

Central Land Council

The Land is always alive..

Council NEWS



April 2016

CLC delegates at the Council meeting at Yulara Pulka.



CLC chair Francis Kelly and deputy chair Sammy Butcher.

CLC confirms leadership team

Central Land Council delegates re-elected Francis Kelly and Sammy Butcher as chair and deputy chair at Yulara Pulka near Uluru for a three year term.

Mr Kelly's closest rival for the position of chair was Sid Anderson while Mr Butcher beat runner-up for the deputy position, Michael Liddle.

"I'm very grateful to the delegates for allowing me to finish the job I began in 2014," Mr Kelly said.

I'm looking forward to working

closely with the CLC executive and the staff, especially Mr David Ross, our director."

Each of the nine regions then elected an Executive member.

They are Ngarla Kunoth-Monks, Norbert Patrick, Teddy Long, Sid Anderson, Michael Liddle, Leo Petrick, Jasper Haines, Sammy Wilson and Owen Torres.

Thanks to the Australian Electoral Commission for running the election and congratulations to all 11 members of the Executive!

Good governance workshop came first

Before the elections old and new delegates spent one day learning and teaching each other about good governance.

Long-term members spoke movingly about the early days of the CLC and listened to new delegates following in the steps of their parents.

Delegates discussed in regional groups what makes for a good leader.

Two-way education and understanding got a mention in almost every group.

Mutual trust and support between elected members and staff also got the thumbs up.

Delegates discussed the roles and responsibilities of Council and Executive members and went through the CLC code of conduct and rules for meetings. They also learnt about the different laws that the CLC operates under.

Maggie Kavanagh got a round of applause for facilitating a great workshop.



Raylene Silverton, Ngarla Kunoth-Monks and Barbara Shaw at the governance workshop.



Delegates congratulated Francis Kelly on a convincing election victory.



Francis Kelly and Maggie Kavanagh facilitating the governance workshop at the resort.

Delegates condemn top-down ABA changes



Delegates also elected new CLC members for the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) Advisory Committee.

Council elected Valerie Martin, Barbara Shaw, Phillip Wilyuka, Harry Nelson and Kelvin Morrison. It reserved two of the five positions for female delegates.

It elected five members even though Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion plans to cut two each of the CLC's and of the NLC's representatives if the Turnbull government is re-elected.

Senator Scullion wants to make room for two independent representatives chosen by him.

The delegates said his plan eroded Aboriginal control over the ABA community grants program. They

decided to write to the minister again to oppose it.

"The minister already has the final say and often overrules our advice," said Mr Kelly, a former ABA Advisory Committee member.

"It's time he handed responsibility for Aboriginal money back to the elected representatives of Aboriginal people.

"Aboriginal voters in the Territory will not stand for more top-down control over income they want to use to strengthen their communities. It should be our priorities that count, not the governments'."

The federal member for Lingiari, Warren Snowdon promised to "give the ABA control back to the committee" if Labor wins the federal election in July.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

KALKARINGI

16-18 August 2016

Next CLC meeting super special!

The next meeting, from 16-18 August at Kalkaringi, will be special in many ways:

It celebrates 40 years of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act and 50 years of the Wave Hill Walk Off that paved the way for land rights.

A joint sitting with the NLC delegates will celebrate these significant anniversaries.

CLC delegates will also be able choose their favourite entry for the Vincent Lingiari Art Award. The winner of that vote will get the Delegates' Choice Award.

Many delegates and their families are expected to stay on over the weekend for the community's Freedom Day Festival.



Traditional owners voiced their anger about NT Chief Minister Adam Giles' comments on climbing Uluru.



Minister Price offered to talk to her boss about his comments.

Self-determination for Muti at last?



Rameth Thomas: the next generation speaks up.

Mutiŋjulu, a community surrounded by national park that is still classed as an outstation, wants a sub-lease from Parks Australia so residents and traditional owners can work together to shape their own future.

Council passed Mr Wilyuka's motion to support Mutiŋjulu by making sure it

- is classified as a community not an outstation and given the funding it needs to be viable and healthy,
- gets investment straight away to tackle the overcrowding of houses,
- gets greater opportunities for local business development, local employment and contracting, for
- example in tourism, housing repairs, maintenance and management,
- gets an upgrade of essential services and more say over how these services are delivered.

The decision about a possible sub-lease will be made by traditional owners in June 2016.

Elections bring out the polties

NT Minister Bess Price, the federal member for the seat of Lingiari Warren Snowdon and the Greens candidate for the NT seat of Namatjira, Vincent Forrester, all addressed Council.

The delegates questioned Ms Price over outstation funding and the state of remote housing while Mr Snowdon had to field questions about the intervention.

Minister Price promised \$10 million for new houses at Mutiŋjulu.

Delegates supported Mr Snowdon to voice their anger over NT Chief Minister Adam Giles' comments about the disrespectful practice of climbing Uluru.

They made it clear that they oppose climbing mainly for cultural and ceremonial reasons.

Ms Price promised to inform her boss about this.

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Harry Nelson, Willy Johnson, Howard King and Norbert Patrick.