



Council members voted "Yes" to direct the CLC to write to the Water Minister and call for a review of the Singleton Station water licence decision.

COUNCIL VOTES FOR WATER LICENCE REVIEW

The delegates voted unanimously to call for a ministerial review of the Singleton Station water licence decision.

They want independent experts to review Fortune Agribusiness' management plan for its proposed fruit and vegetable farm south of Tennant Creek.

They also want all work on the controversial proposal to stop until the review is finished.

Staff will work with the traditional owners of the Singleton area to identify important cultural sites ahead of an environmental impact assessment.

VOICE TO PARLIAMENT IN THE CONSTITUTION

The council voted for the executive to tell the government yet again to adopt the Uluru Statement from the Heart in full.

This means the voice to parliament must be enshrined

INTERIM CEO

Former NSW Aboriginal Land Council CEO Lesley Turner joined the CLC in April as interim CEO.

Mr Turner, an Arrernte man from Alice Springs, was a senior executive in the Commonwealth public service for many years before joining the NSW Aboriginal Land Council, then the NSW Aboriginal Legal Service.

A subcommittee of the CLC executive is managing the recruitment process.



CLC acting chief executive Lesley Turner introduced himself to the delegates.

COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE

Doctor Pradeep Mishra and Aboriginal health workers Rhonda O'Keefe and Prisandra Devery from Anyinginyi Health updated the council on the COVID-19 vaccination.

Two different vaccines will be available and your doctor will work out which one is right for you.

If you are older or have a chronic illness you should get vaccinated

as soon as possible.

Dr Mishra said the vaccines are safe for everyone and that you have a much greater risk of getting sick or dying from COVID-19 itself.

He said the more people get vaccinated, the greater the chance of achieving "community immunity" and keeping everyone healthy and safe.



Dr Mishra from Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation said that the Covid vaccines are safe and effective.



Dr Josie Douglas put forward a resolution about the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

NEW COUNCIL MEETING RULES

The council has updated its meeting rules and code of conduct.

Among the changes is a ban on people under the influence of illicit drugs or alcohol and

on using phones to film or record council business without permission.

Behaviour standards for visitors and guests were also added.

POLICE BOSS BACKS YOUTH DIVERSION

NT Police Commissioner Jamie Chalker attended his first CLC council meeting.

He said that a small group of young people (16 out of 100) are responsible for half of all offences and that police will work better with elders and communities to stop crime.

He said police don't want to arrest young people, and that he believes youth diversion works better than detention.

He also announced that 15 new Aboriginal liaison officers would start work across the Territory - two in Tennant Creek and another two in Alice Springs. Members told him communities should decide who gets these jobs.



NT Police Commissioner Jamie Chalker told council that "youth diversion works".

HOUSING UPDATE

A public servant from the NT housing department said it had spent almost a quarter of the \$1.1 billion Remote Housing Investment package and a quarter of the \$550 million National Partnership for Remote Housing money.

He said that means 1900 bedrooms will be built in the CLC region by 2025 and almost half (47 out of 100) of the construction workers must be local Aboriginal people.



Region One delegate, Conrad Ratara from Ntaria.



Region Nine delegate, David McCormack from Yuelamu.

YOUTH JUSTICE PANEL

Speakers from Aboriginal community-led programs informed the council about community-led youth programs in the Barkly region that are alternatives to detention.

Creating a Safe and Supportive Environment (CASSE) talked about their program in Lajamanu, Tempe Downs and Ltyentye Apurte, where elders teach on country how to make boomerangs and spears. The program is much cheaper than prison and kids report feeling safe, strong and proud.

A group of senior women from Julalikari explained how their volunteer night patrol walk around Tennant Creek throughout the night and tell young people to go home.

The North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency spoke out against the new bail laws. Some members asked for more resources for diversion programs in communities while others said better education and homeland conditions would help communities take back control and keep kids out of detention.



Christine Morton, Trisha Frank, Linda Turner and Norman Frank from Julalikari Council.

CASHLESS DEBIT CARD

Territorians can now volunteer to move from the Basics Card to the Cashless Debit Card. Nobody can force them, but once they move, they can't go back to the Basics Card.

A representative of the federal Department of Social Services said the government has the power to cut the amount of cash people can take out on the new card in the future.

Many council members asked when income management will stop.

Call the North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency on 1800 636 079 for advice about the card.



Same but different: it's your choice to stay on the BasicsCard or swap for the new Cashless Debit Card.

CLC MEETINGS

Executive

11 - 12 August, Alice Springs

6 - 7 October, Alice Springs

Council

24 - 26 August, Kalkaringi

2 - 4 November, TBC