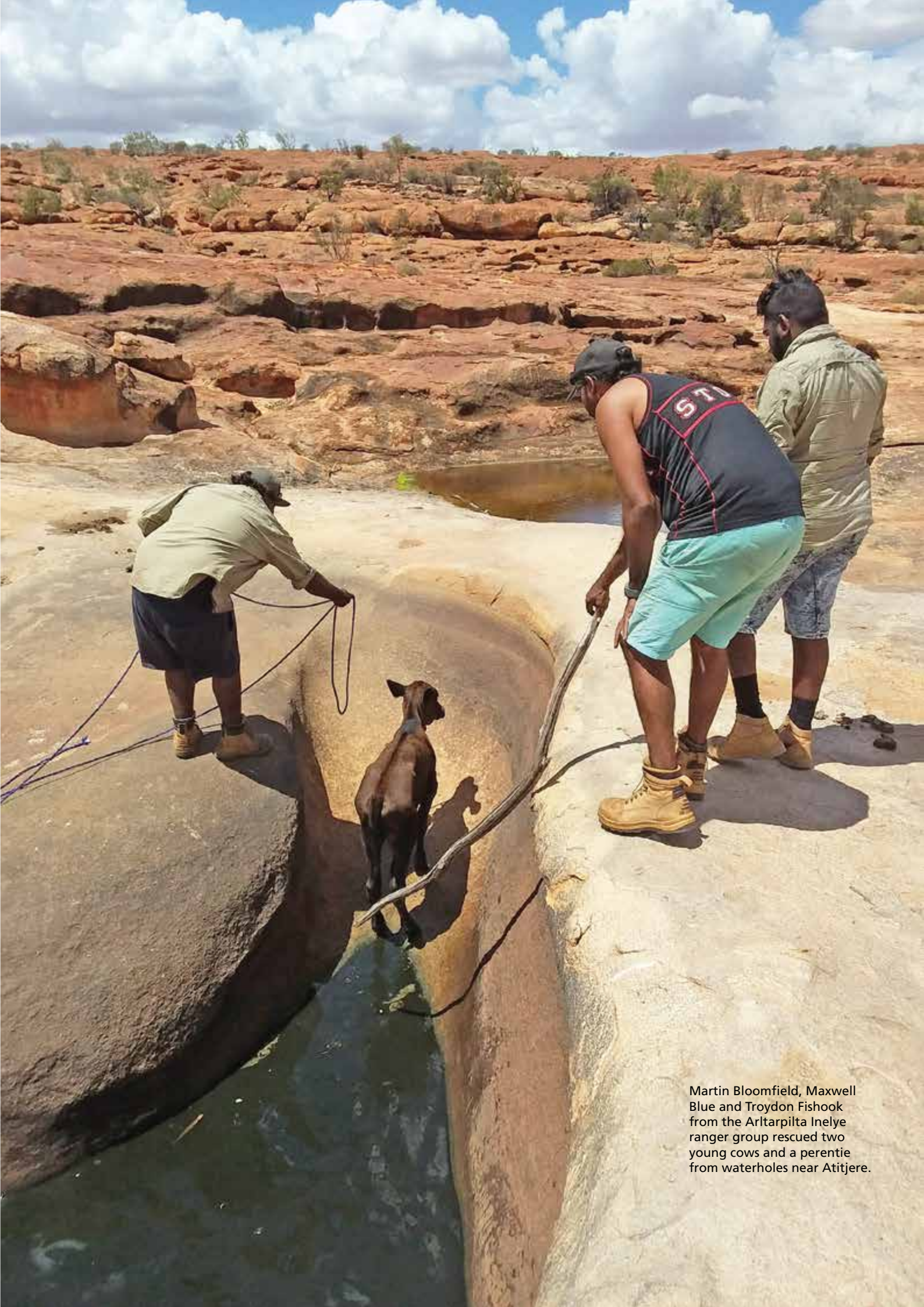
A range of commercial opportunities and proposals in jointly managed national parks and IPAs arose in 2018–19. The CLC supported traditional owners of the Uluru – Kata Tjuta, Tjoritja/ West MacDonnell and Watarrka national parks to explore them.

Traditional owners gave in-principle support for an exclusive walking tour between Uluru and Kata Tjuta and worked with the CLC and proponents on Aboriginal business ideas associated with the proposal. The CLC helped traditional owners present their ideas to the park's board of management and subcommittees, and supported small group discussions and individual capacity building activities. A traditional owner steering committee for the project was formed in May and is the contact point between traditional owners and the project.

NT Government-funded tourism proposals have encouraged traditional owners to build their understanding of specific tourism markets. The owners of the Tjoritja/West MacDonnell National Park identified business development opportunities associated with mountain bike trails, while the owners of Watarrka National Park explored the high-value walking market. The CLC is preparing traditional owners to profit from the proposed investments through joint ventures, procurement and trail operation services. Traditional owners of both parks formed working groups and met regularly to progress their plans. They engaged with industry leaders, took part in trail design and construction training and learned about joint ventures at an IBA-funded workshop. The CLC also helped them to pursue the kiosk concession at Ormiston Gorge and the development of tour services with the Kings Canyon Resort.

It explored campground development and management on the Katiiti–Petermann and Angas Downs IPAs with traditional owner committees and ranger groups. It presented research





Martin Bloomfield, Maxwell Blue and Troydon Fishook from the Arltarpilta Inelye ranger group rescued two young cows and a perentie from waterholes near Atitjere.





Traditional owners guided a four-wheel-drive tag-a-long tour group on track to Lasseter's gravesite.

and possible operating models at the February Kaṭiṭi–Petermann IPA committee meeting. The meeting discussed strategic locations and initial infrastructure planning, and explored enterprise opportunities, such as cultural tourism activities at the campsites. Similar discussions took place with the owners and managers of the Angas Downs IPA at Imanpa. Residents began to plan for meetings with the IPA's broader traditional owner group and to mobilise resources.

## BUSHFOODS INDUSTRY

The CLC continues to support Aboriginal people to participate in the bushfoods industry. The CLC responded to the recommendations drawn from a collaborative project with the NT Government by helping wild harvesters to burn country to encourage the growth of fire-tolerant species (such as bush raisins) and by protecting vulnerable species, such as wattles, from fires.

## PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT

The CLC represented, supported and advised traditional owners involved in both large commercial enterprises and small community-based projects.

It continued to assist Aboriginal owners of pastoral enterprises with governance and planning, and secretariat and legal support for company boards. It facilitated board meetings of Huckitta Enterprises Pty Ltd under a management support agreement and helped the company recruit a new pastoral coordinator. Prior to the recruitment it also provided day-to-day management support to the company.

## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

The demand for environmental services and for Aboriginal people to deliver those services is growing across the region. Rangers are already involved in the emerging environmental services industry through prescribed burns on Aboriginal land. The CLC also helps Aboriginal organisations to engage with the industry.

It continued to support the Karantijpa North Kurrawarra Nyura Mala Aboriginal Corporation, which holds a carbon farming licence over a portion of the Karantijpa North ALT. It assisted the corporation to hold an annual general meeting and three directors' meetings and visited its savannah burning project area with 15 members of the corporation. They assessed the need for a burn, but decided not enough fuel had built up. With support from the Muru-warinyi Ankkul Rangers, traditional owners planned and built two bough shelters for annual burning camps on the land trust. They also conducted bilby surveys and visited significant bilby sites. The CLC supported discussions about additional customers for the carbon credits the corporation generates in addition to the credits it is contracted to sell to the Australian Government and further development of the campsite.

The employment of a ranger works supervisor developed the ranger program's capacity to pursue contract opportunities. The CLC facilitated consultative meetings, business planning, marketing materials, presentations and market research about income generation opportunities for rangers. It hired Social Ventures Australia to interview staff and stakeholders, to analyse the data, research case studies and give a series of presentations. The resulting report informs the ongoing development of the ranger program.

## OUTPUT GROUP 4

### ADVOCACY SERVICES

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



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.
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## OUTPUT 4.1. PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

### COUNCIL ELECTION CAMPAIGN

In a year that saw many changes at the CLC its governance also underwent a rejuvenation. Ahead of the CLC elections in March and April 2019, the communications team launched a comprehensive multilingual awareness campaign. The campaign encompassed newspaper articles, printed posters, Aboriginal radio community service announcements in four languages, an ad on NITV, and social media posts. It communicated a message of inclusion of underrepresented groups, namely women and young people. During the elections, the CLC used its facebook page to keep constituents informed about the dates and outcomes of election meetings in their home communities.

The election of a new CLC chair and deputy chair, only the second woman to hold the deputy office, and the appointment of a new CEO following the retirement of its long-serving director attracted national media interest.

### MEDIA

One of the CLC's roles is to raise public awareness of the views and achievements of its members and constituents. Its communications team is the first port of call for many journalists visiting Central Australia and its spokespeople respond to a high volume of media inquiries on a wide range of issues. Determined to hone their interview skills, senior Aboriginal staff joined a media training workshop in May 2019.

One subject of discussion at the two-day event was the extraordinary level of media interest in February in the welfare of both feral and native animals when the hottest NT summer on record and the driest in almost 30 years coincided with a global media focus on the climate crisis. The very limited resources for feral animal management on Aboriginal land ensure that this issue is frequently in the local and national news. However, it received unprecedented international attention when CLC rangers discovered approximately 100 dead and dying horses at a waterhole near Ltyentye Apurte community, south of Alice Springs, and graphic images appeared online. The CLC responded with humane culls of feral horses, camels, cattle and donkeys. It used the media interest to successfully advocate for funds to develop and implement regional land management plans that will go some way towards preventing future animal welfare crises.



The CLC's David Ross and Josie Douglas took part in a NAIDOC Day panel at Araluen Arts Centre.

Native title consent determinations over Tennant Creek Station and the tourism icon Rainbow Valley received good media coverage, as did the inaugural gathering of Central Australian native title holders at Ross River in June 2019. The CLC hosted 140 directors of native title holder corporations at this first prescribed body corporate regional forum. The communications team supported the event and helped produce a series of plain English posters explaining complex native title processes and legislation.

It whelped the traditional owners of the Watarrka National Park spread the word about the launch of their new classroom for secondary students at the Watarrka school in March 2019 and promoted the Warlpiri Education and Training Trust's win in the Indigenous Governance Awards in November 2018. Both groups invest their collective rent and royalty income to improve bilingual and bicultural education in their communities. Their achievements added to the considerable media coverage the CLC's cutting edge community development program continues to attract.

The CLC also used the media to promote the benefits of its alternative remote jobs model that seeks to replace the Australian Government's controversial work-for-the-dole scheme with a more effective and non-discriminatory employment program. It also advocated strongly for a seat at the table when the Australian and Territory governments make decisions about remote housing and the Barkly Regional Deal.

Media attention on the decision of the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park's board of management to close the climb of Uluru, in keeping with the longstanding wishes of the site's traditional owners, flared up in May 2019. A rush of climbers trying to beat the closure deadline triggered a debate which was fanned by political commentary that wrongly asserted that Uluru belonged to all Australians; it is owned by Anangu who generously share it with visitors from Australia and overseas. The CLC is working with the Anangu owners and Parks Australia to celebrate the closure of the climb in October 2019.

CLC also continued to promote the Uluru Statement from the Heart, summed up in the 2019 NAIDOC theme *Voice Treaty Truth*. The reporting period started with an act of truth telling – the 90th anniversary commemoration of the 1938 Coniston Massacre at Yurkurru outstation, one of many sites of indiscriminate mass murders led by police officers. Former Northern Territory (now Australian) Police Commissioner Reece Kershaw formally apologised at the commemoration in August 2018 for the actions of officers in the state-sanctioned massacre.

The commemoration brought together the descendants of the survivors and the perpetrators and was captured in a documentary by PAW Media. The CLC also kept constituents informed of the progress of treaty consultations in the Territory and interstate. It concluded the period by hosting a panel discussion on the NAIDOC theme at the Araluen Arts Centre in Alice Springs in June. The panel featured CLC director David Ross, CLC policy manager Josie Douglas and others and was moderated by the executive director of the NT's Office of



Federal Police Commissioner Reece Kershaw apologised for the NT police's role in the Coniston Massacre.

Aboriginal Affairs, Mischa Cartwright, whose career began with a communications cadetship at the CLC.

## VINCENT LINGIARI ART AWARD

The CLC and Desert have sourced corporate support from the Peter Kittle Motor Company and Newmont Australia to secure a second Vincent Lingiari Art Award. This year's theme, *Our Country – True Story*, resonates with the Uluru Statement from the Heart's call for truth telling. Twenty-three artists from across Central Australia responded to the call for entries and 25 works in a range of media will be included in the award's exhibition at the Tangentyere Artists Gallery in Alice Springs in September 2019. The winner of the \$15,000 art prize will be announced at the exhibition launch, and the elected members of the CLC will choose the winner of the \$2,000 Delegates Choice Award during their August council meeting at Ross River. The inaugural Vincent Lingiari Art Award was launched in 2016 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act and the 50th anniversary of the Wave Hill walk-off.

## CLC ONLINE

The remote community audience of the CLC's website and facebook page struggles with poor internet, computer and phone access. Smartphone and tablet users are also finding it increasingly difficult to access the website. For example, the overall number of website visits increased to 156,932 (the vast majority were new visitors), but the bounce rate (a single-page visit that leaves the site without interacting with the page) for users of mobile phones and tablets continued to go up. The steadily growing number of people using mobile devices to



Simon Dixon and Barbara Shaw vote for the Vincent Lingiari Art Award.



**Table 18. Communications activities, 2015–19**

Activity	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19
Media releases	23	20	22	16
CLC website visits	135,840	132,838	124,895	156,932
CLC newsletters (various titles including <i>Community Development News</i> , <i>Council News</i> , ranger newsletters)	24	42	27	30
<i>Land Rights News Central Australia</i>	3	3	3	3
Special purpose videos	2	34	5	38
Information booklets and brochures, interactive features	15	21	8	23
Posters	16	14	25	44
Other	–	–	–	38

access the site (up from 29 per cent in 2017–18 to 32 per cent in 2018–19) adds renewed urgency to the need for a redesign of the ageing site.

Despite these challenges, the website offers a growing range of unique and relevant content. An additional 29 podcasts based on the more than 200 original interviews recorded for the CLC’s oral history book *Every hill got a story* were published at <https://soundcloud.com/central-land-council/sets/every-hill-got-a-story>. The site now hosts 109 podcasts in English and most central Australian languages and it is pleasing to see educational websites such as <https://www.commonground.org.au/> and broadcasters such as CAAMA making use of the resource.

The CLC’s digital archive <http://clc.keepingculture.com/archive/index.php> serves as a de facto photo album for many constituents and allows them to flag and hide records when a family member passes away. Working parttime during the reporting period, the digital archive officer added almost 300 new items to the archive and identified 723 new features to existing and new items. An inventory of archival material kept in storage boxes is progressing in collaboration with the information services team. Appropriate items will be digitised and uploaded to the archive. The CLC continued to promote the archive; for example, during the Shaping Our Digital Futures showcase of innovative indigenous projects in Alice Springs in June 2019.

## CLC PUBLICATIONS

In 2018–19, the CLC published and distributed three editions of Australia’s longest running Aboriginal newspaper, *Land Rights News*, as well as *Council News*, its newsletter informing constituents of the outcomes of council meetings. Two editions of *Community Development News*, the popular newsletter about the achievements of the CLC’s community development program, were also published.

Other publications ranged from a brochure about the WETT and an annual report supplement on the CLC ranger program to a series of posters and a booklet explaining the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) outstation project. The communications team contributed to many other publications by partners and stakeholders; for example, an illustrated, plain English brochure explaining climate change and a Warlpiri language video about climate change (produced in collaboration with the Arid Lands



The CLC informed its constituents about the link between fossil fuel extraction and climate change.

Environment Centre). The CLC also assisted the CSIRO promote the multilingual Tracks app to a science-savvy young audience.

A welcome boost to the output of the communications team has been provided by the addition of an indigenous cadet. The cadet, who worked in administrative roles at the CLC, is now studying communications in Adelaide and will spend 12 weeks a year for three years with the communications team.

## OUTPUT 4.2. ADVOCACY AND 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 opinions of Aboriginal people in the CLC area and to protect their interests. To meet this responsibility, it identifies significant legislative and policy matters, consults with traditional owners and Aboriginal people to ascertain their views, and develops positions on significant policy issues with the council and executive.

It also carries out research to support policy development and engages with all stakeholders to ensure that Aboriginal interests are taken into account. It therefore represents Aboriginal views and aspirations with a high degree of authority.

### PERFORMANCE

The CLC made nine submissions to the Australian and NT governments on the policy matters shown in table 19.

### THE LAND RIGHTS ACT

In response to the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) investigation into indigenous land tenure and administration, the four NT land councils and the Australian and NT governments meet twice a year at the Northern Territory Biannual Strategic Forum to discuss policy matters relating to land rights and the operation of the land councils. The meeting aims to support participants to achieve effective and forward-looking engagement on these issues.

At the meeting in Alice Springs on 30 October–2 November 2018, the CLC and the Australian Government updated participants about their ABA homelands project. The project funds the maintenance and development of outstations in the southern half of the Territory. The CLC consulted with 220 of the 309 outstations in its area. Its executive resolved in October 2018 to fund only 105 outstations because the Commonwealth's commitment of \$15.75 million is not enough to cover all of them.

The CLC also informed the forum that its community development program had more than doubled the number of remote community residents employed on projects funded by their communities' royalty, rent, compensation and leasing income, and also increased accredited training outcomes. The CLC and NLC proposed that the Australian Government match community investment in the land councils' community development programs in order to incentivise communities to allocate more income to these programs.

As part of the forum, the CLC hosted a meeting between the four NT land councils and Minister Scullion.

In early 2019 the NT land councils and Australian and NT governments commenced negotiations about a new national partnership on remote NT housing.

### ABORIGINAL PEAK ORGANISATIONS OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

The Aboriginal Peak Organisations of the Northern Territory (APO NT) is an alliance between the CLC, the NLC and the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance of the NT (AMSANT). The alliance was established in October 2010 to improve collaboration among Aboriginal organisations advocating on remote community issues.

The APO NT's key stakeholders are the Aboriginal people, communities and organisations of the NT. It also works with governments, line agencies and non-government organisations to promote better understanding of, and improve policy and program outcomes affecting, its constituents. It delivers policy advice, advocacy, community engagement and sector development activities. It aims to develop and promote programs and initiatives that support strategic and collaborative approaches to services and social and economic policy development.

Table 19. CLC policy submissions

Jurisdiction	Issue	Date
NT Government	Discussion paper – Aboriginal Land and Sea Action Plan (jointly with the Northern Land Council)	September 2018
	Northern Territory Department of Environment and Natural Resources: Environment Protection Bill and Model Regulations in the Northern Territory	December 2018
	Climate Change Discussion Paper	December 2018
	Burial and Cremation Bill 2018 (NT)	March 2019
	Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority: Draft Guidance for Proponents – Stakeholder Engagement (jointly with the Northern Land Council).	March 2019
	Review of Homelands Policy – A Shared Responsibility	April 2019
	Social Policy Scrutiny Committee: Environment Protection Bill 2019 (jointly with the Northern Land Council)	June 2019
Australian Government	Joint Standing Committee on Northern Australia – Inquiry into engaging Traditional Owners in the economic development of Northern Australia	March 2019
	Wiyi Yani U Thangani (Women's Voices) Project – Australian Human Rights Commission	December 2018





The CLC has long supported Arrernte traditional owners such as Shirleen McLaughlin to persuade Alice Springs Town Council to fly the Aboriginal flag on ANZAC Hill.

The APO NT has received funding from the NT Government and has worked in partnership with the Department of the Chief Minister to ensure the government's Aboriginal affairs strategy incorporates community priorities and meaningful mechanisms for reporting back to the community. As a member of government reference committees and working groups the APO NT has advised the government on its local decision-making policy. It helped the department develop jurisdictional action plans for the Closing the Gap strategy of the COAG.

The Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in the NT remains a priority for the APO NT. It works with the NT Government to reform child protection and youth justice to identify, monitor and implement the commission's recommendations, and to design and develop a single child protection and youth justice law. A tripartite forum brings together community organisations and the Australian and NT governments and is a key component of the reform program arising from the royal commission. The CLC is one of seven community sector representatives participating in the forum while each government jurisdiction has two representatives. The forum has contributed to developing policy for children and young people in or at risk of entering the youth justice and child protection systems. The CLC and Alice Springs lawyers have criticised the treatment of young people by the police: the officers' greater readiness to arrest and charge rather than caution; a decreasing use of police bail; and long detention times for children in the police watch house. Disappointingly, in May 2018, the NT Government weakened the *Youth Justice Act* when it legislated the *Youth Justice Legislation Amendment Act 2018*.

The APO NT has urged the government to not lose its commitment to reforms.

It also consulted with alcohol and other drug treatment service providers and Aboriginal community organisations and representatives about the trial of a managed alcohol program in high-need areas of the NT. It also provided policy advice to the NT Government's Aboriginal contracting framework.

The APO NT made submissions in relation to the following publications and inquiries:

- Draft NT Homelessness Strategy and Five-Year Action Plan (2018–2023), NT Department of Housing and Community Development
- Commonwealth Community Development Program (CDP) Options Paper, PM&C
- Draft Indigenous Employer and Supplier-Use Infrastructure Framework, Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development & Cities
- National Alcohol Strategy 2018–2026 consultation draft
- Investigation into the Incarceration Rates on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, Australian Law Reform Commission
- Inquiry into the Social Security Commission Bill 2018.

### ***Remote public housing rent review***

In 2018, the NT Government began a review of rent for houses in remote areas, Alice Springs town camps and Tennant Creek community living areas to inform the development of a new rent framework. The CLC commented on the review in August 2018 and expressed support for a rent framework that is easy to understand, fairer and less complex than existing arrangements. As part of these discussions, it lobbied for remote community tenants' debt to be waived as part of the review. The CLC also worked with the Australian Lawyers for Remote Aboriginal Rights and the Grata Fund to publicise the tenants' debt crisis.

In 2019, representatives from the NT Department of Housing presented options for a remote community rent system to the CLC executive.

### ***NT Government Aboriginal land and sea action plan***

In June 2018, the NT Government released a discussion paper outlining 10 action areas for Aboriginal land and sea, including land rights, native title, leasing and tenure, sacred sites, parks, and economic development. The CLC provided preliminary feedback to the government and invited government representatives to its August 2018 council meeting to inform delegates about the plan. In September 2018, the CLC and the NLC made a joint submission to the NT Government. They urged it to focus on priorities identified by Aboriginal people in order to achieve the plan's stated aim to 'support Aboriginal Territorians to maximise economic and cultural and social benefits of land and sea'. The CLC believes that cooperation between all levels of government and coordination across NT Government portfolios is critical to progressing the aims of the plan. It emphasised that in order to support Aboriginal people in the sustainable development of their land and sea, the plan must address barriers to economic development. This reform will require a wider policy shift towards:

- significant, long-term investment in housing, health, education and Aboriginal governance
- maintaining Aboriginal connection to land
- prioritising Aboriginal development aspirations.

## **NT GOVERNMENT ABORIGINAL CONTRACTING FRAMEWORK**

The CLC welcomed the NT Government's commitment to developing a contracting framework aimed at improving outcomes for Aboriginal businesses. In August 2018, it wrote to the NT Department of Trade, Business and Innovation (DTBI) expressing concern regarding the timeline for consultation, the lack of consultation in remote areas and the poor representation of Aboriginal organisations at the DTBI's workshops. The CLC is also concerned that policy development workshops at stage two of the consultations will take place only in Darwin, which is a considerable barrier to participation by Central Australian stakeholders. The CLC helped convene two policy development workshops at the CLC in Alice Springs in October and November 2018. The nine Central Australian Aboriginal organisations, including the CLC, attending the workshop wrote to the Chief Minister that while they saw the framework as an opportunity to inform the policy. However, they were concerned that the process of developing the framework and policy objectives did not reflect their feedback. They questioned the low percentage of Aboriginal stakeholders the government had consulted leaving the impression that the government had no appetite for genuine reform and had predetermined the policy options.

## **CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM**

The CLC supports constitutional reform and a constitutionally enshrined voice to parliament, as expressed in the CLC's Brumby Plains Statement. In May 2019, the CEO, chair and deputy chair advocated for the principles of the statement at a meeting of the Uluru working group. The council wants to be part of designing the voice to parliament to ensure the voice represents people from remote communities. This work should



Treaty commissioner Mick Dodson has a big consultation task ahead (right Fiona Gibson). (Photo Jillian Mundy)





Region 2 delegates decide which 14 of their outstations can apply for funds under the ABA homelands project.

be progressed before the referendum. The CLC will continue to seek to influence the process of co-design in line with the council's policy position.

## NT TREATY

The CLC, the Northern, Tiwi and Anindilyakwa land councils and the NT Government, as members of a treaty working group, finalised the terms of reference for the office of the NT treaty commissioner. In February, the government appointed Prof Mick Dodson as the treaty commissioner for three years. Prof Dodson will be responsible for consulting Aboriginal people in the NT about treaty, producing a final report, and making recommendations to the government. The CLC welcomed the subsequent announcement that the position of deputy treaty commissioner would also be created. Expressions of interest for the position closed in February 2019.

## CLOSING THE GAP REFORM

In October 2018, the CLC and other members of a coalition of community controlled Aboriginal organisations wrote to the prime minister, premiers and chief ministers with their concerns about the Closing the Gap 'refresh' being prepared for sign-off by the COAG. The coalition represents almost 40 community controlled Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak bodies operating across a range of sectors. In December 2018, the prime minister invited the coalition to meet with him. He acknowledged that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people needed to be included in the co-design, and share decision-making about the strategy. The COAG committed to developing a genuine, formal partnership between the Australian, state and territory governments and the coalition of peaks to reform Closing the Gap. The coalition negotiated a formal partnership

agreement with the COAG that came into effect in March 2019. The joint council established under the agreement represents an historic step forward in the relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and governments. The joint council, the first COAG body to include members from outside governments, comprises 12 representatives elected by the coalition of peaks. Between them, these representatives have significant subject matter expertise and cover a broad geographic area. The APO NT represents the CLC on the joint council. Government representatives on the joint council include a minister nominated by the Commonwealth and each state and territory government, and one representative from the Australian Local Government Association.

The joint council will work to reform the strategy and monitor its implementation over the next 10 years. Ministers of the Commonwealth, states and territories and representatives of the coalition will work together for the first time as genuine partners in an agenda of major national significance.

## ABORIGINALS BENEFIT ACCOUNT

The Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) administers 'royalty equivalent' funds paid to the Commonwealth for mining on Aboriginal land in the NT. Since its inception, the CLC has advocated for the devolution of the ABA to Aboriginal control. Along with the three other NT land councils, it agreed to 12 principles that must underpin comprehensive and strategic reform of the ABA and its grant-making functions. Minister Scullion agreed to set up an ABA working group to progress reform as part of the Northern Territory Biannual Strategic Forum. The CLC helped finalise the group's terms of reference and attended meetings in September and November 2018.

In June 2017, Minister Scullion unexpectedly proposed a bill for introduction in the spring sittings of parliament to reform the ABA. The four NT land councils had no prior knowledge of the bill or its contents. The extent of consultations about matters the bill deals with were only addressed in a discussion paper prepared by the PM&C. In November 2018, the four land councils wrote to Minister Scullion opposing the proposed bill. They said it did not adequately capture the reforms they sought and strongly recommended that the ABA working group should carry out its work in partnership with PM&C before any legislation is introduced.

## SMALL COMMUNITIES AND HOMELANDS

Secure funding and services for homelands remains a key policy and advocacy priority for the CLC. After the ABA advisory committee allocated \$15.75 million to upgrade and improve homelands infrastructure in Central Australia, the CLC began to consult about the ABA homelands project. The project consulted people associated with 220 of the 309 outstations in its region, not all of them occupied. In October 2018, the executive allocated funding across the nine CLC subregions on the basis of an agreed formula that struck a balance between funding in proportion to the number of outstations per subregion and an equal amount of funding for each subregion. At the council meeting in November 2018 delegates considered summaries of the information for all 309 outstations and prioritised outstations that most closely met the Australian Government's funding criteria of benefit, need and capacity. The council resolved to develop ABA funding applications for projects worth up to \$150,000 for each of 105 prioritised outstations.

In April 2019, the CLC made a submission to the NT Government homelands policy review. The review is an opportunity for the government to work in partnership with Aboriginal people to develop a comprehensive homelands policy framework which achieves positive outcomes within a complex cultural, geographical, climatic and funding landscape. Now that the NT has full financial and policy responsibility for homelands, it is timely to set a new agenda that recognises the limitations of the current policy, improves it and sets objectives by creating a long-term vision for homelands. Without transformational change in policy and funding strategies, homeland residents will experience greater disadvantage and marginalisation. The CLC strongly supports a greater effort in designing service delivery processes that create employment opportunities, fit-for-purpose services and other outcomes Aboriginal people want.

## COMMONWEALTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The CLC and other APO NT members contributed to the development of an alternative to the Commonwealth's racially discriminatory and punitive work for the dole scheme in remote communities, the community development program (CDP). Along with a broad alliance of indigenous organisations, peak bodies and CDP providers, the APO NT developed a detailed proposal for an alternative program, Fair Work Strong Communities, that would fully fund 12,000 additional jobs in Indigenous organisations across remote areas. The proposal details the comprehensive and substantial changes to governance and contracting arrangements that are needed to bring about a better program. In September 2018, CLC policy

manager Dr Josie Douglas represented the APO NT at a senate inquiry into the bill and advocated for the proposal.

In March 2019 the funding arrangement that linked provider payments to penalties for those who failed to attend work for the dole activities ended. The CLC welcomed this change because it reduced an unprecedented level of penalties. However, many of the underlying problems remote community residents face when trying to access income support remain.

## ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE

Governance capacity building is a priority of the CLC, particularly bringing together capacity building expertise in Central Australia. It participates on the APO NT governance and management program's steering committee. This innovative program strengthens and supports Aboriginal organisations in the NT by providing workshops and governance support at a limited number of sites. The program also offers advice, resources, referrals and research.

In August 2018, the CLC hosted a forum on opportunities for Aboriginal governance capacity building in Central Australia. The APO NT program's staff presented at the forum and CLC staff provided case studies from their own governance capacity building activities, lessons learnt and emerging opportunities. At a second workshop in November 2018, the Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Women's Council's empowered communities program presented on strengthening Anangu-led decision making.

The CLC continued to support the Kurdiji law and justice group in Lajamanu. In February 2018, the community agreed on a transition plan for Kurdiji's incorporation.

## HOUSING

The housing crisis in remote NT communities is a major concern, and policy reform is a high priority for the CLC. It adopted a set of principles to reform the delivery of housing in remote



Arlparra resident Lucy Kunooh expressed her frustration about remote housing at the CLC council meeting, November 2018.



communities at its October council meeting at Arlparra. The meeting also welcomed a commitment from Minister Scullion for the Commonwealth to join the NT Government in a new five-year national partnership agreement on housing. The agreement aims to reduce overcrowding in 73 remote NT communities and in the 17 Alice Springs town camps. It formalises the collaboration with the four NT land councils through a joint steering committee. The land councils will, for the first time, participate in the broad policy and strategy decisions about government investment in remote housing and in overseeing the governance of the agreement. However, when differences of opinion between the two governments about the role of the land councils threatened to delay the finalisation of the agreement, the land councils arranged an urgent meeting with Chief Minister Michael Gunner, NT Housing Minister Gerry McCarthy and Aboriginal Affairs Minister Selena Uibo at which Mr Gunner agreed to work with the land councils on the agreement. This shift opened the way for real progress and, on 30 March 2019, both governments signed a new five-year national partnership agreement that will run until 30 June 2023.

In October 2018 the federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs approved funding for the CLC to design a new housing model for Central Australia. The project advisory group includes two delegates from the CLC executive, representatives of other key Aboriginal organisations. The NT and Australian governments are important stakeholders. Project outcomes will include a discussion paper and a proposed alternative remote housing model, consultations with partner organisations and constituents, convening a housing forum and stakeholder engagement. The advisory group will develop and review a development plan informed by stakeholder feedback.

One of the CLC's continuing priorities is to ensure that the Australian and NT governments resolve their position on leasing for Haasts Bluff, Yuelamu, Wallace Rockhole, Daguragu and Amoonguna. After months of consultation with traditional owners about the 99-year leases proposed by the Commonwealth as a condition for housing and infrastructure investment in these communities, Minister Scullion decided

that the 99-year leases were no longer an option for the Commonwealth, leaving the communities without the required tenure to access government funds for housing. The CLC continued to work with both governments to resolve this impasse.

The CLC participated in the NT Department of Housing and Community Development's stakeholder group. This group provided advice to the NT Government on its remote housing policies and programs. The CLC helped to develop the group's terms of reference and attended three of its meetings before the department cancelled the group in March 2019, following the signing of the national partnership agreement. The CLC raised concerns that the cancellation left other key housing stakeholders (such as the APO NT and AHNT) without a mechanism to provide policy advice to the government.

## LAND MANAGEMENT

The CLC hosted a small group of philanthropists through the Australian Environmental Grant Network who visited Central Australia in search of investment projects and to better understand land management issues. The CLC presented to the group in Alice Springs, and the Tjakura Rangers from Mutitjulu and traditional owners hosted the group on an overnight trip to Kulpitjata on the Kaṭiṭi-Petermann IPA.

The CLC is a member of the Aboriginal land management advisory group of the NT Government's Protecting Country, Creating Jobs grants program. The group advises the NT Government on the rollout of this program and on general indigenous land management issues. The CLC attended all three advisory group meetings during the period.

It is also a member of a co-design group, established by the PM&C, which will develop an outcomes-based monitoring framework for indigenous land and sea management. The CLC participated in numerous phone meetings and a two-day workshop in Townsville about the framework, which is due to be trialled next year.



Governance training was held at Yulara in April.

## OUTPUT 4.3. CULTURAL AND 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 visit country to fulfil their cultural obligations, maintain sacred sites, pass on cultural knowledge, and undertake customary land management practices. These visits happen in association with a wide range of IPA and ranger program activities. Traditional owners especially value extended trips to seldom-visited country because these rejuvenate more remote parts of the region and owners' knowledge of their country.

In the Southern Tanami IPA, the CLC made seven such extended visits. It also supported the Yuendumu and Nyirripi schools to conduct country trips with their students to facilitate intergenerational knowledge transfer.

The CLC conducted three country visits in the Kaṯiṯi–Petermann IPA, facilitating knowledge transfer and practical outcomes such as fire management and protection of waterholes and sacred sites. It also obtained funding from the Muṯitjulu Foundation to employ senior Anangu to share their knowledge and skills with students of the Muṯitjulu school.

In the Northern Tanami IPA, the CLC conducted two country visits and multiple trips with men to collect wood to manufacture tools and artefacts, such as shields, axes, dancing sticks and coolamons, for the Milpirri Festival.

The CLC sourced ABA funds to complete the final stage of the Kungka Kutjara songline project. The stage will see Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara women and western and central Arrernte women collaborate to maintain and strengthen women's cultural understanding and practice of this defining story for Aboriginal women in Central Australia. Over the last two years, Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara women have followed the songline (Arelhe Atherre Altyere in Arrernte) from its beginning at a site near Kata Tjuta to a site near Utju (Areyonga). So far, more than 60 women have visited the sites, which are more than 700 kilometres apart, shared knowledge and practised the *inma* (ceremony) with younger generations. Recordings of these activities were used to produce audio-visual teaching resources for generations to come and are archived in the *minymaku* (women's) archive of the social history database Ara Iritjita. In October 2018, Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara women met with 50 Arrernte women to plan how to promote the cultural continuity of the songline into Arrernte country.

### CULTURAL SUPPORT AND SACRED SITES

Sacred sites are places of deep spiritual significance and integral to Aboriginal culture. Their identification and protection ensure the continuity of religious and cultural practices and sustain identity. Confidence in the protection of sacred sites also allows traditional owners to make informed decisions about using land for development and other purposes.



David Ross, Conrad Ratara and Dr Anna Kenny at the launch of Carl Strehlow's 1909 dictionary.

The CLC receives many development proposals for land in its region. Proposals undergo a work area approval process that ensures traditional owners are consulted and sacred sites are protected by a sacred site clearance certificate.

Table 20 lists anthropological research and advice on the maintenance of Aboriginal culture and heritage.

**Table 20. Anthropology advice, 2018–19**

Exploration and mining on Aboriginal land,	20
Exploration and mining on native title lands	12
Telecommunications infrastructure	16
Community infrastructure	93
Roadworks	14
Land management	17
Sacred site damage	3
Sacred site clearance certificates	112
Other	13
Genealogical research	73
<b>Total</b>	<b>373</b>

The CLC's genealogical information service is valued by Aboriginal people because it enables them to reconnect with family members. The CLC continued its ongoing agreement with the Strehlow Research Centre to store sacred objects



Willowra men performed *purlapa* at the Coniston Massacre 90th anniversary commemoration at Yurrkurru.







Willowra residents presented their mapping project was the Coniston commemoration.

until identification and repatriation of those objects can be undertaken. It further advanced plans to improve its sacred sites database and ensured the safe storage and management of anthropological and cultural materials that constitute part of the cultural heritage of Aboriginal people in its region.

The CLC's anthropology section continued to oversee the organisation's participation in an Australian Research Council (ARC) grant for the repatriation of cultural information. The project completed the fieldwork phase after digitising important CLC collections. Another ARC grant supported the publication of *Carl Strehlow's 1909 comparative heritage dictionary*. CLC director David Ross launched the publication at the Strehlow Research Centre in Alice Springs in 2018.

The Willowra mapping project is a community-led initiative to record, map and paint sacred sites along the Lander River onto a large canvas map to be housed in the community's learning centre. The project is funded by the Warlpiri Education and Training Trust and aims to assist the intergenerational transfer of cultural knowledge. The project has recorded information from senior traditional owners, some of whom are the last generation to have lived off the land. Other communities in the region have expressed an interest in establishing similar projects. This year three community members attended a geographic information systems mapping course in Perth.

The CLC monitored cultural heritage provisions under an agreement with the Australian Gas Infrastructure Group for the construction of the Tanami Gas Pipeline. The agreement funds a fulltime CLC staff member to help traditional owners and native title holders to protect significant sites by monitoring construction activities.

The CLC also distributed income from the agreement among traditional owners.

## ABORIGINAL CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES AND FUNERALS

The ABA funds the CLC to help Aboriginal families meet some of the high costs of funerals and summer ceremonies. Traditional owner groups and communities also use leasing and compensation income streams to set up funeral funds.

The CLC allocated the ABA funds according to strict guidelines. It processed 170 applications for funeral expenses. Table 21 shows the communities that received resources for ceremonies.

**Table 21. Communities supported to conduct ceremonies**

Region 1	Ntaria, Titjikala, Ltyentye Apurte, Alice Springs
Region 2	Mutitjulu, Kaltukatjara, Aputula, Utju
Region 3	Kalkaringi, Daguragu, Lajamanu, Pigeon Hole
Region 4	Yuendumu, Nyirripi, Willowra
Region 5	Kintore, Ikuntji, Papunya
Region 6	Tennant Creek, Canteen Creek
Region 7	Soapy Bore, Atheley, Arlparra, Irrultja Atnwengerrpe, Ampilatwatja, Alpururulam
Region 8	Mulga Bore, Mount Eaglebeak, Irrerlerre, No. 5 Block, Engawala, Atitjere
Region 9	Laramba, Yuelamu



## OUTPUT 4.4. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

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

Aboriginal people in Central Australia drive development by investing their assets in social, cultural and economic outcomes. With strong leadership from CLC delegates, the groups and families identify, plan, implement and monitor projects that benefit people at a regional, community and homeland level. At the heart of the CLC's effective community development approach are processes that ensure local participation and control of assets, projects and programs. This requires a set of principles and strategies that build individual and collective capacity, self-reliance, good governance and stronger communities, as well as a flexible approach.

The community development program works with Aboriginal people who direct their income from rent, royalty, leasing and compensation payments into community-driven projects that maintain identities, languages, cultures and connections to country. The projects also strengthen participation in mainstream Australia through improved health, education and employment outcomes.

Since it started in 2005, the community development program has expanded significantly and now employs 16 staff. It is active in all 31 communities in the CLC region, works with traditional owner groups from 15 national parks, and five other traditional owner groups who allocate income to community benefit projects. It also works with communities in South Australia where traditional owners of the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park

live, and with the Western Australian communities of Balgo, Billiluna and Ringers Soak that receive compensation income from the Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation (GMAAAC). The program works with six major regional income streams and a growing number of smaller sources of mostly mining-related income.

### PERFORMANCE

Each year Aboriginal groups choose to forgo individual income distributions to instead invest in community-driven projects. Since 2005, groups in the CLC region committed approximately \$117 million to projects that ranged from multi-million-dollar multi-year initiatives to small infrastructure projects. These investments have attracted millions of dollars in co-contributions from government (in 2011, 2012 and 2019) and hundreds of thousands of dollars from mining company Newmont.

The CLC's community development program has achieved much over the past decade and has grown significantly. The increasing demand from CLC constituents for the program shows that it creates benefits Aboriginal people value.

Independent monitoring of the program by La Trobe University's Institute for Human Security and Social Change during 2018–19 confirmed the high value Aboriginal participants place on the tangible and intangible outcomes they have achieved with CLC support.



Shaquille Presley on duty at Yuendumu pool.

Table 22. Community development income streams, 2018–19

Income stream	Purpose	\$ value
Uluru rent money project	Use rent paid to traditional owners of the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park for a range of sustainable regional initiatives.	1,995,185
Warlpiri Education and Training Trust	Using mining royalties of The Granites gold mine in the Southern Tanami for sustainable education, training and employment benefits.	2,184,849
Tanami dialysis support project (Kurra Aboriginal Corporation)	Use interest earned on mining royalties of the The Granites mine to support dialysis facilities and patient support services in remote communities in the Southern Tanami.	–
Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation (GMAAAC)	Use affected area monies from The Granites mine to support nine communities in the Southern Tanami to apply those monies toward broad community benefit activities.	12,883,175
NT parks rent money project	Use rent paid to traditional owners of national parks, conservation and nature reserves for a range of sustainable initiatives.	1,009,976
Community lease money project	Use rent paid for community leases to members of 31 communities, for a diverse range of community benefit projects.	1,820,230
Other income streams	Use mainly new and smaller payments linked to mining and exploration for a variety of community benefit projects.	440,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>20,333,415</b>

Table 23. Summary of income streams and projects, 2005–19

Income stream	2015–18		2018–19		Cumulative 2005–18		Total under management at 30 June 2019*	
	Allocated \$	Projects	Allocated \$	Projects	Allocated \$	Projects	Allocated \$	Projects
Uluru rent money project	12,113,537	98	1,995,185	8	14,108,722	106	4,452,641	25
Warlpiri Education and Training Trust	31,872,768	175	2,184,849	16	34,057,617	191	14,067,899	37
Tanami dialysis support project (Kurra Aboriginal Corporation)	3,498,286	26	–	0	3,498,286	26	688,549	4
Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation (GMAAAC)	27,551,785	583	12,883,175	109	40,434,960	692	22,816,867	210
NT parks rent money project	6,423,885	139	1,009,976	39	7,433,861	178	2,781,130	79
Community lease money project	13,440,297	242	1,820,230	40	15,260,527	282	6,250,263	103
Other income streams	1,490,558	26	440,000	2	1,930,558	28	1,253,475	12
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>96,391,116</b>	<b>1,289</b>	<b>20,333,415</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>116,724,531</b>	<b>1,503</b>	<b>52,310,824</b>	<b>470</b>

\* includes projects continuing from previous years

The program assists groups to plan and approve a range of projects with the potential to create lasting community benefits. It undertook more community consultations and committed more funds than during the previous period. Aboriginal governance groups committed \$20.3 million to 214 new projects following 360 consultations. This is a significant increase.

The CLC executed 137 new agreements with a range of partner organisations to deliver these new projects. In addition, it continued to project manage 336 projects that started in previous years.

The projects have created employment for 475 local Aboriginal people, totalling 36,063 hours, with more than 1,640 accredited training hours delivered. In addition, the program supported 82 students through boarding school.

Two editions of *Community Development News* shared the diverse range of community projects with constituents and celebrated the capabilities of Aboriginal people. The publication is a valued source of ideas for project planning and decision making.

## PROCESS

The CLC helps Aboriginal groups to prioritise, plan and develop projects and to identify partner organisations that can help to implement the projects. Once a group makes a decision, the CLC's CEO reviews the consultation process and signs off on the project proposal and its funding allocation. The CLC negotiates funding agreements with partner organisations. It then manages the project and the agreement, and monitors and evaluates the project by measuring outcomes against groups' expectations.



## ULURU RENT MONEY PROJECT

Each year the traditional owners of the Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park allocate some of their rent income to community development projects in communities in the NT and South Australia or across the region where the park's traditional owners live. Many projects are in the Mutitjulu community, which receives a portion of rent every year as many traditional owners live there. In 2018–19, Anangu in Mutitjulu approved \$997,366 for three projects. One of them is the operation of the Mutitjulu Tjurpinytjaku Centre (swimming pool) for a further four years. The CLC executed two agreements and managed projects that started in previous years.

Since 2007, Mutitjulu residents invested in significant recreation and cultural projects, including the construction of the pool and the development of local sport and recreation facilities. The community's decision to fund the pool's running costs reflects strong local ownership of and engagement with the facility. In 2018–19, the pool hosted approximately 6,700 visits during its seven-month season, a similar figure to the previous year. The Mutitjulu working group, comprised of local residents and the CLC, continued to guide the successful Yes School, Yes Pool program. Anangu employment at the pool remains a challenge; however, a small team of Anangu casuals worked at the pool during the swimming season and Anangu employment increased over the 2018–19 season. The CLC is working with the pool's steering committee to secure an underlease of a lot in the community for the construction of a pool manager's

house, and planning is almost complete. A tender process was undertaken and the house was designed in consultation with the working group.

The rent money supported dialysis projects across the region. The traditional owner group invested \$513,231 in a project run by Western Desert Nganampa Walytja Palyantjaku Tjutaku (WDNWPT – better known as the Purple House). The organisation provides case management support, social support and Purple Truck (mobile dialysis) visits by traditional owners of the national park who are forced to live in Alice Springs to their home communities. This gives these patients greater access to family, country, health and other services.

The park's broader traditional owner group approved \$997,820 for five projects over two years. The projects will support dialysis patients and their families, strengthen language and cultural maintenance, and fund primary and secondary education opportunities for young people. The Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Women's Council, Anangu Pitjantjatjara (APY) Council, Ara Irititja social history archive, Tangentyere Council, Waltja, Ngurratjuta and the CLC ranger program will implement the projects under the guidance of a smaller regional working group representing the broader traditional owner group.

Sadie Williams (second from right) oversaw the smoking ceremony at the launch of Lilla's new secondary classroom in which the traditional owners invested some of their rent income from Watarrka National Park.





## WARLPIRI EDUCATION AND TRAINING TRUST

Newmont Goldcorp has paid mining royalties from its gold mining operation in the Tanami to the Kurra Aboriginal Corporation since the start of the mine, most of which is being distributed to traditional owners. In 2003 the CLC negotiated an additional annual royalty payment to support Yapa education and training needs for the life of the mine. Two years later, it set up the Warlpiri Education and Training Trust (WETT) with Kurra as the trustee. Kurra appointed the CLC to administer the trust. An advisory committee of the trust comprising 16 Yapa educators and a representative each from the CLC and Newmont develops and monitors programs funded by the trust. A committee of Kurra directors makes the final funding decisions about the trust's programs. Project partners implement approved projects (see figure 24).

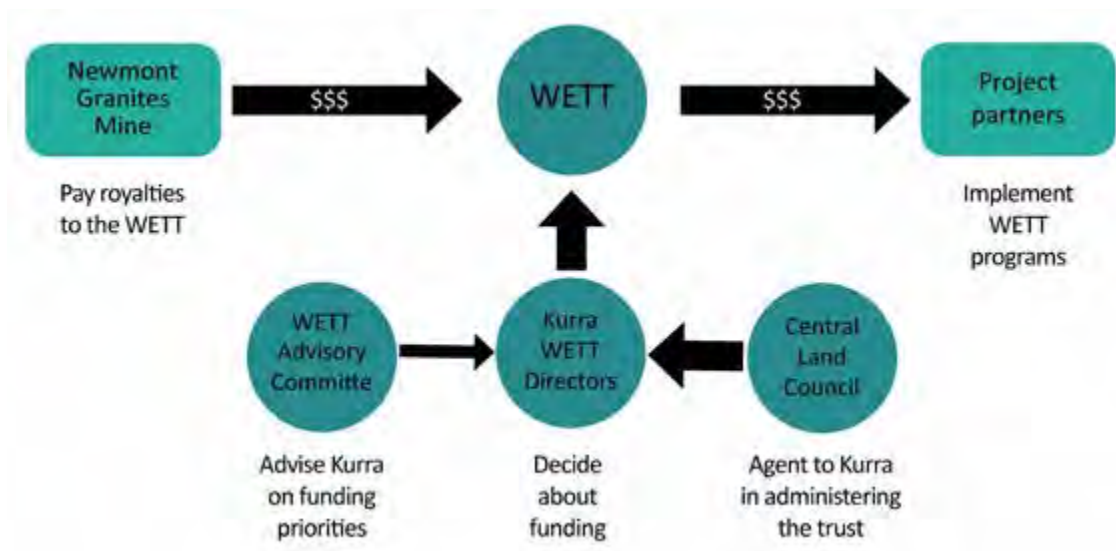
In November 2018, the WETT advisory committee won the Indigenous Governance Award. The committee was chosen

from among 30 finalists from across Australia in the category for non-incorporated groups.

In 2018–19 the WETT allocated \$2,103,726 for new projects across its five programs: children and families; language and culture in schools; secondary school support; youth development; and community learning centres. This year, the CLC facilitated three meetings of Kurra, the corporation's WETT directors and the trust's advisory committee. The CLC consulted communities and engaged with stakeholders. Staff continued to implement the WETT's succession planning strategy, delivered governance training and inducted the advisory committee's new youth members. Staff also reviewed program reports, acquitted funds and processed payments.

- As part of the children and families program the Willowra early childhood program ran successfully in collaboration with its project partner, the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education. The centre's seven Yapa employees participated in a wide range of on-the-job and formal training. Three staff completed a Certificate II in family wellbeing. Up to 18 children attend the centre each day. An early childhood support program was also piloted at the Yuendumu child and family centre. The centre's staff and board members participated in trauma awareness training, visited other early childhood services and took part in regular governance meetings to ensure community leadership of the centre.
- The language and culture in schools program operates in the four Warlpiri-speaking communities of Nyirрпи, Yuendumu, Lajamanu and Willowra. The projects include funding for a language and culture event officer at the Yuendumu school. More than 100 students from Willowra, Yuendumu and Nyirрпи participated in visits to sites such as Juurlpungu Yuwali and Yarripilangu. Cultural activities included visiting sacred sites and sharing stories, painting up for ceremony, making tools, hunting, cooking and collecting bush foods. The WETT-funded school excursions for 49 students from remote Tanami schools to Albury, Brisbane, Darwin and Melbourne. The students participated in a range of cultural and sporting activities. The CLC supported the WETT advisory committee to

Figure 24. Governance structure of the Warlpiri Education and Training Trust





## CASE STUDY: Job creation

Central Land Council delegates Jackie Mahoney and Pam Corbett could not be prouder of their eldest son Mitchell. The young man is one of a group of local workers from Alpururulam, a remote NT community near the Queensland border. These young workers helped to build the community's lease money-funded Alpururulam church which led to further employment.

"He got a decent job after that, in New South Wales," Jackie Mahoney said.

His son is also part of a trend that shows no signs of slowing down. The number of remote community residents employed on projects they have financed themselves has more than doubled in 2018–19.

Residents have built houses and churches, worked as lifeguards at community pools, renovated art centres and outstations, restored graveyards and educated pre-schoolers. During this financial year, 475 Aboriginal people across the CLC region clocked up more than 36,000 hours on projects they funded through their royalty, rent, lease and compensation income. The CLC's community development program – not to be confused with the Australian Government's more recent work-for-the-dole scheme of the same name – expects these numbers to increase in the current financial year.

While the program is getting better at reporting its employment and training outcomes, the increase is mostly down to communities investing more and more of their collective income through the program. The team has been working on a record number of 214 community projects – a 31 per cent increase on the previous period.

In return for their investment, residents pushed hard for paid work and on-the-job training on the projects. Community demand has seen employment hours increase by 52 per cent and

accredited training hours go up by 43 per cent compared with the previous period.

Gaining a certificate as well as valuable work experience means the jobs often keep coming after residents complete the original project. Take the nine locals who helped to build the Baptist church at Arlparra, northeast of Alice Springs, and then found work building houses in the community. It all started with residents deciding to invest some of their community lease income to replace a rickety bough shelter with a steel church that now doubles as a community meeting space.

In Willowra, in the centre of the CLC region, Barbara Williams is one of six local playgroup workers who are preparing the community's youngsters for a great start at school.

"The thing I like most about my job is welcoming families," Ms Williams said. "I like to work with children and help kids for their future – both ways."

The award-winning Warlpiri Education and Training Trust, another CLC-supported initiative, invested more than two million dollars of gold mining royalties to fund projects in Willowra and three other communities in the Tanami Desert last financial year. Winning a 2018 Indigenous Governance Award has encouraged the trust's advisory committee to strengthen its focus on Yapa employment and training. The trust funded more than 5,000 hours of work in the four communities in 2018–19. Last October, three Willowra playgroup workers graduated with a Certificate II in family wellbeing and plan to continue their studies through a Certificate III in children's services.

"Through the training I now have more understanding and knowledge to help the children and can move up to the next certificate," said Ms Williams.



Yuendumu lifeguard Shaquille Presley on duty.

Katie Darkie hopes tourism will bring jobs to Billiluna's renovated art centre.



Her colleague Janie Williams said she made her family proud when she graduated.

"I know I worked hard and always went to study when lessons were on in Alice Springs and Willowra. I felt so proud to get dressed up for graduation and walk up with everyone," she said.

"The money gets spent wisely, for training and jobs in our communities," said Valerie Patterson, a member of the trust's advisory committee from Lajamanu. "People are happy and excited for WETT to be supporting these people and their jobs and training."

At Billiluna, near the Western Australian border, a crew of seven locals gained skills in tiling, carpentry and painting when they used the community's compensation income to upgrade the local arts centre. The community plans to create more employment at the centre by catering for the 4WD tourists who travel the Canning Stock Route and the Tanami Track.

"I am the supervisor for CDP and I will be getting people to work here in the art centre when it is finished," local resident Katie Darkie said.

Mining compensation income also paid to train and employ Yuendumu's lifeguard Shaquille Presley, who started working at the community-funded pool in October 2018.

"I like it here," Mr Presley said. "I look after the kids and stop bullying. I've learned about the pool tests, putting chlorine in and also keeping the kids safe."

Any government would be proud of these achievements and jump on the potential for further significant employment growth. Ms Corbett, a member of the Alpururulam community lease money working group, thinks governments should take note. Her group wants to invest more money and local labour



Mitchell Mahoney and Eddie Rusty work on the construction of the Alpururulam church.

in improving the community's water supply but can't get governments to come to the party.

"I want people from government to look at what we're doing," Ms Corbett said.

Her husband points to the wider benefits the new church is already delivering.

"It's helped control the school kids and young teenagers, too," said Mr Mahoney. "They hang around the church and usually join in. It's really good for the kids."

CLC delegates know that these outcomes are only possible because their program works from the ground up, with constituents identifying their own priorities and investing their own money to see them through to completion on their own terms. They want governments to co-fund their projects to make their funds go further.



lobby the NT Minister for Education reform for better bilingual education in Warlpiri-speaking communities. The department reinstated secondary schooling in Nyirrpi in response to years of advocacy from the community and the WETT.

- The secondary school support program helped 15 secondary students to study away from home at schools such as Worowa (Healesville, Victoria), Marrara (Darwin), Mt St Bernard (Brisbane), St Philips (Alice Springs) and the Haileybury Rendall School (Darwin). It purchased laptops for students and funded musical equipment hire, camp fees, family visits and other education costs.
- The Warlpiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation (WYDAC) delivers the youth development program across the four communities. It provides diversionary recreational activities including sports, arts and country trips, as well as facilitating training and education activities such as numeracy and literacy lessons. The WYDAC also delivers the Jaru development pathway, which supports leadership development and positive life choices for youth aged 16 to 25 years.
- The Batchelor Institute for Indigenous Tertiary Education delivers the community learning centre program in Willowra, Nyirrpi and Lajamanu. The centres offer informal learning alongside community education workshops and formal training. It delivered first aid and white card training and Certificate I in construction and foundation skills. The WYDAC manages Pina Pina Jarrinjaku, the community learning centre in Yuendumu. It facilitated a range of youth and adult learning activities such as legal education, literacy and numeracy training, and certificate training in community services and business. It also supported three young people who completed their secondary schooling at the Academy of Sports, Health and Education in Shepparton, Victoria.

## TANAMI DIALYSIS SUPPORT PROJECT

Since 2007, Kurra has used income earned on its royalty investments to fund much-needed health services for renal patients in Yuendumu, Lajamanu and surrounding communities. The CLC delivers this project in partnership with the Purple House, formerly known as Western Desert Nganampa Waltja Palyantjaku Tjutaku Aboriginal Corporation. In 2018, the Australian Government introduced a Medicare rebate for remote dialysis services which has allowed the Purple House to cover all the operational costs of running the Yuendumu and Lajamanu dialysis services without relying on Kurra funds. This is an excellent outcome for Kurra and remote communities which have over the last decade demonstrated the significant value to government of delivering remote dialysis services. Purple House staff met regularly with Kurra directors to update them on government policy and funding changes, and to discuss future partnerships to expand dialysis delivery.

## GRANITES MINE AFFECTED AREA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION INCOME

The Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation (GMAAAC) invested half of its compensation income in community benefit projects in nine Tanami communities. The other half was invested to create community benefits after the mine closes. In each community an elected committee prioritises, plans and decides which projects to implement. The CLC facilitates this process, helps with the selection of partners and prepares partnership agreements. It helped the nine GMAAAC communities allocate funds to projects aligned with the corporation's objectives: to improve housing, health, education, essential services, employment and training, as well as to promote Aboriginal self-management.

The corporation is now the largest income stream within the community development program. Its income increased



Peter Corbett and Derek Walker from the Alekarenge working group with the WETT's Kirsty-Anne Martin, Fiona Gibson and Cynthia Wheeler at the Indigenous Governance Awards ceremony in Melbourne. (Photo: Jillian Mundy)





Ntaria's school sports academy organised an excursion to Uluru.

from \$6.9 million to \$7.3 million in the space of 12 months. Incremental increases are predicted to continue over the next few years due to the recent expansion of mining operations. The mine is now forecast to operate until 2040. The CLC facilitated 13 GMAAAC committee meetings, seven community meetings and 38 community consultations. GMAAAC committees approved \$12.9 million for 109 new projects and executed 59 project agreements.

Projects usually include opportunities for local enterprise and employment. The GMAAAC continues to support funerals, sorry business and ceremony projects. They employed 186 Yapa for a total of 10,235 hours during the reporting period. The projects support community priorities such as arts and culture (local museums, ceremony grounds, cultural mapping, music programs and cultural festivals), education (school nutrition, language support and school pastoral care projects) and infrastructure (community building upgrades, outstation and access road maintenance).

The CLC managed 123 projects that started in previous years. It processed payments, helped partner organisations to submit reports and financial acquittals, and supported the nine GMAAAC committees to review project outcomes and partner compliance with project agreements.

GMAAAC project highlights:

- Lajamanu's GMAAAC committee funded a waterpark to be built in the community. The project was tendered and the selected partner presented design options for the committee's consideration. It expects this project to deliver a range of health and education outcomes.



Chris Ryder was employed on an upgrade of his family's outstation.



Figure 25. Community development projects, 2016–18

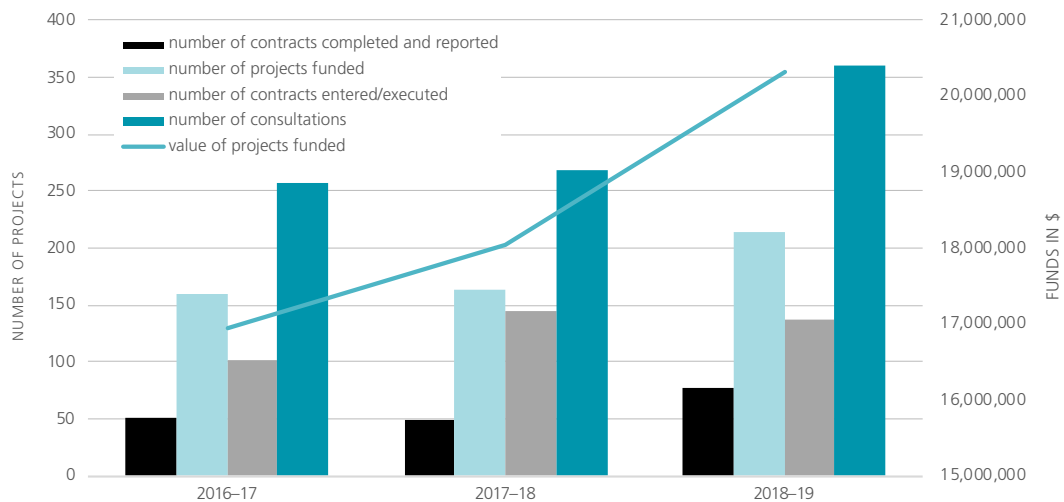
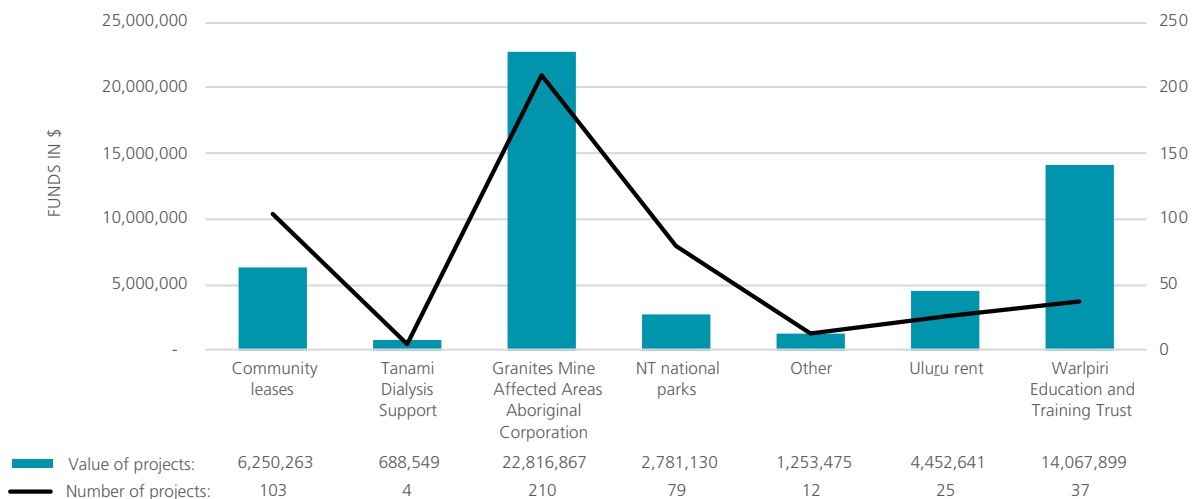


Figure 26. Total funds committed to community development projects, 2005–19



- **The Tanami Downs GMAAAC committee** pursued its long-term goal to restore infrastructure and services to the outstation. Electrical upgrades to its solar array, as well as new electrical connections and fittings, fans and street lights were completed. A meeting space and public toilet are due for completion in 2019.
- **Willowra's GMAAAC committee** funded cultural mapping activities involving bush trips and intergenerational knowledge exchange, and training in capturing cultural knowledge in videos, digital maps and photos. Resources developed through these projects are available at the Willowra learning centre.
- **Yuelamu's GMAAAC committee** saw the completion of the first of several infrastructure projects. The Central Desert Regional Council's Aboriginal field staff installed solar street lights which have improved visibility and safety between Yuelamu's north and south camps.
- **Yuendumu's GMAAAC committee** opened a nature playground in the child and family centre yard which fosters curiosity and creative play.

## NT PARKS RENT PROJECT

Traditional owners of 16 jointly managed national parks and reserves have received NT parks income since 2010 and have invested all of these payments in community benefit projects. The CLC facilitates the process by, for example, assisting traditional owner groups to improve their governance arrangements and plan projects for the long term.

It undertook 99 consultations with the groups – a significant increase from the previous year. The groups approved \$1,009,976 for 39 new community benefit projects.

The project's design reflects the traditional owners' desire to visit, maintain and live at their outstations. Most of the projects include employment and training of residents to upgrade outstation infrastructure. In 2018-19, NT parks-funded projects employed 20 people who worked nearly 700 hours. The CLC executed 23 new agreements and managed a further 61 projects which continued from previous years.

The Iyltwelepentye (Davenport Range) traditional owner group prioritised support to outstations so families can live on, learn

about and look after their country. The group has extensively repaired houses, and water and power infrastructure at the Kalinjarri outstation, and continue to support the Hatches Creek outstation to develop cattle infrastructure.

The Ryder family from the East MacDonnell Ranges group continued to allocate its rent income to its homeland Alyarpere (Shannon Bore). Road grading and a new ablution block make it easier for visiting family members to camp at Alyarpere on weekends and during school holidays, thus maintaining their connection to their country.

## COMMUNITY LEASE MONEY

Remote community residents and traditional owners receive two sources of community lease income: leases under section 19 of the Land Rights Act in 31 Central Australian communities provide ongoing rent payments; and the Australian Government paid one-off compensation in 2011 for compulsory five-year leases imposed during the Northern Territory Emergency Response. The CLC passed a resolution to reserve at least half of the latter income for community development projects. A significant proportion of these funds have now been allocated.

The CLC facilitated more than 92 meetings and consultations to prioritise and plan the projects and helped communities develop projects that seek to achieve cultural, economic and social outcomes. They ranged from support for music studios, church infrastructure and sports facility upgrades to school excursions. Aboriginal employment is a key priority in most project plans.

Community lease money projects employed 18 Aboriginal residents and generated 1,647 hours of work.

Community groups approved \$1,820,230 for 40 new projects and the CLC executed 31 new project agreements. It also managed projects that continued from previous years and completed 12 of them.

Program highlights:

- Ntaria (Hermannsburg): Started to build football clubrooms for the Western Aranda Bulldogs, opened a language and culture centre at the old Strehlow Clinic, and allocated funds for school excursions, school holiday programs, and a football and basketball academy. Continued to work on the Ntaria, Kaporilya and Ipolera cemeteries.
- Wallace Rockhole: Set up a funeral support project and allocated funds for a community gym and music equipment for young people.
- Kalkaringi: Funded the Gurindji Aboriginal Corporation to upgrade the basketball court and church, and to support the local football team to play in the Big Rivers AFL competition; funded the Victoria Daly Regional Council to upgrade water infrastructure at the Kalkaringi cemetery. supported the Gurindji Eagles football team, upgraded the church, cemetery and basketball court.
- Titjikala: Ran choir workshops in the community.
- Ampilatwatja: Started a church power supply project, and Honeymoon Bore water project.

Brendon Mitchell reports on a men's bush trip to Kaltukatjara.







Peter Corbett and Derek Walker, from Alekarenge, spoke at Reconciliation Australia's Indigenous Governance Awards in Melbourne.

- Engawala: Built a ceremony shelter and installed airconditioning in community houses.
- Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa): Installed football oval lights, and carried out major basketball court upgrades.
- Alekarenge (Ali Curung): Completed a sports oval lights feasibility study which included site servicing plans, soil testing and an engineering report; was highly commended in Reconciliation Australia's Indigenous Governance Awards.

## OTHER INCOME STREAMS

The CLC promoted its community development program to Aboriginal people who were negotiating exploration, mining and other land use agreements. It undertook six consultations and planning meetings with groups interested in investing income from such agreements in community-driven projects. The Kurtinja group committed a total of \$440,000 to two new projects and the CLC executed four project agreements. It managed an additional 16 ongoing projects from previous years.

The Kurtinja group, which receives income from the Northern Gas Pipeline, approved \$440,000 to improve visitor facilities at Likkaparta outstation, build a workshop for residents and provide mobile phone reception.

Traditional owners who receive income from the Twin Bonanza mine funded extensive repairs at the Ngulupi outstation. The project provided several months of employment for residents.

The CLC also consulted with traditional owners who are negotiating agreements about the proposed Mount Peake and Tri Star mines and continued to talk with other groups with an interest in investing their income in community driven projects.



Traditional owners at the Tri Star meeting at Aputula also heard about the option of investing exploration income in community driven development projects.

## OUTPUT GROUP 5

### ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

The Central Land Council aims to provide Aboriginal landowners with information, advice and support to enable them to manage their land in sustainably and productively.

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, and other rights and interests.
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## OUTPUT 5.1. DISTRIBUTIONS

Administer and distribute statutory, negotiated and other payments to the traditional owners and other clients.

The CLC deposits income from the use of Aboriginal land in the land use trust account and distributes it in accordance with council decisions. Funds are mainly distributed to Aboriginal associations incorporated under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* (CATSI Act) and must be paid to a corporation incorporated under that act.

Pursuant to section 35C of the Land Rights Act, these corporations are required to provide the CLC with their financial statements and a written report. There is no statutory mechanism to enable enforcement of these reporting requirements other than where payments were made to a corporation pursuant to a determination. However, financial statements are publicly available on the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations website.

When funds are distributed to the recipient corporations, the CLC's Aboriginal Associations Management Centre (AAMC) assists them 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 an agreement on cost recovery arrangements. The services to each corporation are specified in a letter of engagement confirmed at each annual general

meeting. Total distributions to all corporations in 2018–19 was \$22.4 million, up from \$16.2 million in the previous year.

### PERFORMANCE

Table 25. Compliance with the CATSI Act and services provided to corporations

Annual general meetings and directors' meetings/ income distribution instructions taken	31
Directors' meetings	31
Income distribution instruction meetings	76
Corporations' statutory financial statements to be lodged with the Office of Registrar of Indigenous Corporations	31
Trust statements lodged with Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission	0

### GOOD GOVERNANCE – ADMINISTERED ABORIGINAL CORPORATIONS

The CLC is unable to offer financial advice to the Aboriginal corporations it administers. As the investment funds of the



GMAAAC directors take part in a governance workshop.



Harry Collins and Rodney Jurrah at a workshop at Lajamanu for directors of the Kurra Aboriginal Corporation.



Daniel Rockman and Jenny Timms of the Kurra Aboriginal Corporation discuss investment interest at the workshop in Lajamanu.

corporations grow, their boards need to develop the capacity to make investment decisions or to engage appropriate advice.

The Granites Mine Affected Area and Kurra Aboriginal corporations embarked on a largely self-funded three-year governance program during 2016–17. The program was designed to strengthen the boards of directors' capacity in, and understanding of, corporate, financial and investment governance (see table 26). Mark Lewis Consulting Services delivered approximately four three-day applied learning workshops for each corporation. These workshops are tailored to each board and aim to build culturally appropriate and legitimate governance capacity. The CLC is monitoring and evaluating the program to assess progress and to suggest improvements as the learning progresses.

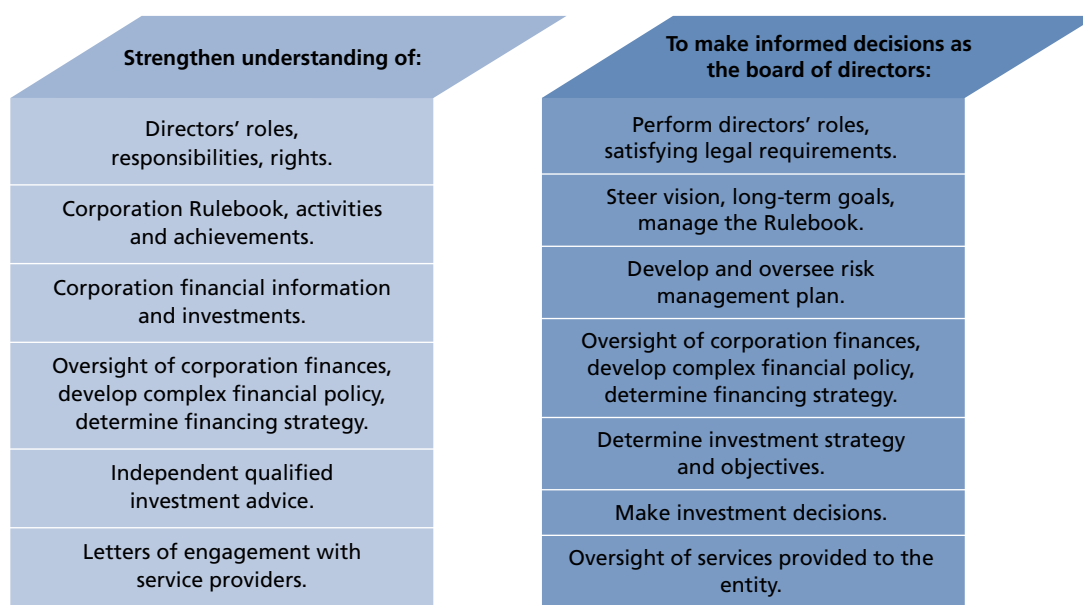
### Leasing

The grant of leases and licences over Aboriginal land generates a significant income for traditional owners. Rental income is applied, in accordance with their instructions, through the CLC's community development program and its AAMC. The centre manages the distribution of leasing income when traditional owners decide to distribute money among themselves.

The CLC conducted five consultations to receive instructions from traditional owners about the distribution of rental income.

It prepared 31 traditional owner identifications to ensure the right people were consulted about the distribution of income. Most payments were for exploration and mining related compensation. The CLC also made distributions for gravel extraction access payments and lease payments.

Figure 27. Good governance program aims





## 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 chair and not less than three members who hold office for periods not exceeding five years. Land trust members are usually drawn from among traditional owners of the land held in trust.

The functions of a land trust are to hold title to land and to exercise powers to acquire, hold and dispose of real and personal property for the benefit of the traditional owners. Where land is granted in a deed of grant held in escrow (the land council holds the title deed in trust until a specific event or condition takes place, such as the lapse of a lease or interest), the function of a land trust is 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. Such directions are provided only after identification of, and consultation with, the traditional owners and on the basis of their informed consent.

Figure 28. Land tenure in the CLC region, 2018–19

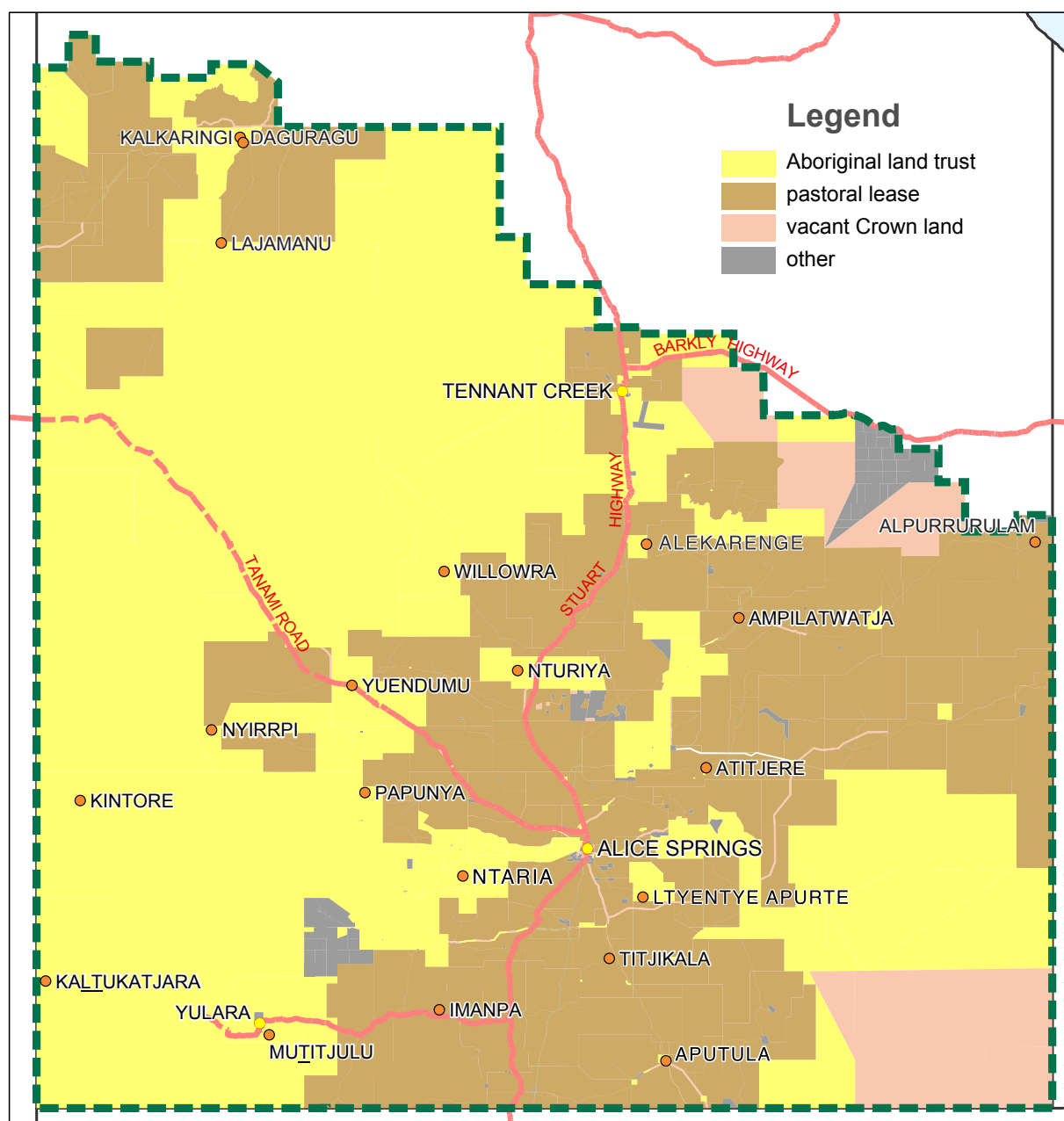


Table 26. Aboriginal land trusts in the CLC region, 2018–19

Ahakeye Aboriginal Land Trust
Aherrenge Aboriginal Land Trust
Akanta Aboriginal Land Trust
Akekarrwenteme Ureyenge Aboriginal Land Trust
Alatjuta Aboriginal Land Trust
Alkeperre-Atwarte Ayeye-Arenye Arleye Aboriginal Land Trust (Emily and 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
Atwengerrpe Aboriginal Land Trust
Ayleparrarntenhe Aboriginal Land Trust (Devils Marbles)
Bilinarra-Jutpurra Aboriginal Land Trust (Gregory National Park)
Central Desert Aboriginal Land Trust
Daguragu Aboriginal Land Trust
Erlterlapentye Aboriginal Land Trust (Davenport Range National Park)
Haasts Bluff Aboriginal Land Trust
Hooker Creek Aboriginal Land Trust
Iliyarne Aboriginal Land Trust
Ilparle 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
Karlantijpa North Aboriginal Land Trust
Karlantijpa South Aboriginal Land Trust
Katitj 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
Mangkurrpa Aboriginal Land Trust
Melkng Aboriginal Land Trust
Mount Frederick Aboriginal Land Trust



Mount Frederick 2 Aboriginal Land Trust
Mpwelarre Aboriginal Land Trust
Mpweringe-Arnapipe Aboriginal Land Trust
Mungkarta Aboriginal Land Trust
Ngalurrtju Aboriginal Land Trust
Ntaria Aboriginal Land Trust
Pantyinteme Aboriginal Land Trust
Pawu Aboriginal Land Trust
Petermann Aboriginal Land Trust
Pmere Ulperre Ingwemirne Arletherre Aboriginal Land Trust
Pmere Nyente Aboriginal Land Trust
Purta Aboriginal Land Trust
Pwanye Aboriginal Land Trust
Pwanye 2 Aboriginal Land Trust (Corroboree Rock Carvings Conservation)
Rodna Aboriginal Land Trust
Roulpmaulpma Aboriginal Land Trust
Rurutenge Aboriginal Land Trust
Santa Teresa Aboriginal Land Trust
Thakeperte Aboriginal Land Trust
Thangkenhareng Aboriginal Land Trust
Twertentye Aboriginal Land Trust (Rainbow Valley excision swap – dissolved)
Tyurretye Aboriginal Land Trust (West MacDonnell National Park including Simpsons Gap and Simpsons Gap Extension)
Uluru – Kata Tjuta Aboriginal Land Trust
Uremerne Land Aboriginal Land (Ewaninga Rock Carvings Conservation)
Uretyingke Aboriginal Land Trust
Urrampinyi Itjiltjarri Aboriginal Land Trust
Uruna Aboriginal Land Trust
Wakaya Aboriginal Land Trust
Wampana-Karlantjipa Aboriginal Land Trust
Warrabri Aboriginal Land Trust
Warti-Yangu Aboriginal Land Trust
Warumungu Aboriginal Land Trust
Watarrka Aboriginal Land Trust
Wirliyarrayi 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

**Table 27. NT park land trusts**

Note: Park freehold title is a distinct form of fee simple estate created under the *Parks and Reserves (Framework for the Future) Act 2003* (NT).

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.

Various types of disputes in the CLC region have some link with land. Analysis of disputes affecting CLC constituents indicates there are four broad, interrelated categories: those based on land and traditional ownership; competition for money or resources; family matters; and individual behaviours.

The CLC has statutory functions under both section 25 of the ALRA and section 203BF of the Native Title Act to help resolve disputes that relate to land; however, disputes within each of the identified categories affect the CLC's functions.

There are a growing number of communities and groups in the CLC region where conflicts (some arising as a result of a dispute over traditional ownership of land, including group composition and boundaries) are causing stress and anxiety for traditional owners and other Aboriginal people, and making it difficult for the CLC to fulfil its duties to them.

The CLC developed a traditional owner dispute management framework and an engagement strategy aimed at managing these functions better. They are being implemented within the 2018–2022 corporate plan. The framework reflects the following principles:

- The empowerment of Aboriginal groups, families and individuals to identify and manage their own disputes.
- A reduced reliance on the CLC or any external parties in relation to mediating disputes.
- A policy of 'wait to be asked' for assistance but respond in a consistent and timely manner, recognising that a timely response can lessen the likelihood of exacerbation of a dispute.

- The recognition that disputes are part of systems and structures where numerous external parties and factors are likely to be causing or exacerbating disputes.
- The recognition that the work of the CLC may unintentionally cause or exacerbate a dispute.
- The recognition that getting the decision-making processes of the group right is a major preventative measure.
- A determination that 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 are briefed about the progress of dispute resolution processes and advised when any parties repeatedly breach agreed processes or show little or no interest in resolving a dispute. The executive committee may decide to withdraw CLC services from the disputing party or parties for a period of time. To ensure that disputes are not exacerbated by identification of those involved, disputes are not the subject of individual reports.

Anthropological advice informs the mediation or resolution of minor ongoing issues. During the period, anthropologists contributed 12 advices, one report on traditional ownership and another report to help the directors of the Kurra Aboriginal Corporation review the corporation's membership. Work on the latter is expected to continue.





# 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 sustainably and productively.

### 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.

### NATIVE TITLE

Native title is the legal term used by the Australian High Court to describe the rights and interests Aboriginal people have had over their lands since long before European settlement. These rights and interests are common law indigenous property rights, were recognised by the High Court in the Mabo judgement of June 1992 and legislated in 1993. The High Court's subsequent Wik judgement of December 1996 further determined that native title could co-exist with other rights held under pastoral leases.

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 land as the Land Rights Act does.

### THE CLC'S NATIVE TITLE PROGRAM

In 1994, the CLC became a recognised native title representative body for Central Australia under section 203 of the Native Title Act. In this capacity, the CLC has statutory functions to facilitate and assist native title holders to make native title applications, respond to proposed future acts and negotiate agreements, resolve disputes between groups, and assist prescribed bodies corporate (native title holder corporations) to manage and protect native title rights and interests. In 2018, the Minister for

Aboriginal Affairs granted the CLC re-recognition as a native title representative body for a maximum of six years to June 2024.

The CLC continued to certify native title applications for determination and applications for registration for indigenous land use agreements in a timely manner until the process was disrupted by the Quall decision in the Federal Court in May. It is anticipated that certifications will now be delayed by the requirement for them to be processed at council meetings. Native title determination and ILUA applications were generally presented to the CLC executive before dispatch to the National Native Title Tribunal for registration.

The CLC has a multidisciplinary team of 25 native title-funded positions. In addition, it engaged 11 consultants on native title matters and three consultants on prescribed bodies corporate-related matters.

### *National Native Title Council*

The CLC has been a member of the National Native Title Council since its inception in 2005 and contributed to its submissions, discussions and representations to government on matters of national importance.

The CLC met with the National Native Title Tribunal, the federal Attorney General and Minister for Indigenous Affairs



Native title holder Lincoln Brokus with Justice Reeves at Rainbow Valley.

regarding the establishment of a native title compensation working group to jointly consider a response to the Griffiths judgement (*Northern Territory v Griffiths* [2019] HCA 7). The seminal compensation case, delivered in 2019, provided the first assessment by the High Court of compensation for extinguishment of native title rights and interests under the Native Title Act. The court considered the criteria for assessing compensation following extinguishment of native title by compulsory acquisition of land and the scope of ‘just terms’ compensation.

The CLC attended consultative forums with the council on amendments to the Native Title Act, the Close the Gap ‘refresh’,

the council’s native title operations and management training, and the tribunal’s prescribed body corporate support forum.

### ***Native title consent determinations***

On 7 May 2018, the Federal Court’s Justice Reeves sat at the Rainbow Valley ranger station, southwest of Alice Springs. Justice Reeves handed down a determination by consent of non-exclusive native title over 25 square kilometres comprising all of the Rainbow Valley Conservation Reserve. The determination recognised the rights and interests of the Imarnte landholding group to access, hunt, gather and fish on these lands and waters, to use their resources, and to conduct cultural activities and ceremonies in the area.

The reserve has been jointly managed by the native title holders and the PWC NT since 2005. It contains important sacred sites and is of great cultural significance to native title holders, who have worked alongside PWC NT rangers to manage the reserve for visitors and to protect its cultural and natural values.

The CLC filed a native title application with the Federal Court on 26 June 2018 following agreement by the NT Government. Native title holders were anxious to protect their cultural areas and contribute to the management of the reserve.

The Wura Aboriginal Corporation will hold the native title for the area.

### **COMPENSATION APPLICATIONS**

Where possible the CLC seeks to deal with compensation matters by negotiation and to secure compensation for acts resulting in the extinguishment or impairment of native title rights and interests. Although the CLC lodged no new native



“Rainbow Valley has always been our country.” Native title holders Janet Turner and Eric Breden.







Rainbow Valley native title holders celebrated the Federal Court's determination.







Native title holder Mary LeRossignol spoke at the determination ceremony.

title compensation applications, it is considering whether the High Court's Griffiths decision applies to tenure in its region.

## LITIGATION

In *Western Australia v Brown [2014] HCA 8* the High Court held that an earlier decision in the De Rose (No. 2) case dealing with improvements to a pastoral lease had been incorrectly decided. The court found that the construction of pastoral improvements, such as homesteads and bores, does not extinguish native title. As a result, the CLC had determined that the clause dealing with pastoral improvements in previous determinations of native title on pastoral leases in its region was contrary to law. It drafted applications to the Federal Court to vary Schedule C of the approved native title determinations in the Singleton, Newhaven, Neutral Junction, Kurundi, Lake Nash, Glen Helen, Napperby and Mt Doreen determinations by removing references to extinguishment of native title due to pastoral improvements.

Finalisation of these amendments was delayed while the CLC intervened in proceedings before the Federal Court in the NLC region to enable clarification of the legal issues. Following an order made by Justice White on 26 October 2018 in a number of pastoral lease native title applications (the Minyerri-Banka Banka matters) the CLC briefed senior counsel and obtained leave to appear before the court to the extent that the terms of the consent determinations will affect claimants in the CLC region. A decision by the Federal Court is anticipated late in 2019.

## CLAIMANT APPLICATIONS

The CLC pursues native title determinations to achieve recognition and protection of native title rights and deliver

beneficial outcomes for native title holders. It organised 29 meetings and consultations relating to native title applications and significantly progressed anthropological research, preparation and delivery of consent determination reports.

Anthropologists completed 19 native title holder identifications in preparation for meetings where the native title holders considered exploration licence applications and other activities, and gave advice at meetings about native title holder instructions.

On 30 June 2019 the CLC had four active native title claimant applications registered with the tribunal, and five revised applications prepared to vary existing determinations of native title to remove the pastoral improvements clause. These revised applications are currently on hold awaiting the Federal Court's decision on the Minyerri-Banka Banka matters (see table 29).

### *New and revised applications*

Applications lodged with the National Native Title Tribunal are listed in table 30.

Applications to vary existing determinations of native title to remove the pastoral improvements clause are on hold, also awaiting the Federal Court's decision in Minyerri-Banka Banka.

### *Amended applications*

JINKA/JERVOIS STATIONS (NTD16/2018)

The CLC filed the application on 10 May 2018, and an amended application in July 2018, due to a change in tenure within the application area. An issue has arisen regarding a stock route which traverses Jervois Station. The CLC will seek counsel's advice on the legal status of the area of land and the issue

may need to be resolved by the court if agreement cannot be reached with the NT Government. Litigation may delay the progress of the native title application unless the issue can be dealt with separately.

#### LIMBUNYA STATION (NTD01/2017)

Following further research, an amended application was filed in June 2019 to reflect a change to the composition of the claim group.

#### *Finalised applications*

Only the Rainbow Valley application was finalised during the reporting period.

#### *Current applications*

The anthropology reports and material about the Jinka and Jervois, Wave Hill and Limbunya stations were finalised and lodged. Anthropological research commenced or progressed in the Simpson Desert, on Anningie Station, at Karinga Lakes (Curtin Springs, Lyndavale and Erldunda stations), Ambalindum and The Gardens stations, Mount Skinner and Woodgreen stations, Horseshoe Bend Station, Lilla Creek Station and on NTP 2138.

Tables 29 and 30 summarise current applications lodged with the tribunal.

#### TENNANT CREEK (NTD48/2017)

The CLC filed an application on 3 October 2017, which was registered with the tribunal on 24 November 2017. It served a summary anthropological report on the respondents. The Federal Court is expected to hand down a determination by consent in July 2019.

#### WAVE HILL STATION (NTD62/2016)

The CLC filed an application on 25 November 2016, which was registered with the tribunal on 2 March 2017. It served a summary anthropological report on the respondents. The CLC engaged a consultant to provide further information requested by the NT Government.

#### LIMBUNYA STATION (NTD1/2017)

The CLC filed an application on 19 January 2017, which was registered with the tribunal on 4 May 2017. It served a summary anthropological report on the respondents. The CLC engaged a consultant to provide further information requested by the NT Government.

#### JINKA/JERVOIS STATIONS (NTD 16/21018)

This application was registered on 7 September 2018 and remains current.

### **FUTURE ACTS**

Mining future acts (mining or exploration proposals with the potential to impact on native title rights and interests) are the largest driver of the CLC's native title work program, although the number of exploration tenements notified under section 29 of the Native Title Act has fluctuated considerably year by year.

The ongoing administration of future acts is a high priority for the CLC and it has continued to notify native title holders and claimants about future acts. It maintains a register of

applications and informs all applicants about the native title process and its preference for negotiated agreements.

#### *Mining and exploration future acts*

All applications for exploration licences in the NT include a statement from the NT Government that the grant attracts 'expedited procedures' as outlined in section 237 of the Native Title Act. This determines a strict time limit of four months within which a native title holder party can lodge an objection.

The CLC responded to 53 notifications under section 29, and other notifications under the act. It assessed each notification for its potential impact on native title rights and interests. It undertook 24 future-act mining and exploration related field trips, meetings and consultations with affected native title holders. In other instances, existing instructions adequately dealt with the application. Contact with the applicant is required for all notifications, whether genuine or not. It remains difficult to determine whether an application is a genuine exploration proposal or a tactic to increase the sale value of property.



Paul Haines and Seraphina Presley with their granddaughter, also named Seraphina, at the Anningie native title document proofing meeting.



(Left to right) Nathan Pepperill, Albert Bailey and Geoffrey Taylor cooked breakfast at the Anningie native title document proofing meeting at the Angenty outstation.



Table 28. Claimant application progress, 2018–19

Anthropological reports completed	Research or assistance	Anthropological research or assistance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jinka/Jervois stations</li> <li>Wave Hill Station</li> <li>Limbunya Station</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rainbow Valley</li> <li>Limbunya Station</li> <li>Wave Hill Station</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Simpson Desert</li> <li>Anningie Station</li> <li>Karinga Lakes (Curtin Springs, Lyndavale and Erldunda stations)</li> <li>Ambalindum/The Gardens stations</li> <li>Mount Skinner/Woodgreen stations</li> <li>Horseshoe Bend Station</li> <li>Lilla Creek Station</li> <li>NTP 2138</li> </ul>

Table 29. New/revised applications to the National Native Title Tribunal, 2018–19

Application	Date filed	Date registered with NNTT
Napperby No. 2 Station (NTD 26/2018)	16 July 2018	No registration decision for this native title claim
Mt Doreen Station (NTD29/2018)	17 July 2018	No registration decision for this native title claim
Kurundi Station (NTD36/2018)	5 September 2018	No registration decision for this native title claim
Neutral Junction Station (NTD38/2018)	17 September 2018	No registration decision for this native title claim
Singleton Station (NTD42/2018)	8 October 2018	No registration decision for this native title claim

Table 30. Applications lodged with the National Native Title Tribunal, 2018–19

Application	Date filed	Date registered with NNTT	Issues
Wave Hill Station (NTD62/2016)	25 November 2016	2 March 2017	Consent determination expected October 2019.
Limbunya Station (NTD1/2017)	19 January 2017	4 May 2017	Application amended and filed June 2019. Consent determination expected October 2019.
Tennant Creek Station (NTD48/2017)	3 October 2017	24 November 2017	Consent determination scheduled early July 2019.
Jinka/Jervois stations (NTD16/2018)	10 May 2018	7 September 2018	Application amended and filed July 2018.



Anthropologist Michelle Goodwin and native title holder Jackie Mahoney familiarise themselves with the *Native Title Story* booklet.

### Mining and exploration agreements

Table 31 shows native title exploration and mining matters and decisions in 2018–19 about the allocation of compensation to native title holders flowing from agreements.

### Non-mining future acts

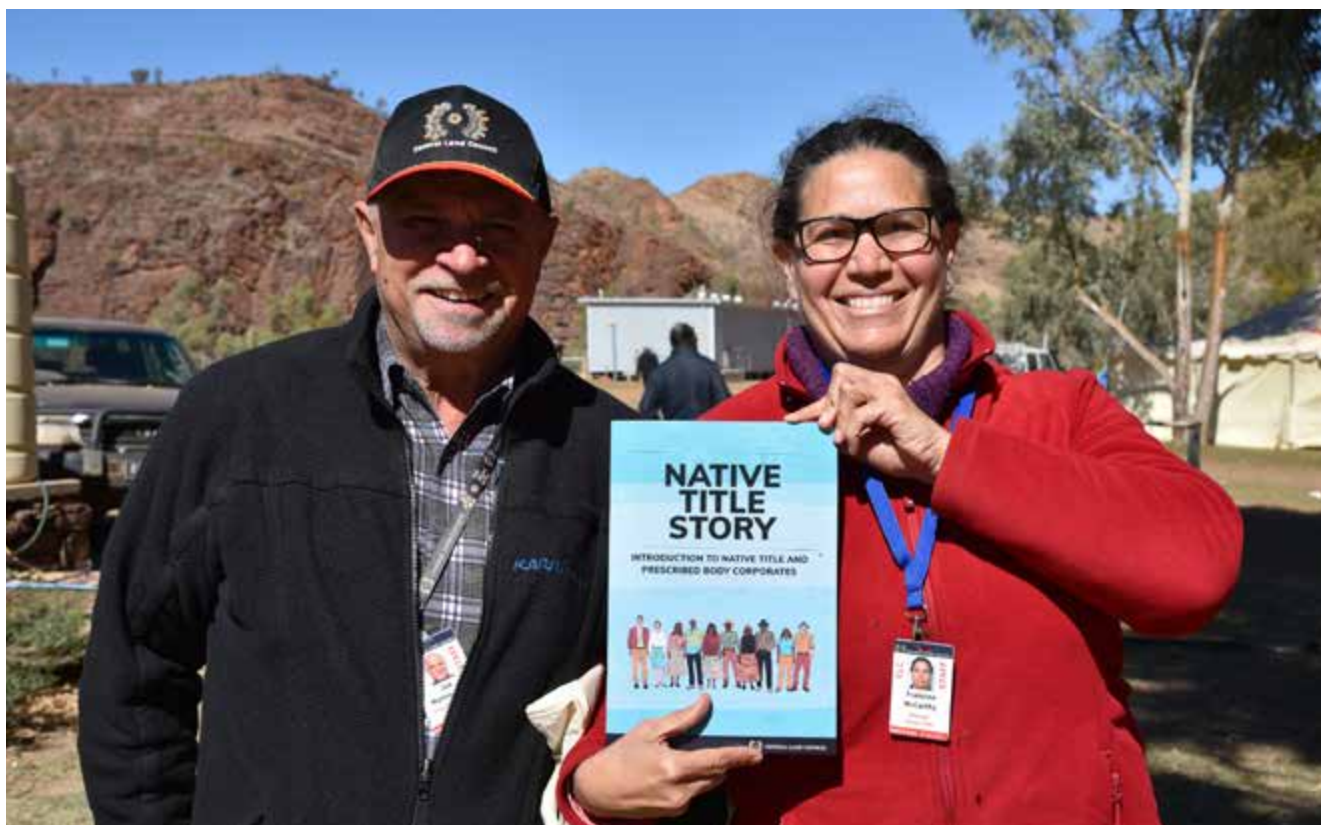
The CLC undertook nine field trips, consultations, instruction meetings and activities related to non-mining future acts (proposals with the potential to impact on native title rights and interests).

## INDIGENOUS LAND USE AGREEMENTS

The CLC has implemented a clear strategy to secure beneficial outcomes for native title holders through negotiated indigenous land use and other agreements, including agreements under section 31 of the Native Title Act. It currently has 86 agreements registered with the tribunal and is awaiting the registration of another. It is in negotiation in relation to an additional five.

## PRESCRIBED BODY CORPORATE REGIONAL FORUM

The CLC organised central Australia's first prescribed body corporate regional forum in June 2019. Supported by the



CEO Joe Martin-Jard and native title manager Francine McCarthy launched a plain English booklet explaining native title rights and processes. The booklet has since been adapted by the Kimberley Land Council.

National Native Title Council and the National Indigenous Australians Agency, regional forums provide an opportunity for native title holders and other stakeholders to learn about current native title issues, explore opportunities and share experiences.

Approximately 80 directors of prescribed bodies corporate from across the CLC region and beyond gathered at the campground of the Ross River Resort, 100 kilometres east of Alice Springs. Speakers and workshops addressed themes such as governance, native title rights and economic development opportunities. Directors spoke about their own experiences, discussed common challenges, shared success stories and local solutions, and learned how to access services and help.

The event saw the launch of *Native Title Story*, the CLC's series of plain English posters and an illustrated booklet about the Native Title Act and its processes.

The resources explain the complex legislation around native title, which is frequently confused with land rights, and guide native title holders through the process, from researching claims to managing their representative bodies.

The CLC shared the *Native Title Story* through conferences and its website. The publication is now also helping native title holders in Western Australia to make sense of the law after the Kimberley Land Council adapted it for its own constituents.

## DISPUTE RESOLUTION

There have been no major disputes relating to native title claims. In order to prevent and deal with future disputes the CLC trained three staff in negotiation and mediation skills.

Table 31. Native title exploration and mining matters and decisions, 2018–19

Exploration agreements	3
Mineral exploration agreement	1
Deeds of assumption	0
Tripartite agreement	2
Distribution of compensation monies	20
Miscellaneous	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>

Table 32. Indigenous land use agreements, 2018–19

Location	Date registered
Tanami Gas Pipeline: Napperby Station	29 October 2018
Tanami Gas Pipeline: Narwietooma Station	29 October 2018
Tanami Gas Pipeline: Mt Doreen Station	29 October 2018

### *Alternative procedure agreements*

The CLC did not enter into alternative procedure agreements.

### *Body corporate agreements*

The CLC entered into three prescribed body corporate service agreements.



## POST-DETERMINATION ASSISTANCE

Table 33. Assistance delivered to prescribed bodies corporate, 2018–19

Aboriginal corporation	Type of assistance
Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation (Alice Springs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distributed income from an NT parks agreement.</li> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
Akwerrperl AC (Bushy Park Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted native title holders to assess and record two drill holes and asked the company to meet with the native title holders. The company declined, noting all site protection matters were dealt with through an AAPA certificate.</li> <li>• Informed native title holders about the response and native title holder rights on pastoral leases.</li> </ul>
Ilperrelhelam Aboriginal Corporation (Lake Nash and Georgina Downs stations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted with an annual general meeting and the corporation's development plan.</li> <li>• Made an unsuccessful attempt to hold a directors' meeting (no quorum).</li> <li>• Native title holders requested CLC provide assistance to mediate a dispute.</li> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
Gurindji Aboriginal Corporation (Kalkaringi)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussed an indigenous land use agreement with the NT Government and corporation members.</li> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
Kaytetye Alyawarr Awenyerraperte Ingkerr-wenh Aboriginal Corporation (Sandover)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted with meetings about development proposals for an exploration area, an infrastructure corridor and mining and infrastructure agreements.</li> <li>• Took instructions to lodge an objection to an ancillary mining lease for a borefield and to continue negotiating native title agreements.</li> <li>• Assisted with an annual general and directors' meetings.</li> <li>• Provided information about a mining agreement and infrastructure development.</li> <li>• Supported community-based development planning meetings to identify further development opportunities for the corporation.</li> <li>• Assisted with a directors' meeting to nominate directors to attend the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
Mitata Aboriginal Corporation (Kurundi Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted with a directors' meeting and took instructions to lodge a revised native title determination application related to the pastoral improvement clause.</li> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
Mpwerempwer Aboriginal Corporation (Singleton Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted with a directors' meeting and took instructions to lodge a revised native title determination application relating to the pastoral improvement clause.</li> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
Kaytetye Tywerate Arengge Aboriginal Corporation (Neutral Junction Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated native title holders on proposed infrastructure development.</li> <li>• Assisted with an annual general meeting and obtained standing instruction on negotiating native title agreements.</li> <li>• Took instructions to lodge a revised native title determination application relating to the pastoral improvement clause.</li> <li>• Assisted with a directors' meeting and a native title agreement.</li> <li>• Supported a meeting about the corporation's development plan.</li> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
Eynewantheyne Aboriginal Corporation (Neutral Junction/ Stirling stations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted with an annual general meeting, provided an update on the proposed mine development and obtained standing instructions on negotiations about an indigenous land use and a mining agreement.</li> <li>• Supported a special general meeting to finalise a mining agreement.</li> <li>• Assisted directors to sign an agreement and assess membership applications.</li> <li>• Facilitated a mediation meeting between native title holders to assist in management of a dispute.</li> <li>• Took instructions to consult with affected native title holders regarding the use of compensation funds.</li> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
Ilkewartn Ywel Aboriginal Corporation (Pine Hill East Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted with a directors' meeting to discuss water rights and obtaining a water licence at Pine Hill B block.</li> <li>• Provided information on the review of Ti Tree water control district and took instructions to apply for a water licence.</li> <li>• Facilitated Centrefarm's update about a development of Pine Hill B block and the Aboriginal Land and Sea Development Agency.</li> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
Kwaty Aboriginal Corporation (Nolan Bore/Aileron Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted with a directors' meeting and provided information on proposed mine developments.</li> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
Alherramp Illewerr Mamp Arrangkey Tywerl Aboriginal Corporation (Napperby Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>

Aboriginal corporation	Type of assistance
Pmarra Tjurritja Alturla Aboriginal Corporation (Glen Helen Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
WALA Aboriginal Corporation (Narwietooma Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
Ngalyia Aboriginal Corporation (Mt Doreen Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted with a meeting to update members on mining exploration and gas pipeline activities.</li> <li>• Assisted with a directors' meeting to provide information and took instructions to become a party to the NLC's Minyerri-Banka Banka litigation.</li> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
Yankanjini Aboriginal Corporation (Newhaven Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted with an annual general meeting.</li> <li>• Gave information about the progress of indigenous land use agreement negotiations.</li> </ul>
Ooratippra Aboriginal Corporation (Ooratippra Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted with a directors' meeting, and took instructions to pay pastoral lease fees.</li> <li>• Assisted with an annual general meeting and lodgement of a general report.</li> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>
Tyatyekwenhe Aboriginal Corporation (Andado/New Crown stations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted with an annual general meeting and lodgement of a general report.</li> <li>• Provided a briefing on a mining proposal.</li> <li>• Assisted with a directors' meeting and entered into a service agreement with the corporation.</li> <li>• Supported a native title holder meeting which asked the directors to enter into a mining agreement.</li> </ul>
Tywele Aboriginal Corporation (Mt Riddock Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helped with a native title holders' meeting and received standing instructions to negotiate exploration agreements.</li> <li>• Facilitated a women's cultural heritage trip to an area of cultural significance last visited during research for the native title claim.</li> <li>• Assisted with consultations with native title holders about employment opportunities at a Garnet mine.</li> </ul>
Warlmanpa Warumungu Aboriginal Corporation (Phillip Creek Station)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted with a directors' meeting and received instructions to apply for funding to support the corporation to meet its governance and compliance obligations.</li> <li>• Provided information on the prescribed body corporate regional forum.</li> </ul>



The first regional forum of prescribed body corporates took place in June at Ross River.



# CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

## MINISTERIAL DIRECTIONS

The responsible minister issued no directions, general policies or general policy orders.

## DUTY TO KEEP THE MINISTER/FINANCE MINISTER INFORMED (SECTION 19, PGPA ACT)

The minister was kept informed regarding the process to recruit a new chief executive officer before the retirement of the director / CEO.

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Aboriginal land councils and land trusts are listed in Part I of Schedule 2 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth). Pursuant to section 7, the CLC is not subject to freedom of information requests.

## MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The responsibilities are:

- best practice accounting, financial management, performance reporting, unmodified annual audit reports and financial sustainability
- robust corporate financial planning

- relevant, accurate and timely performance-based management and environmental impact reporting
- effective risk management, including managing appropriate governance and risk management frameworks and understanding management risk appetite
- procurement of funds to sustain and advance corporate and operational plans and performance of statutory functions, promoting indigenous business
- compliance with all statutory regulatory requirements
- staff recruitment, training and development opportunities for administering Aboriginal corporations.

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

### *Estimates and review*

Estimates of administrative expenditure are submitted annually to the minister. Additional estimates requests for essential additional resources are submitted only as required. Approved estimates fund operational expenses, salaries and wages, and capital expenditure. The minister approved \$19.38 million of funding from the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA).

### *Reporting*

The CLC submitted a half-yearly performance and operations report to the minister in February 2019 in accordance with



The CLC's finance and AAMC teams were runners-up in the 2019 Outsourcing Network Impact Awards.

## Employee profile

Table 34. Fulltime and parttime staff expressed as fulltime equivalent, 2018–19

Salary classification	Total FTE	Aboriginal	%	Non-Aboriginal	%	Female	%	Male	%
CL 1	2.2	2.2	0.9	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.6	0.9	0.4
CL 2	47.7	47.7	20.4	0.0	0.0	10.6	4.5	37.1	15.9
CL 3	11.2	10.3	4.4	0.9	0.4	6.1	2.6	5.1	2.2
CL 4	26.0	20.3	8.7	5.7	2.4	12.7	5.4	13.3	5.7
CL 5	28.3	12.2	5.2	16.1	6.9	16.4	7.0	11.9	5.1
CL 6	73.6	13.4	5.7	60.2	25.8	36.0	15.4	37.6	16.1
SO C	23.6	2.8	1.2	20.8	8.9	11.9	5.1	11.7	5.0
SO B	6.6	2.2	0.9	4.4	1.9	4.5	1.9	2.1	0.9
SO A	11.0	0.0	0.0	11.0	4.7	6.3	2.7	4.7	2.0
SES1	2.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.9
SES2	1.3	1.3	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>233.5</b>	<b>112.4</b>	<b>48.1</b>	<b>121.1</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>105.8</b>	<b>45.3</b>	<b>127.7</b>	<b>54.7</b>

Note: Sums may vary due to rounding

Table 35. Fulltime and parttime staff (head count) at 30 June 2019

Salary classification	Total	Aboriginal	%	Non-Aboriginal	%	Female	%	Male	%
CL 1	1.5	1.5	0.6	–	–	0.7	0.3	0.8	0.3
CL 2	56.3	56.3	22.7	–	–	11.7	4.7	44.6	18.0
CL 3	11.8	10.8	4.3	1.0	0.4	6.0	2.4	5.8	2.3
CL 4	26.6	19.6	7.9	7.0	2.8	13.8	5.6	12.8	5.2
CL 5	32.4	14.8	6.0	17.6	7.1	18.6	7.5	13.8	5.6
CL 6	70.8	15.8	6.4	55.0	22.2	35.1	14.1	35.7	14.4
SO C	24.9	2.0	0.8	22.9	9.2	13.9	5.6	11.0	4.4
SO B	9.0	3.0	1.2	6.0	2.4	5.0	2.0	4.0	1.6
SO A	11.0	–	–	11.0	4.4	5.4	2.2	5.6	2.3
SES1	2.0	–	–	2.0	0.8	–	–	2.0	0.8
SES2	2.0	2.0	0.8	–	–	–	–	2.0	0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>248.3</b>	<b>125.8</b>	<b>50.7</b>	<b>122.5</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>110.2</b>	<b>44.4</b>	<b>138.1</b>	<b>55.6</b>

Table 36. Casual staff expressed as fulltime equivalent, 2018–19

Salary classification	Total	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Female	Male
CL 1	1.2	1.2	–	0.6	0.6
CL 2	2.7	2.7	–	0.1	2.6
CL 3	0.2	0.2	–	0.1	0.1
CL 4	3.0	2.9	0.1	0.1	2.9
CL 5	0.4	–	0.4	0.4	–
CL 6	1.1	0.2	0.9	0.2	0.89
SO C	0.5	–	0.5	0.4	0.1
SO B	0.4	–	0.4	–	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>7.5</b>



funding agreement and legislative obligations. The Australian National Audit Office performs the annual audit of the financial statements to determine compliance and that the statements present fairly the CLC's financial position, performance and cash flows. Its audit opinion indicates that the statements are free from material misstatement.

## FINANCE SYSTEM

In 2017 the CLC began to replace its decade-old finance software package with an IT solution known as Microsoft NAV. Change management of major systems is always difficult, requiring proactive management to meet staff and organisational expectations. The geographic isolation of Alice Springs is also a challenge for such projects – it is located 1,500 kilometres or more from every Australian capital city. Communication and implementation issues were also considerable as the Microsoft agent implementing the new system is based in Brisbane.

This CLC finance section project was the runner-up in its category for the Shared Services and Outsourcing Network Impact Award for Change Management which is globally recognised for change initiatives. Sydney Water, an organisation without the unique implementation challenges faced in Central Australia, won the category.

## RISK MANAGEMENT AND FRAUD CONTROL

An annual review of the risk management plan and framework (including a risk profile and a risk appetite reassessment by the chair and the director), took place in December 2018. The CLC uses the annual Comcover risk management benchmarking survey to assess its improvements.

The Commonwealth's fraud control framework informs the CLC's framework. The Accountable Authority takes all reasonable measures to prevent, detect and deal with fraud, including data collection, reporting and investigation. It certified that the required fraud data was collected and reported using the fraud incident register, which is continuously updated. New staff complete the Commonwealth's online fraud awareness training.

Internal practices and procedures ensure that appropriate financial authorisations and financial delegations are in place for rigorous monitoring and detection of anomalies. Accountable Authority instructions are within the appropriate financial expenditure authorities' framework and are reviewed every July. The review takes into account changes in the value of money and the organisation's structure.

A code of conduct prescribes workplace personal and professional behaviour.

## AUDIT COMMITTEE

The audit committee has four independent members: Adrian Watts (accountant), Danny Masters (lawyer), Bruce Walker (chair/director), and Beverley Russ (accounting manager). The committee met three times. It oversees an agreed work plan and audit charter, and reports annually to the Accountable Authority. A review of the PGPA Act recommended that Commonwealth



Nikki Cowcher left the CLC after nine years with the land management section.

entity audit committee members be independent. If this recommendation is implemented no action will be required.

## INDEMNITIES AND INSURANCE PREMIUMS FOR OFFICERS

No indemnity against liability has been given by agreement or by other means to a current or former officer. The CLC's general liability and professional indemnity insurance with Comcover includes directors' and officers' liability provisions and compulsory professional indemnity insurance which is required by the Law Society Northern Territory for its member legal practitioners.

## JUDICIAL DECISIONS AND REVIEWS BY OUTSIDE BODIES

In 2017–18 the CLC reported that the Federal Court considered a matter brought by traditional owners of the Amoonguna ALT. Justice Mortimer decided against the applicants, Roseanne and Marie Ellis, who lodged an appeal. It also reported a related matter regarding lease income for which a settlement was being negotiated. During 2018–19 the appeal was heard and dismissed.

In related proceedings brought by the applicants against the CLC in the Federal Court, the parties negotiated a settlement of the litigation. The result is that the CLC transferred rent received for leases in Amoonguna to the Amoonguna Community Development Trust. The trust was created for this purpose. The Amoonguna Community Development Aboriginal Corporation is the trustee and the trust funds must be used for community development projects. The CLC oversees the trust to ensure that any use of trust funds is reasonable and consistent with the trust's purposes.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

The organisation continues to prioritise workforce engagement, training and development, and system improvement initiatives. Automating and streamlining of the CLC's processes improved staff access to human resources services. A dedicated human resources service provider improved communication and service delivery and the team focused on robust reporting of metrics and continuous improvement.

**Table 37. Fulltime equivalent staff by ranger group, 2018–19**

Ranger group	2017–18 actual Ongoing	2018–19 actual Ongoing
Anangu (Angas Downs)	1.3	1.7
Anangu Luritjiku (Papunya)	2.9	3.4
Anmatyerr (Ti Tree)	5.2	5.7
Arltarpilta Inelye (Atitjere)*	2.8	4.4
Kaltukatjara (Docker River)	3.4	2.6
Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa)*	4.3	5.2
Murnkurrumurnkurru (Daguragu)*	3.2	4.1
Muru-warinyi Ankul (Tennant Creek)	7.5	8.1
Tjakura (Mutjulu)	1.6	1.5
Northern Tanami (Lajamanu)	4.3	4.3
Tjuwanpa (Hermannsburg)	6.8	6.5
Warlpiri (Yuendumu, Nyirripi and Willowra)	3.1	3.5
Ranger support officers	2.3	2.6
Total rangers	48.7	53.6
Training and mentoring	3.0	3.1
Coordinators	10.8	12.1
Technical/administration	1.8	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>64.3</b>	<b>70.6</b>

\* ILC funded.

Ongoing system improvements included the implementation of a new electronic employee timesheet system.

### Employee relations

The *Fair Work Act 2009* (Cth) and the CLC enterprise agreement 2017–20 establish employment terms and conditions and entitlements. The Fair Work Commission approved the current agreement in March 2018. Salary progression is subject to meeting the required performance standards. Performance bonuses were not paid.

### Workplace health and safety

The CLC met its obligations under the *Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011* (WHS Act) and completed a review of the workplace health and safety (WHS) management system which began in 2014. The WHS committee met five times. It maintained the WHS management system, conducted workplace inspections and emergency evacuation drills at all sites. It also reviewed and updated WHS policies and procedures.

### Reporting requirements under the WHS Act

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

- There was one notifiable incident reported to Comcare under section 38. No injuries were sustained.
- No notices were issued under section 90 (provisional improvement notices), section 191 (improvement notices), section 195 (prohibition notices), or section 198 (non-disturbance notices).

**Table 38. Computer services' major achievements, 2018–19**

Major achievements	Outcomes
General operations	Maintained the CLC's large, complex ICT network in regional and remote areas with no significant security incidents, downtime or data loss. Metrics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2,200 support cases actioned</li> <li>• 98 new user accounts created</li> <li>• 9 new roles/positions provisioned</li> <li>• 270 access control cards issued</li> <li>• 109 desktop computer replacements.</li> </ul>
Firewall upgrade	Installed and configured a new 'next generation' firewall, improving security and reporting, and replaced ageing browsing and reverse proxy systems.
EDRMS upgrade	Implemented evaluation and production platforms for a major version upgrade of our eDIS EDRMS system, and deployed client software to all machines.
WAN service upgrade	Completed upgrade of WAN data services across 7 offices, including significant improvements to internet bandwidth, and preliminary implementation of a dedicated connection to the AWS data centre.
Videoconferencing	Implemented a videoconferencing platform, with dedicated 'room' systems, Single Sign On, an internal meeting connector and other features.
Staff ID cards	Sourced and established specialised printer, camera and lighting equipment. Developed ID card formats and templates. Photographed all staff and printed and distributed cards. ID cards are now issued to all new staff on their first day.
Regional office upgrades	Deployed basic site servers and related hardware to all offices, for better experience for remote staff, and for backups of local data.
Geospatial services	Systems development slowed due to the resignation of the unit leader, and difficulty in attracting a suitably qualified replacement. However, the unit continued to produce and support high quality GIS products.



Table 39. Information about remuneration for key management personnel

Name	Position title	Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits	Other long-term benefits		Termination benefits	Total remuneration
		Base salary	Bonuses	Other benefits and allowances	Superannuation contributions	Long service leave	Other long-term benefits		
Mr Francis Kelly	Ex chair July 2018 – April 2019	149,897	–	–	18,000	–	–	–	167,897
Mr David Ross	Director	280,091	–	56,301	42,324	10,493	–	–	389,209
Mr Sammy Wilson	Chair April – June 2019	36,231	–	4,055	4,529	1,124	–	–	45,939
Mr Joseph Martin-Jard	Chief executive officer	99,185	–	13,952	12,331	3,050	–	–	128,518
Dr Nigel Graves	General manager / Chief financial officer	243,619	–	42,302	36,450	7,904	–	–	330,275
		<b>809,023</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>116,610</b>	<b>113,634</b>	<b>22,571</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>1,061,838</b>

Table 40. Information about remuneration for senior executives

Total remuneration bands	Number of senior executives	Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits	Other long-term benefits		Termination benefits	Total remuneration
		Average base salary	Average bonuses	Average other benefits and allowances	Average superannuation contributions	Average long service leave	Average other long-term benefits	Average termination benefits	Average total remuneration
\$0–\$220,000	3	95,104	–	6,002	11,620	1,391	–	–	114,118
\$220,001–\$245,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
\$245,001–\$270,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
\$270,001–\$295,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
\$295,001–\$320,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
\$320,001–\$345,000	1	243,619	–	42,302	36,450	7,904	–	–	330,275
\$345,001–\$370,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
\$370,001–\$395,000	1	280,091	–	56,301	42,324	10,493	–	–	389,209
\$395,001–\$420,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
\$420,001–\$445,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
\$445,001–\$470,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
\$470,001–\$495,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
\$495,001–\$520,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
\$520,001–\$545,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Table 41. Information about remuneration for other highly paid staff

Total remuneration bands	Number of other highly paid staff	Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits	Other long-term benefits		Termination benefits	Total remuneration
		Average base salary	Average bonuses	Average other benefits and allowances	Average superannuation contributions	Average long service leave	Average other long-term benefits	Average termination benefits	Average total remuneration
\$220,001– 495,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
\$495,001–....	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

### **WHS committee statement**

The organisation strives to provide a safe workplace. It has a primary duty of care to its employees, traditional owners and other persons. It provides a safe environment for all employees, constituents, contractors and visitors at all work places by:

- implementing safe work systems that 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 work practices through internal and external audits and making improvements by measuring performance against safety objectives and targets
- identifying risks and implementing controls to reduce risk as far as practical
- encouraging safety leadership throughout the organisation and celebrating safety achievements.

### **Workforce development**

The appointment of a dedicated human resources organisational development officer demonstrated the CLC's commitment to workforce development and training. The officer has assisted employees to undertake vocational education and training, and to take advantage of tertiary and other learning opportunities.

### **Aboriginal manager development**

Leadership Success, a coaching specialist, used a computer-based performance tool to identify the leadership skills and knowledge capacity of Aboriginal managers in 10 core leadership and management attributes. This helped pinpoint areas where managers require support. The specialist prepared a development plan for each manager and provided one-to-one coaching, mainly by telephone to minimise costs. Three Aboriginal managers took part in a two-day media training workshop in May, and two of them continued to receive on-to-one coaching by telephone.

## **COMPUTER SERVICES**

The computer services team develops, supports and maintains modern computing infrastructure, particularly to provide a high level of service to regional offices by providing the best available communication systems and remote support services.

The team supports a fully networked, standardised computer workstation for each of the CLC's employees, except for the rangers. It provides access to email, word processing, internet browsing and a range of other services through the CLC's computing infrastructure. It ensures the integrity and security of the CLC's electronic data with backup systems, secure network access and virus protection. Computer services also contributes to the increased efficiency of the organisation through the development and implementation of new systems for improved access to information and communications.

The team includes three specialist geospatial services staff who maintain an extensive geographical information system and manipulate data sets to produce customised maps for CLC projects. An expansion of the service to implement web-based mapping systems is in progress.

Major achievements include implementation of a new firewall, a wide area network services upgrade, a major DOCman system

upgrade, and the introduction of a videoconferencing platform for all staff. A range of system migrations and upgrades also took place, including remote desktop services, certificate servers, a fax/SMS system and mobile device management. As every year, the team performed its duties with dedication, skill, teamwork and good humour.

## **INFORMATION SERVICES**

### **Information management**

The information services team has commenced conducting business system assessments as prescribed under the National Archives Digital Continuity 2020 Policy. The section strives to meet the targets of the policy and to show progress in the annual Check-up PLUS survey.

### **Systems**

A significant document management system upgrade from HP Records Manager (RM) 8.3 to Content Manager (CM) 9.3 was accomplished successfully this year. The library management system upgrade has progressed and will be completed in 2019–20. The existing system was data cleansed and dated collection materials were discarded.

### **Staffing**

Information services has been almost fully staffed. Staff regularly took advantage of relevant training and professional development opportunities, such as copyright and records management. Team members' new skills assist with troubleshooting and responding to eDIS help desk requests and preservation activities.

### **Procedures and services**

Information services continued to create and update procedures and publish eDIS training materials on a dedicated intranet page. Digitisation of archival materials – both print and audiovisual – has commenced. Staff can now research analogue records through eDIS. Scheduled comprehensive disposals were carried out. The team established some new archiving processes and consolidated data and records that expanded the electronic processes used by information services.

Information services ensures appropriate record access. It secures data and information, including vital permanent records, against unauthorised access across the organisation. Regular audits provide additional accountability.

It assisted other CLC sections to fulfil their records management requirements.

### **Archives and library**

The CLC's archives and library were showcased through events, exhibitions, displays and advertising, leading to increased loans and closer collaboration.

The library continued to develop and manage the material in its collection and deposits material in the National Library of Australia's e-deposit scheme making its publications accessible nationwide.





Property officer Clifford McGuiness repaired a water leak at a CLC building in Kalkaringi.

## ASSET MANAGEMENT

### *Fleet management*

The CLC owns and manages a substantial vehicle fleet, including four-wheel drive vehicles, people movers, all-terrain vehicles, and medium and rigid trucks. The fleet management strategy ensures reliable, safe and robust vehicles that are fit for purpose. The majority of its fleet is replaced every three years, depending on use. By that time remote operational vehicles reach their optimal age and maintenance expenditure escalates.

Consultants BDO Data Analytics began to review the CLC's transportation improvement strategy. BDO has constructed a complex model to assess fleet use and early analysis is proving promising. The consultants will analyse vehicle booking and GPS tracking data of all fleet movements during the 2018 and 2019 calendar years.

### *Land and buildings management*

Installation of the 350 kW solar array commenced at the Stuart Highway main office in Alice Springs. The system will significantly reduce reliance on grid energy, reduce the building's electricity accounts and contribute to renewable energy targets. Power and Water's requirements included an unexpected acquisition of a 'cloud camera' to control energy transfer to the town grid. The CLC anticipates commissioning during the first half of 2019–20 to realise the benefits during the summer season.

It put an upgrade of the Kalkaringi office was tender and the office building and two accommodation units are now under construction. Transport of buildings, remaining construction and site works will be completed before the end of the current dry

season. The new office facilities will include indoor and outdoor meeting spaces, an office and visiting officer accommodation.

New demountable visiting officer accommodation was established in the township of Yulara. The two-bedroom unit reduces the need for visiting staff to stay at the resort.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Central Land Council financial statements

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### To the Minister for Indigenous Australians

#### Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements of the Central Land Council ('the Entity') for the year ended 30 June 2019:

(a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015*; and

(b) present fairly the financial position of the Entity as at 30 June 2019 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended.

The financial statements of the Entity, which I have audited, comprise the following statements as at 30 June 2019 and for the year then ended:

- 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 to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements, comprising a Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and other explanatory information.

#### Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Entity in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements for financial statement audits conducted by the Auditor-General and his delegates. These include the relevant independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) to the extent that they are not in conflict with the *Auditor-General Act 1997*. I have also fulfilled my other responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### Accountable Authority's responsibility for the financial statements

As the Accountable Authority of the Entity, the Chair and Director are responsible under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (the Act) for the preparation and fair presentation of annual financial statements that comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the rules made under the Act. The Chair and Director are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Chair and Director are responsible for assessing the ability of the Entity to continue as a going concern, taking into account whether the Entity's operations will cease as a result of an administrative restructure or for any other reason. The Chair and Director are also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the assessment indicates that it is not appropriate.

GPO Box 707 CANBERRA ACT 2601  
18 National Circuit BARTON ACT  
Phone (02) 6203 7300 Fax (02) 6203 7777

### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

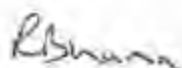
My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Accountable Authority;
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Accountable Authority's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern; and
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Accountable Authority regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Australian National Audit Office



Rita Bhana

Senior Director

Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra

14 August 2019



## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

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### STATEMENT BY THE ACCOUNTABLE AUTHORITY AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

In our opinion, the attached financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2019 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. Joseph Martin-Jard  
Chief Executive Officer  
Accountable Authority

Date: 13/08/2019

Signed

Mr. Sammy Wilson  
Chair  
Accountable Authority

Date: 13/08/2019

Signed

Dr Nigel Graves FCPA  
Chief Financial Officer

Date: 13/08/2019

## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	NOTES	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES EXPENSES</b>			
Employees and council members' benefits	3(a)	25,961	23,543
Suppliers	3(b)	15,328	14,247
Depreciation and amortisation	7(a)	2,776	2,503
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>44,065</b>	<b>40,293</b>
<b>OWN-SOURCE INCOME</b>			
<b>Own-source revenue</b>			
Rendering of services	4(a)	3,924	3,529
Interest	4(b)	486	419
Rental income	4(c)	86	45
Other revenue	4(d)	3,378	2,987
<b>Total own-source revenue</b>		<b>7,874</b>	<b>6,980</b>
<b>Gains</b>			
Gains from sale of assets	4(e)	395	322
Reversals of previous asset write-downs and impairments	4(f)	–	17
Increase in fair value of investment property		13	–
<b>Total gains</b>		<b>408</b>	<b>339</b>
<b>Total own-source income</b>		<b>8,282</b>	<b>7,319</b>
<b>Net cost of services</b>		<b>35,783</b>	<b>32,974</b>
Revenue from government	4(g)	35,349	35,041
<b>(Deficit) / surplus on continuing operations</b>		<b>(434)</b>	<b>2,067</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>			
<b>Items not subject to subsequent reclassification to net cost of services</b>			
Changes in asset revaluation surplus	7(a)	937	–
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>		<b>937</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	4(h)	<b>503</b>	<b>2,067</b>

THE ABOVE STATEMENT SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES.



## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2019**

	NOTES	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Financial assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	6(a)	15,104	15,315
Trade and other receivables	6(b)	1,708	2,050
<b>Total financial assets</b>		<b>16,812</b>	<b>17,365</b>
<b>Non-financial assets</b>			
Land and buildings	7(a)	25,543	24,992
Investment property		505	492
Infrastructure, plant and equipment	7(a)	6,706	6,600
Inventories	7(b)	20	28
<b>Total non-financial assets</b>		<b>32,774</b>	<b>32,112</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>49,586</b>	<b>49,477</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Payables</b>			
Suppliers	8(a)	1,457	3,338
Other payables	8(b)	1,794	708
<b>Total payables</b>		<b>3,251</b>	<b>4,046</b>
<b>Provisions</b>			
Employee provisions	9(a)	4,167	3,766
<b>Total provisions</b>		<b>4,167</b>	<b>3,766</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>7,418</b>	<b>7,812</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>42,168</b>	<b>41,665</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Asset revaluation reserve		8,012	7,075
Retained surplus		34,156	34,590
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>42,168</b>	<b>41,665</b>

THE ABOVE STATEMENT SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES.

## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	Retained surplus		Asset revaluation reserve		TOTAL EQUITY	
	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
<b>Opening balance</b>	<b>34,590</b>	<b>32,523</b>	<b>7,075</b>	7,075	<b>41,665</b>	39,598
<b>Comprehensive income</b>						
Surplus/(deficit) for the period	<b>(434)</b>	2,067	<b>937</b>	–	<b>503</b>	2,067
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>(434)</b>	2,067	<b>937</b>	–	<b>503</b>	2,067
of which:						
Attributable to the Australian Government	<b>(434)</b>	2,067	<b>937</b>	–	<b>503</b>	2,067
<b>Transactions with owners</b>	–	–	–	–	–	–
Transfer between equity components	–	–	–	–	–	–
<b>Closing balance as at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>34,156</b>	34,590	<b>8,012</b>	7,075	<b>42,168</b>	41,665

## ACCOUNTING POLICY

*Equity injections*

Amounts appropriated which are designed as 'equity injections' for a year (less any formal reductions) and Departmental Capital Budgets. (DCBs) are recognised directly in contributed equity in that year.

*Other distributions to owners*

The Financial Reporting Requirement (FRR) requires that distributions to owners be debited to contributed equity unless it is in the nature of a dividend. In 2018–19 the Central Land Council (CLC) did not make any contributions to owners.

THE ABOVE STATEMENT SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES.



## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

	NOTES	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
<b>Operating activities</b>			
<b>Cash received</b>			
Sales of goods and rendering of services		7,950	5,657
Receipts from Government		38,243	37,858
Rental income		60	45
Interest		500	415
<b>Total cash received</b>		<b>46,753</b>	43,975
<b>Cash used</b>			
Employees		25,560	23,775
Suppliers		19,298	16,970
Net GST paid to Australian Tax Office		32	488
<b>Total cash used</b>		<b>44,890</b>	41,233
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>		<b>1,863</b>	2,742
<b>Investing activities</b>			
<b>Cash received</b>			
Proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment		883	723
Rental income on investment property		26	–
<b>Total cash received</b>		<b>909</b>	723
<b>Cash used</b>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	7(a)	2,983	3,999
<b>Total cash used</b>		<b>2,983</b>	3,999
<b>Net cash (used by) investing activities</b>		<b>(2,074)</b>	(3,276)
<b>Net decrease in cash held</b>		<b>(211)</b>	(534)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		15,315	15,849
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>		<b>15,104</b>	15,315

THE ABOVE STATEMENT SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES.

## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

## OVERVIEW

### NOTE 1: THE BASIS OF PREPARATION

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:

- a) Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015 (FRR); and
- b) Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations - Reduced Disclosure Requirements 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.

### NOTE 2: 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. All 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 CLC and are not expected to have future financial impact on the CLC.

#### *Future Australian Accounting Standard Requirements*

The following new standards/revised standards/Interpretations/amending standards were issued by the Australian Accounting Standard 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
<i>AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers</i> <i>AASB 2016-17 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Deferral of AASB 15 for Not-for-Profit Entities</i>	The standard contains a single model that applies to contracts with customers and two approaches to recognising revenue: at a point in time or over time. The model features a contract-based five step analysis of transactions to determine whether, how much and when revenue is recognised.	The application of AASB 15 by not-for-profit entities has been deferred to financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2019 therefore expected application for CLC is 30 June 2020.
<i>AASB 16 Leases</i>	AASB 16 removes the classification of leases as either operating leases or finance leases – for the lessee – effectively treating all leases as finance leases. There are also changes in accounting over the life of the lease. In particular, lessees will now require a front-loaded pattern of expense for most leases, even when they pay constant annual rentals. Lessor accounting remains similar to current practice – i.e. lessors continue to classify leases as finance and operating leases.	Applicable for financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2019 therefore expected application for CLC is 30 June 2020.
<i>AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities</i>	AASB 1058 replaces the income recognition requirements relating to private sector not-for-profit (NFP) entities, as well as the majority of income recognition requirements relating to public sector NFP entities previously reflected in AASB 1004 Contributions.	Applicable for financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2019 therefore expected application for CLC is 30 June 2020.

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 higher of market value or the current 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.



## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

### *Taxation*

The Central Land Council is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) and Goods and Services Tax (GST).

### *Events after the reporting period*

There were no significant events after balance sheet date.

## NOTE 3: EXPENSES

### NOTE 3(A): EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Wages and salaries	22,036	20,549
Superannuation (defined contribution plans)	2,691	2,395
Leave and other entitlements	614	(18)
Other employee benefits	620	617
<b>Total employee benefits</b>	<b>25,961</b>	<b>23,543</b>

All payments are within the terms of the 2017–2020 CLC Enterprise Agreement (EA). The CLC makes an additional superannuation contribution of 3% over and above the Superannuation Guarantee Levy of 9.5%.

The CLC pays compulsory Professional Indemnity Insurance to Law Society NT for all its practicing Lawyers and pays Comcover a premium for Accountable Authority and Officers insurance.

Accounting policies for employee related expenses is contained in Note 9.

### NOTE 3(B): SUPPLIERS

#### **Goods and services supplied or rendered**

Accounting and audit	204	216
Consultants	1,551	952
Contractors	169	539
Travel, motor vehicle and meeting expenses	3,830	3,582
Accommodation and utilities	2,233	2,090
Other operating expenses	3,449	3,278
Community project expenses	3,372	2,987
<b>Total goods and services supplied or rendered</b>	<b>14,808</b>	<b>13,644</b>
Services rendered	14,808	13,644
<b>Total goods and services supplied or rendered</b>	<b>14,808</b>	<b>13,644</b>

#### **Other supplier expenses**

Operating lease rentals (minimum lease payments) – external parties	169	196
Workers' compensation and professional indemnity Insurance premium	351	407
<b>Total other supplier expenses</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>603</b>
<b>Total supplier expenses</b>	<b>15,328</b>	<b>14,247</b>

### *Leasing commitments*

CLC leases various Indigenous lands in the remote locations of Northern Territory to build offices or staff accommodation. These leases are on long term lease arrangements and renewed as and when existing term expires.

## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

*Commitments for minimum lease payments in relation to non-cancellable operating leases are payable as follows:*

	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Within 1 year	196	191
Between 1 to 5 years	623	668
More than 5 years	453	501
<b>Total operating lease commitments</b>	<b>1,272</b>	<b>1,360</b>

Operating lease payments are expensed on a straight-line basis which is representative of the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

**NOTE 4: INCOME****OWN SOURCE REVENUE****NOTE 4(A): RENDERING OF SERVICES**

Rendering of services	3,923	3,529
<b>Total sale of goods and rendering of services</b>	<b>3,923</b>	<b>3,529</b>

The revenues described in this Note are revenues relating to the core operating activities of the CLC:

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 cost incurred can be reliably measured; and
- the probable economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to CLC.

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.

Receivables for 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.

**NOTE 4(B): INTEREST**

Interest from cash and short-term deposits	486	419
<b>Total interest</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>419</b>

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method.

**NOTE 4(C): RENTAL INCOME**

Operating lease – other	86	45
<b>Total rental income</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>45</b>

**Rental income commitments**

CLC leased out an office building at 6 Kennett Court Alice Springs in 2017 for 3 years with an option to renew lease for another 2 years.

*Commitments for rental income receivables are as follows:*

Within 1 year	31	31
Between 1 to 5 years	67	98
More than 5 years	–	–
<b>Total rental income commitments</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>129</b>

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

### NOTE 4(D): OTHER REVENUE/GAINS

	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Community project income	3,378	2,987
<b>Total other gains</b>	<b>3,378</b>	<b>2,987</b>

#### *Accounting policy*

CLC facilitates community projects on behalf of the various indigenous organisations or communities in Central Australia. These projects are on a cost basis with no intention to earn any profit on these activities. At the year end, total expenditure is matched with the income leaving no impact on the year end surplus or deficit.

### NOTE 4(E): GAINS FROM SALE OF ASSETS

#### **Motor vehicles, plant and equipment**

Proceeds from sale	883	723
Carrying value of assets sold	(488)	(401)
<b>Net gain from sale of assets</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>322</b>

#### *Sale of assets*

Gains from disposal of assets are recognised when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

### NOTE 4 (F): REVERSAL OF PREVIOUS ASSET WRITE-DOWNS AND IMPAIRMENTS

Reversal of impairment losses – loans and receivables	–	17
<b>Total reversals of previous asset write-downs and impairments</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>17</b>

### NOTE 4(G): REVENUE FROM GOVERNMENT

From Government – ABA s.64(1)	19,380	18,068
From Government – Special Purpose Contracts	13,298	14,200
From Government – Special Purpose Contracts (revenue received in advance but not yet spent)	2,671	2,773
<b>Total revenue from Government</b>	<b>35,349</b>	<b>35,041</b>

Amounts appropriated for departmental appropriations for the year (adjusted for any formal additions and reductions) are recognised as Revenue from Government when the entity gains control of the appropriation, 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 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 CLC becomes entitled to the funding or as contribution on receipt as per AASB 1004 Contributions.

### NOTE 4 (H): RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>2,067</b>
Unspent grants received FY 2018–19 to be spent in FY 2019–20	(2,671)	(2,773)
Operational income received in previous years to be spent in FY 2018–19	–	(28)
<b>Net comprehensive income attributable to the Australian Government</b>	<b>(2,168)</b>	<b>(734)</b>



## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

## 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 2018–19 financial year. For the 2018–19 financial year, \$2,671K (2017–18: \$2,773K) was received and recognised as revenue, with corresponding outflows of resources expected in the 2019–20 financial year. Refer also Note 14 to these accounts.

## NOTE 5: STATEMENT OF BUDGET VS ACTUAL ABORIGINALS BENEFIT ACCOUNT APPROPRIATIONS

	ABA approved estimates 2018–19 \$'000	ABA actual 2018–19 \$'000	Variance 2018–19 \$'000
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Salaries and related expenses	14,547	14,247	300
Operational expenses	6,713	7,301	(588)
<b>Total recurrent expenditure</b>	<b>21,260</b>	<b>21,548</b>	<b>(288)</b>
Capital	2,290	2,034	256
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>23,550</b>	<b>23,582</b>	<b>(32)</b>
<b>Income</b>			
ABA s.64(1)	19,380	19,380	(0)
Administration fees	2,457	2,363	(94)
Interest	275	439	164
Sale of assets	501	16	(485)
Recoveries	829	1,517	688
Other	108	113	5
<b>Total income</b>	<b>23,550</b>	<b>23,828</b>	<b>278</b>
<b>ABA surplus at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>246</b>

The net surplus of \$246K is accounted for as follows:

	2018–19 \$'000	Notes
<b>ABA surplus at 30 June 2019:</b>	<b>246</b>	
(Less) Committed towards building upgrades	(258)	(i)
Add: Pending motor vehicles disposals	230	(ii)
(Less) Committed operational expenses	(300)	(iii)
<b>ABA deficit after commitments as at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>(82)</b>	

### Notes:

- (i) Committed toward installation of solar panels at 27 Stuart Highway Alice Springs.
- (ii) Pending replacement of motor vehicles as per Transport Strategy; and
- (iii) Pending operational expenses provided for NT Remote Housing Project.

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

## NOTE 6: FINANCIAL ASSETS

### NOTE 6(A): CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Cash on hand or on deposit	15,104	15,315
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>15,104</b>	<b>15,315</b>

#### Accounting policy

Cash is recognised at its nominal amount. Cash and cash equivalents includes petty cash and any demand deposits in bank accounts with an original maturity of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

### NOTE 6(B): TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

#### Goods and services receivables

Goods and services	1,616	1,976
<b>Total receivables for goods and services</b>	<b>1,616</b>	<b>1,976</b>

#### Other receivables

GST receivable from Australian Taxation Office	121	89
Interest receivable	43	57
<b>Total other receivables</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>146</b>
<b>Total trade and other receivables (gross)</b>	<b>1,780</b>	<b>2,122</b>
<b>Less: impairment allowance account</b>		
Goods and services	(72)	(72)
	<b>(72)</b>	<b>(72)</b>
<b>Total trade and other receivables (net)</b>	<b>1,708</b>	<b>2,050</b>

All receivables are current assets. Debtors are recognised at their nominal amounts due less provisions for impairment, if any. The CLC adopted the AASB 9 expected credit loss model in the current year. The simplified approach for trade, contract and lease receivables is used to calculate the loss allowance. This approach always measures the loss allowance as the amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses. All debtors are unsecured and as such, the carrying value of the net receivables represents the amount exposed to credit risk.

Credit term for services were within 30 days (2018: 30 days)

#### Reconciliation of the Impairment Allowance Account Movements in relation to 2019 – goods and services

<b>Opening balance</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>89</b>
Amounts recovered and reversed	–	(17)
Increase/(decrease) recognised in net surplus	–	(17)
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>72</b>

#### Financial assets

Financial assets are assessed for impairment at the end of each reporting period.

Trade receivables, loans and other receivables that are held for the purpose of collecting the contractual cashflows where the cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest, that are not provided at below market interest rates, are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method adjusted for any loss allowance.

## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

## NOTE 7(A): ANALYSIS OF PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

<b>Table (A): Reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of property, plant and equipment 2018–19</b>	<b>Land &amp; buildings \$'000</b>	<b>Motor vehicles \$'000</b>	<b>Plant &amp; equipment \$'000</b>	<b>Library \$'000</b>	<b>Computer equipment &amp; software \$'000</b>	<b>TOTAL \$'000</b>
<b>As at 1 July 2018</b>						
Gross book value	26,515	8,793	2,634	515	2,099	40,555
Accumulated depreciation and amortisation	(1,523)	(4,530)	(1,540)	(50)	(1,320)	(8,963)
<b>Net book value 1 July 2018</b>	<b>24,992</b>	<b>4,263</b>	<b>1,093</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>31,592</b>
<b>Additions</b>						
By purchase	318	2,053	385	–	146	2,902
Work-in-progress	82	–	–	–	–	82
Depreciation and amortisation	(786)	(1,340)	(266)	–	(384)	(2,776)
Revaluation	937	–	–	–	–	937
Disposals – gross value	–	(1,945)	–	–	–	(1,945)
Disposals – accumulated depreciation	–	1,457	–	–	–	1,457
<b>Net book value 30 June 2019</b>	<b>25,543</b>	<b>4,488</b>	<b>1,212</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>32,249</b>
<b>Net book value as of 30 June 2019 represented by</b>						
Gross book value*	25,543	8,901	3,019	515	2,245	40,222
Accumulated depreciation and amortisation	–	(4,413)	(1,806)	(50)	(1,704)	(7,973)
<b>Net book value 30 June 2019</b>	<b>25,543</b>	<b>4,488</b>	<b>1,212</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>32,249</b>

\* Gross book value as at 30 June 2019 includes work in progress of \$312k.

## Revaluations of non-financial assets

All land and buildings were subject to revaluation and were independently revalued by James Lang Lasalle, Adelaide at 30 June 2019. A revaluation increment of \$937K for land and buildings was credited to the asset revaluation reserve and included in the equity section of the balance sheet in 2019.

No Land or Buildings are currently held for sale or are expected to be sold or disposed in the next 12 months.

CLC 's Library has collection of books considered valuable. This collection was independently revalued at 30 June 2016 by Matthew Fishburn, a rare book dealer. The value of the books is considered immaterial for ongoing external valuations. As at 30 June 2019 management carried out its own revaluation of this asset.

No property, plant or equipment is currently held for sale or expected to be sold or disposed in the next 12 months.

At 30 June 2018, the accountable authority believe that all non-financial assets are carried at the present fair market value and no indicators of impairment were found for non-financial assets.

At 30 June 2019, the Accountable Authorities believe that all non-financial assets as reported are carried at the present fair market value and no indicators of impairment were found for non-financial assets.

## Accounting policy

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. Non-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.

## 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).



## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

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.

### **Revaluation**

Following initial recognition at cost, land, buildings and rare books 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 reversed 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 reversed in a previous revaluation increment for that class.

Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the asset is restated to the revalued amount.

### **Frequency**

Freehold land and buildings are subject to a formal independent valuation at a minimum of every three years. The CLC 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 CLC using, in all cases, the straight-line method of depreciation.

Capital work-in-progress is not depreciated until the asset is 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:

	2019	2018
Buildings on freehold land	40 years	40 years
Leasehold improvements	40 years	40 years
Motor vehicles	4–10 years	4–10 years
Computer equipment	3–4 years	3–4 years
Plant and equipment	7–10 years	7–10 years

The revalued amounts of buildings on free-hold land are depreciated for the remaining life of the asset.

The aggregate amount of depreciation allocated for each class of asset during the reporting period is disclosed in Note 7. 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.

### **Impairment**

All assets were assessed for impairment at 30 June 2019. Where indications of impairment exist, the asset's 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 was 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.

## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

## Intangibles

The CLC's intangibles comprises Electronic Documents and Records Management System (EDRMS) and Microsoft NAV, finance system and installation of the software. These assets are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Software is amortised on a straight-line basis over its anticipated useful life. The useful lives of the CLC's software are 3–4 years (2018: 3–4 years).

## NOTE 7(B): INVESTMENT PROPERTY

	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
<b>As at 1 July 2018</b>	<b>492</b>	–
Transfer from land and buildings	–	492
Net gain / (loss) from fair value adjustments	13	–
<b>Total as at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>492</b>

Land and building on 6 Kennett Court, Alice Springs NT, was leased for three years from September 2017. The assets as at September 2017 were transferred to investment property at fair value less subsequent accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Investment property was revalued at 30 June 2019 by James Lang Lasalle, Adelaide.

## Accounting Policy

Investment properties are measured initially at cost, including transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, investment properties are stated at fair value. Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair values of investment properties are recognised in profit or loss in the year in which they arise.

Where an investment property is acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, its cost is deemed to be its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Investment properties are derecognised either when they have been disposed of or when the investment property is permanently withdrawn from use and no further economic benefit is expected from its disposal. Any gain or losses on disposals of an investment property are recognised in profit or loss in the year of disposal.

## NOTE 7(C): INVENTORY

### INVENTORIES NOT HELD FOR SALE (COST):

Tyres	20	28
<b>Total inventories</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>28</b>

All inventories are expected to be utilised within 12 months.

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.

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

### NOTE 8: PAYABLES

#### NOTE 8(A): SUPPLIERS

	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Trade payables	788	54
Sundry payables and accruals	669	3,284
<b>Total supplier payables</b>	<b>1,457</b>	<b>3,338</b>

#### *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'.

#### *Financial Liabilities at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss*

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are initially measured at fair value. Subsequent fair value adjustments are recognised in profit or loss. The net gain or loss recognised in profit or loss incorporates any interest paid on the financial liability.

#### *Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost*

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 interest basis.

#### NOTE 8(B): OTHER PAYABLES

Salaries and wages	776	708
Unspent grants	1,018	–
<b>Total other payables</b>	<b>1,794</b>	<b>708</b>

All payables are expected to be settled within 12 months.

Supplier and other payables are recognised at amortised cost. Liabilities are recognised to the extent that the goods or services been received (and irrespective of having been invoiced).

### NOTE 9: PROVISIONS

#### NOTE 9(A): EMPLOYEE PROVISIONS

Leave	4,167	3,766
<b>Total employee provisions</b>	<b>4,167</b>	<b>3,766</b>

Long service leave liabilities were calculated using the shorthand method as at 30 July 2019 as detailed in FRR.

#### *Employee benefits*

Liabilities for 'short-term employee benefits' (as defined in AASB 119 *Employee Benefits*) and termination benefits expected within 12 months of the end of reporting period are measured at their nominal amounts.

Other long-term employee benefits are measured as net total of the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period minus the fair value at the end of the reporting period of plan assets (if any) out of which the obligations are to be settled directly.

The nominal amount is calculated with regard to the rates expected to be paid on settlement of the liability.



## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

## 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 CLC 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 increases through promotion and inflation.

## Superannuation

The majority of employees of the CLC are members of REST and Acumen superannuation funds. The CLC makes employer contributions to the REST and Acumen superannuation funds at the rate of 12.5% paid on a fortnightly basis. The CLC complies with the requirements of the superannuation choice legislation. All superannuation contributions are to defined contribution plan.

The liability for superannuation recognised as at 30 June represents outstanding contributions for the final fortnight of the year.

## NOTE 10: 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 CLC 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 CLC 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 CLC does not control or have influence over these entities. The fair value of the three shares is \$nil.

The CLC holds one fully paid share valued at \$1.00 in Imparja Television Pty Ltd. The constitution of Imparja Television Pty Ltd paragraph 48 (a) states 'surplus shall not be distributed to the members'. The CLC does not control or have influence over the entity. The fair value of the share is \$nil.

## NOTE 11: KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL REMUNERATION

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) of that entity. The entity has determined the key management personnel to be the Accountable Authorities and general manager. Key management personnel remuneration is reported in the table below.

	2019 \$'000	Restated* 2018 \$'000
Short-term employee benefits	926	722
Post-employment benefits	114	99
Other long-term benefits	23	21
<b>Total key management personnel remuneration expenses</b>	<b>1,063</b>	<b>842</b>

\*Other long-term benefits for 2019 includes movement in long service leave during the year ended on 30 June 2019. Prior year numbers have been updated accordingly as some short term benefits had been included in long term benefits and long term benefits included all accumulated long service leave.

The total number of key management personnel that are included in the table are five. (2018: 3).

Two key management personnel, the previous Chair and the Director, each has a close family member employed by CLC. Both close family members are remunerated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the CLC Enterprise Agreement. Both close family members were employed by the CLC prior to the commencement of employment of the key management persons.

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

### NOTE 12: REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS

Remuneration to auditors for the reporting period are as follows:

	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) – for statutory audit	61	57
KPMG – for acquittal of grants	27	43
PriceWaterhouseCoopers for auditing the accounts of Associations assisted by the CLC	109	108
	<b>197</b>	<b>208</b>

The audit fees above report the costs associated with auditing each financial year.

The CLC incurs the cost of an audit on each of the Aboriginal corporations, trusts and companies for which the Aboriginal Associations Management Centre 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.

### NOTE 13: LAND USE TRUST ACCOUNT

The CLC 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 *Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) Act 1976* (ALRA), are held in the land use trust account and are disbursed in accordance with the terms of the trust. These monies are unavailable for other purposes of the CLC, and are not recognised in the financial statements.

<b>Opening balance</b>	<b>33,724</b>	<b>34,051</b>
Add receipts		
Subsection 64(3) statutory royalty equivalents	19,819	14,994
Section 42, 43, 44, 46, 48a and 48d negotiated monies	24,072	19,604
Section 15, 16, 19 and 20 rental and lease monies	9,779	9,806
Other monies	5,823	1,299
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>59,493</b>	<b>45,703</b>
Deduct payments		
Section 35(2) statutory royalty equivalents	19,617	15,051
Section 35(3) negotiated payments	23,229	19,437
Section 35(4) rental and lease monies	7,606	8,360
Northern Territory – <i>National Emergency Response Act 2007</i>	1,895	524
Other payments	5,777	2,659
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>58,124</b>	<b>46,031</b>
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>35,093</b>	<b>33,724</b>
Cash at bank and term deposits	35,093	33,724

### NOTE 13(A): DETAILS OF AMOUNTS PAID – S.35(2)

Details of amounts paid as required by section 37(4) ALR (NT) Act:

Ngurratjuta Pmara Ntjarra Aboriginal Corporation	906	319
Granites Mine Affected Areas Aboriginal Corporation	18,711	14,683
	<b>19,617</b>	<b>15,002</b>

## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

**Determinations under section 42**

- (i) That all money paid into it under section 42 in respect of the Exploration Agreement for ELs 23780, 23602 and 23603 shall be paid, within six months of its receipt by the Land Council to the Tennant Region Aboriginal Corporation (ICN – 4567) – made on 9 May 2017 for five years
- (ii) That all money paid into it under section 42 in respect of the Exploration Agreement for ELs 29747, 29748 and 31606 shall be paid, within six months of its receipt by the Land Council to the Haasts Bluff Aboriginal Corporation (ICN – 4307) – made on 29 August 2017 for five years
- (iii) That all money paid into it under section 42 in respect of the Exploration Agreement for ELs 25146, 30729, 30730, 30731, 30732, 30733, 30739, 30740 and 31234 shall be paid, within six months of its receipt by the Land Council to the Haasts Bluff Aboriginal Corporation (ICN – 4307) – made on 29 August 2017 for five years
- (iv) That all money paid into it under section 42 in respect of the Exploration Agreement for EL 26626 shall be paid, within six months of its receipt by the Land Council to the Warlpiri Aboriginal Corporation (ICN – 863) – made on 29 August 2017 for five years
- (v) That all money paid into it under section 42 in respect of the Exploration Agreement for EL 23523 shall be paid, within six months of its receipt by the Land Council to the Warlpiri Aboriginal Corporation (ICN – 863) – made on 5 June 2018 for five years

**NOTE 13(B): 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 Park**

<b>Amounts paid</b>	<b>2019 \$'000</b>
Yangkuntjatjarra Kutu Aboriginal Corporation	1,079
Casa Leisure	327
Centre Funeral Services	39
Coles Supermarkets Australia Pty Ltd	2
Diplomat Motel	1
Milner Meat Supply	1
NPY Women's Council Aboriginal Corporation	108
Ngurratjuta Management	2
NPY Women's Council Aboriginal Corporation	234
Pitjantjatjara Council Inc	21
Tangentyere Council Inc	3
Tangentyere Constructions	6
Waltja Tjutanku Palyapayi	284
Western Desert Nganampa	139
Susan Dugdale & Associates	27
CD Project Facilitation Costs	4
	<b>2,277</b>

**NOTE 14: SPECIAL PURPOSE CONTRACTS****Statement of completion for Special Purpose Contracts**

	<b>2019 \$'000</b>	<b>2018 \$'000</b>
<b>Revenue received in advance but not yet spent</b>		
Contract contributions unexpended at 30 June (refer Note 4(g) for revenue disclosure)	4,360	5,175
<b>Closing balance unexpended grants</b>	<b>4,360</b>	<b>5,175</b>



## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

The total balance of unexpended grants as at 30 June 2019 is \$4,360K, of which \$2,671K relates to revenue recognised in the 2018–19 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.

### NOTE 15: FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

#### NOTE 15(A): CATEGORIES OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

##### *Financial assets under AASB 139*

	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
<b>Loans and receivables</b>		
Cash on hand or on deposit		15,315
Trade and other receivables – net of impairment losses		1,961
<b>Available-for-sale financial assets</b>		<b>17,276</b>

##### *Financial assets under AASB 9*

Financial assets at amortised cost:

Cash on hand or on deposit	15,104	
Trade and other receivables – net of impairment losses	1,587	
<b>Total financial assets at amortised cost</b>	<b>16,691</b>	

##### **Financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost:

Trade creditors	788	54
Sundry creditors and accruals	669	3,284
<b>Total financial liabilities measured at amortised cost</b>	<b>1,457</b>	<b>3,338</b>

##### *Classification of financial assets on the date of initial application of AASB 9*

Financial asset class	Note	AASB 139 original classification	AASB 9 new classification	AASB 139 carrying amount at 1 July 2018	AASB 9 carrying amount at 1 July 2018
Cash and cash equivalents	6(a)	Loans and receivables	Amortised cost	15,315	15,315
Trade receivables	6(b)	Loans and receivables	Amortised cost	1,961	1,961
<b>Total financial assets</b>				<b>17,276</b>	<b>17,276</b>

##### *Financial assets*

With the implementation of AASB 9 Financial Instruments for the first time in 2019 financial year, the CLC classifies its financial assets in the following categories:

- financial assets at fair value through profit or loss;
- financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income; and
- financial assets measured at amortised cost.

The classification depends on both CLC's business model for managing financial assets and contractual cashflow characteristics at the time of initial recognition. Financial assets are recognised when CLC becomes a party to the contract and, as a consequence, has a legal right to receive or a legal obligation to pay cash and derecognised when the contractual right to the cashflows from the financial asset expire or are transferred upon trade date. Comparatives have not been restated on initial application.

##### *Financial assets at Amortised Cost*

Financial assets included in this category need to meet two criteria:

- the financial asset is held in order to collect the contractual cashflow; and
- the cashflows are solely payments of principal and interest (SPPI) on the principal outstanding amount.

Amortised cost is determined using effective interest method.

## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

## Effective interest method

Income is recognised on an effective interest rate basis for financial assets that are recognised at amortised cost.

## Financial asset at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income (FVOCI)

Financial assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income are held with the objective of both collecting contractual cash flows and selling the financial assets and the cash flows meet the SPPI test. Any gains or losses as a result of fair value measurement or the recognition of an impairment loss allowance is recognised in other comprehensive income.

## Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss (FVTPL)

Financial assets are classified as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss where the financial assets either doesn't meet the criteria of financial assets held at amortised cost or at FVOCI (i.e. mandatorily held at FVTPL) or may be designated.

Financial assets at FVTPL are stated at fair value, with any resultant gain or loss recognised in profit or loss. The net gain or loss recognised in profit or loss incorporates any interest earned on the financial asset.

## Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets are assessed for impairment at the end of each reporting period based on Expected Credit Losses, using the general approach which measures the loss allowance based on an amount equal to lifetime expected credit losses where risk has significantly increased, or an amount equal to 12 month expected credit losses if risk has not increased.

The simplified approach for trade, contract and lease receivables is used. This approach always measures the loss allowance as the amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses. A write-off constitutes a derecognition event where the write-off directly reduces the carrying amount of the financial asset.

## Transition

Changes in accounting policies resulting from the adoption of AASB 9 have been applied from 1 July 2018. The CLC has used an exemption not to restate comparative information for prior periods with respect to classification and measurement (including impairment) requirements. Differences in carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities resulting from the adoption of AASB 9 are recognised in accumulated funds as at 1 July 2018. Accordingly, the information presented for 2018 does not generally reflect the requirements of AASB 9, but rather those of AASB 139.

## 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'.

## Financial Liabilities at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are initially measured at fair value. Subsequent fair value adjustments are recognised in profit or loss. The net gain or loss recognised in profit or loss incorporates any interest paid on the financial liability.

## Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost

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 interest basis. 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).

## NOTE 15(B): NET GAINS OR LOSSES ON FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
<b>Loans and receivables</b>		
Interest revenue (see note 4(b))	486	419
<b>Net gain/(loss) loans and receivables</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>419</b>
<b>Net gain/(loss) on financial assets</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>419</b>

There was no gain or loss to be recognised from financial liabilities of the CLC.

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

### NOTE 16: CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

At 30 June 2019, the CLC had no significant legal claims in progress. Where quantifiable costs exist, accruals have been raised.  
At 30 June 2019, the CLC had no significant contingent assets and liabilities. (2018: \$nil)

### NOTE 17: 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 CLC determines fair value for its non-financial assets using the levels 2 and 3 inputs in the fair value hierarchy.

The following table discloses the fair value at 30 June 2019 and the valuation techniques used to derived its fair value:

Fair value measurement – valuation technique				
	Category	Valuation technique	2019 fair value \$'000	2018 fair value \$'000
<b>Non-financial assets – recurring fair value measurement</b>				
<b>Land and buildings</b>				
Freehold land	Level 2	Market based valuation of direct comparatives	4,556	4,727
Building on freehold land	Level 2	Capitalisation on an assumed income based on comparative properties	12,126	13,543
Work in progress	Level 3	Current replacement cost	312	217
Building on leasehold land	Level 3	Current replacement cost	8,549	6,505
<b>Investment property</b>				
Land and buildings	Level 2	Market based valuation of direct comparatives	505	492
<b>Plant and equipment</b>				
Motor vehicles	Level 3	Market comparables	4,488	4,264
Plant and equipment	Level 3	Current replacement cost	1,212	1,093
Computer equipment	Level 3	Current replacement cost	541	779
Library	Level 3	Current replacement cost	465	464
<b>Total non-financial assets</b>			<b>32,754</b>	<b>32,084</b>

The fair value of CLC's freehold land and building, including work in progress, as at 30 June 2019 has been determined using the basis of the valuation carried out by James Lang Lasalle, Adelaide, as at 30 June 2019, 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 CLC's building on leasehold land as at 30 June 2019 has also been determined using the basis of the valuation carried out by James Lang Lasalle, Adelaide, at 30 June 2019. 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).

The revaluation of valuable books as at 30 June 2019 was performed by management using the 2016 valuation and a review of sale/valuation prices obtained from specialist booksellers' web sites.

For plant and equipment that are carried at cost, their cost approximates their fair market value. The highest and best use of the these assets approximates its current use.

The reconciliations for the recurring level 2 and 3 fair market value measurements of Land and Building and Plant and Equipment are detailed in Note 7.



## CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**
**NOTE 18: AGGREGATE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****Assets expected to be recovered in:**

	<b>2019 \$'000</b>	<b>2018 \$'000</b>
No more than 12 months	16,832	17,393
More than 12 months	32,753	32,084
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>49,586</b>	<b>49,477</b>

**Liabilities expected to be recovered in:**

No more than 12 months	6,476	6,855
More than 12 months	942	957
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>7,418</b>	<b>7,812</b>

**NOTE 19: AMOUNTS PAID TO CONSULTANTS**

	<b>2019 \$'000</b>
<b>Anthropology</b>	<b>52</b>
Anthropos Consulting Services P/L	50
Craig San Roque	2
<b>Community Development</b>	<b>26</b>
La Trobe University	26
<b>Corporate Services</b>	<b>538</b>
Alpha Winning Teams	33
BDO (Qld) Pty Ltd	77
Beit Holmes And Associates P/L	55
Brian Stacey	13
David Jagger	117
Deloitte Private	6
Frontier Software Pty Ltd	22
HAL Bisset	6
Jayne Weepers	25
JLL Infrastructure Advisory Pty Ltd	32
Lisa Fowkes	22
MLCS Corporate	67
Robyn Grey-Gardner	6
S2 Consulting Samantha Togni	16
Susan Dugdale & Associates	2
University Of Canberra	10
Votar Partners Pty Ltd	29
<b>Land Management and Ranger Program</b>	<b>444</b>
AKA Consulting	61
Andrew Schubert	14
ANDY BUBB	10
CSIRO ALA	15
David Alexander	36
Desert Wildlife Services	10

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	2019 \$'000
Dr Fiona Walsh	15
Environmental Systems Solutions Pty Ltd	68
Geoffrey Bagshaw	112
Integrated Valuation Services (NT)	2
Keeping Culture Pty Ltd	22
Social Ventures Australia Ltd	42
Tangentyere Council Inc	19
The University Of Sydney	16
Vettrak	2
<b>Mining</b>	<b>29</b>
Sarah Bell	14
SLM Corporate	15
<b>Native Title</b>	<b>462</b>
Adult Literacy Services	1
Craig Elliott	133
Integrated Land Information System	4
Maggie Kavanagh	7
Michael Cawthorn	111
Natalie Kwok	32
Petronella Vaarson-Morel	30
Sally Hodson	52
Sandra Jarvis	82
Susan Donaldson	10
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1,551</b>

## NOTE 20A: DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET: NATIVE TITLE: OPERATIONAL

	2018-19 Approved budget \$'000	2018-19 Actual \$'000
<b>INCOME</b>		
<b>Other project income</b>		
Bank interest	10	21
Vehicle trade-in	155	133
Activity generated income – cost recovery	38	–
Activity generated Income – others	–	105
2017-18 capital funds c/fwd	421	421
<b>Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet funding</b>		
Capital	234	234
Operational	3,612	3,612
Prescribed body corporates basic support	240	240
	<b>4,710</b>	<b>4,766</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Capital</b>		
Vehicles	350	273
IT equipment*	14	–
	<b>364</b>	<b>273</b>

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	2018-19 Approved budget \$'000	2018-19 Actual \$'000
<b>Services</b>		
<b>OPERATIONAL</b>		
<b>Salaries</b>		
Chief executive officer/general manager or equivalents	140	140
Corporate staff	304	281
Project staff	2,482	2,349
<b>Services</b>		
Accommodation	160	181
Motor vehicles – corporate	18	20
Motor vehicles – attributable	135	131
Repair and maintenance – equipment*	10	30
Repair and maintenance – buildings	25	27
Bank charges	1	–
Audit fees	7	7
Consultants – corporate	–	–
Consultants – attributable	436	550
Communications, telephones, fax and IT*	70	96
Insurance – workers' compensation	25	8
Insurance – assets	13	21
Insurance professional indemnity	35	27
Corporate HR / finance / property services / library	110	184
<b>Training and development</b>		
Governing committee	3	2
Staff	40	9
<b>Meetings</b>		
Governing committee	10	14
Attributable other meetings expenses	45	96
<b>Travel and allowances</b>		
Chairperson	2	2
Other governing committee members	3	6
Members (travel)		
Claimants (travel)	65	144
Staff (travel) corporate	15	28
Staff (travel) attributable	45	81
<b>Supplies and consumables</b>		
Corporate office supplies/office miscellaneous	2	4
<b>Other</b>		
Miscellaneous recoverable meetings attributable expenses	83	99
Prescribed body corporates – Sandover cluster	240	–
	<b>4,524</b>	<b>4,537</b>
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>(178)</b>	<b>(44)</b>

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.

\*Spending below capitalisation threshold for IT equipment.



# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

## NOTE 20(B): NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS – NATIVE TITLE GRANT

### Analysis of plant and equipment

<b>Table (A): Reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of plant and equipment 2018–19</b>	<b>Motor vehicles \$'000</b>	<b>Office equipment \$'000</b>	<b>TOTAL \$'000</b>
<b>As at 1 July 2018</b>			
Gross book value	933	316	1,249
Accumulated depreciation and amortisation	(490)	(293)	(783)
<b>Net book value as at 1 July 2018</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>466</b>
<b>Additions</b>			
By purchase	273	–	273
Depreciation and amortisation	(120)	(1)	(121)
Disposals – gross value	–	–	–
Disposals – accumulated depreciation	–	–	–
<b>Net book value as at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>618</b>
<b>Net book value as at 30 June 2019 represented by</b>			
Gross book value	1,206	316	1,522
Accumulated depreciation and amortisation	(610)	(294)	(904)
<b>Closing net book value 30 June 2019</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>618</b>

# GLOSSARY

AAMC	Aboriginal Associations Management Centre
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 (the land council holds the title deed in trust until a specific event or condition takes place, such as the lapse of a lease or interest)
ACNC	Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission
AGM	annual general meeting
AHNT	Aboriginal Housing Northern Territory
ALRA	<i>Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976</i> (Cth)
ALT	Aboriginal land trust
Anangu	Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara people
ANAO	Australian National Audit Office
APO NT	Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory
APSC	Australian Public Service Commissioner
APY	Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara
ARC	Australian Research Council
BIITE	Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education
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.
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
council	the CLC's 90-member governing council
Cth	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.
eDIS	electronic document information system
EDRMS	electronic document and records management system
EEO	equal employment opportunity
ELA	exploration licence application
EPA	exploration permit application
escrow	An agreement between two people or organisations in which property or documents are kept by a third person or organisation until a particular condition is met.

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; includes expenses and 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.
Fol	freedom of information
FTE	fulltime equivalent
GMAAAC	Granites Mine Affected Area Aboriginal Corporation
grants	Non-reciprocal transfers of economic resources, where the payer agency does not receive approximately equal value in return.
IAS	Indigenous Advancement Strategy
ICT	information and communication technologies
IDA	Indigenous Desert Alliance
ILC	Indigenous Land Corporation
ILUA	indigenous land use agreement
IPA	Indigenous Protected Area
IT	information technology
Kurra	Kurra Aboriginal Corporation
land council	An Aboriginal land council in the Northern Territory established by or under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act to represent Aboriginal people.
Land Rights Act	<i>Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976</i> , also ALRA
land trust	An Aboriginal land trust established under the Land Rights Act to hold land on behalf of the traditional owners.
mineral royalties	Royalties payable to the Australian Government or the NT Government in respect of the mining of minerals.
MOU	memorandum of understanding
NAIDOC Week	NAIDOC originally stood for 'National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee'. This committee was once responsible for organising national activities during NAIDOC Week and its acronym has since become the name of the week itself.
Native Title Act	<i>Native Title Act 1993</i> (Cth)
NLC	Northern Land Council
NNTC	National Native Title Council
NNTT	National Native Title Tribunal
NT	Northern Territory
NTA	native title application
NTRB	native title representative body
outcomes	Desired results, impacts or consequences for Aboriginal people as influenced by the actions of the CLC. Actual outcomes are assessments of the end results or impacts actually achieved.
PBC	prescribed body corporate
PGPA Act	<i>Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013</i> (Cth)
PM&C	Australian Government Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PWC NT	Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory
SA	South Australia



SAN	storage area network
sacred sites	Areas of spiritual significance to Aboriginal people, marking an association with, or a specific act of, a creation being. They may be parts of the natural landscape such as hills, rocks, trees, springs or offshore reefs and include burial grounds and places where ceremonies have been held.
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; they are entitled by Aboriginal tradition to forage as of right over that land.
UKTNP	Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park
WAN	wide area network
WDNWPT	Western Desert Nganampa Walytja Palyantjaku Tjutaku
WETT	Warlpiri Education and Training Trust
WHS	workplace health and safety
WYDAC	Warlpiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation
Yapa	Warlpiri people

# 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.	12–13, 15–19
The names of the persons holding the position of responsible minister or responsible ministers during the period, and the titles of those responsible ministers.	24
Any directions given to the entity by a minister under an Act or instrument during the period.	107
Any government policy orders that applied in relation to the entity during the period under section 22 of the Act.	24
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.	15–19
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.	107–108
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	13
(ii) the qualifications of the accountable authority or member; and	13
(iii) the experience of the accountable authority or member; and	13
(iv) for a member – the number of meetings of the accountable authority attended by the member during the period; and	13
(v) for a member – whether the member is an executive member or non executive member.	13, 26
An outline of the organisational structure of the entity (including any subsidiaries of the entity).	25
An outline of the location (whether or not in Australia) of major activities or facilities of the entity.	7, 112
Information in relation to the main corporate governance practices used by the entity during the period.	24–25
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.	15–19
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.	108
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

Requirement under 17BE of the PGPA Rule	Page(s)
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).	108
Executive remuneration, under subsections 17CA, CB and CC.	110

Requirement under the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976</i>		Page(s)
Fees	PART IV, section 33A and section 33B	The CLC received \$711,966 in deed administration fees relating to Part IV (Mining). No fee types prescribed under section 33A. No fees were requested under section 33B.
Determinations	section 35	133
Amounts held in trust	section 37(5)	132
Delegations	section 28 and section 28A	NIL
Committees	section 29A	21–26, 108
Consultants	section 37(8)	160–161
<b>OTHER</b>		
Environmental matters	section 516A EPBC Act	18
Work, Health and Safety Act	Item 4, Schedule 2	111
FOI Act	reporting requirements	107





# CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

**Address**

27 Stuart Highway  
Alice Springs  
NT 0870

**Postal address**

PO Box 3321  
Alice Springs  
NT 0871

[www.clc.org.au](http://www.clc.org.au)

**Phone** 08 8951 6211

**Email** [media@clc.org.au](mailto:media@clc.org.au)

FRONT COVER IMAGE: Alan 'Yellowshirt' Drover at the Rainbow Valley native title ceremony. Yellowshirt was one of the CLC's longest-serving employees when he retired in 2017.

BACK COVER IMAGE: Traditional owners from Willowra perform *purlapa* at the Coniston Massacre 90th anniversary commemoration at Yurrkuru.

