



Ministers Selena Uibo, Natasha Fyles and Chansey Paech faced the CLC's last council meeting of the year.

PARADE OF POLLIES LEAVES LOTS OF UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

Three NT Government ministers and five federal election candidates took up a whole morning of the council meeting in Tennant Creek. They talked a lot and left many of the delegates' questions unanswered.

That's why the CLC will now write to the politicians and candidates to request clear and detailed answers in writing.

Delegates asked about school services and transport for outstation students, the Singleton water license review and safe, free drinking water for Laramba while the community waits for

a filtration system. Remote Essential Services Minister Chansey Paech said it will take a year to build and install a filter at the community's main water pipe to remove uranium from the water.

Health Minister Natasha Fyles did not respond to a Laramba delegate's request for the government to pay for boxed water for Laramba residents for the next 12 months. She also did not explain how the government will keep remote communities with low vaccination rates safe when they get COVID outbreaks.

GET READY FOR THE CLC ELECTIONS EARLY NEXT YEAR

The elections for the next council will take place between February and April 2022.

Teams of CLC staff will hold election meetings in the same communities as last time, in 2019. Regional CLC officers will distribute meeting notices and there will be updates on the CLC Facebook page.

Women and men over the age of 18 can be nominated, or nominate themselves, to represent their community on the council for the next three years.

Anyone thinking of running for the council can find out more information on our website at <https://www.clc.org.au/who-we-are/#our-council>.



Senate candidate, Malarndirri McCarthy.



Senate candidate, Jacinta Price.



Lingiari candidate, Marion Scrymgour.



Lingiari candidates Michael Gravener and Damian Ryan.

**CLC ELECTIONS 2022**  
**WHO DO YOU WANT TO REPRESENT YOUR REGION?**

Thinking about running for election?  
 Call: **8951 6212** or **8951 6255**

CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

WHAT WILL REPLACE THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S FAILED CDP SCHEME?

The council heard that the Australian Government's failed CDP (work-for-the-dole) scheme will end in 2023.

It has proposed five trial sites to look at different ways to deliver remote jobs, but the CLC and many other organisations and job

providers have not been consulted about the sites.

The government also has not promised to deliver real jobs with proper conditions.

The Aboriginal Peak Organisations of the NT have developed a model that offers both.

# CONTROL OVER THE ABA COMES HOME TO THE TERRITORY

The Central Land Council members chose CLC chair Sammy Wilson and deputy chair Barbara Shaw to represent the CLC on the interim board of directors of the new NT Aboriginal Investment Corporation. They will be on the board until the next CLC meeting.

The new corporation is taking over the power to make decisions about Aboriginals Benefit Account grants and investments from the Minister for Indigenous Australians. The four NT land councils have been fighting for this change for many years.

The corporation will replace the ABA advisory committee which had five CLC representatives, but no decision-making power.

The corporation's 12-member board will have two elected representatives from each NT land council, two independent directors appointed by the board and two independent directors

appointed by the Australian Government.

This means Aboriginal people will always have the majority on the board.

The new corporation will be a Commonwealth corporate entity set up under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act and based in the NT. It will be a bit like the land councils and follow similar rules.

The land council CEOs will be able to attend corporation board meetings, but won't be able to vote.

Between now and next June the interim board will hold its first meeting, agree on a code of conduct, hire an acting CEO, form an investment committee and set up the corporation.

When the newly-elected CLC delegates meet, next April, they will elect two CLC directors who will serve a three-year term on the board of the corporation.



The land councils will have the majority of seats on the board of the NT Aboriginal Investment Corporation and appoint two independent board members.

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWS



Peter Corbett is a member of the Alekarengge community development working group.

Peter Corbett presented about projects for young people in Alekarengge that the community funded with its lease money: footy oval upgrades, internet access with a Wi Fi hotspot, and driving training for residents who want get their driver's license back.

The council also heard about the CLC's matched funds trial. The federal government gave the CLC \$3 million for this trial earlier this year. This doubles the funds for groups and communities that get small amounts of income from land use agreements and decide to invest it in community development projects.

The government recently approved another \$4.6 million. This means the government chucks in two dollars for every dollar spent by communities and groups for the next three years.

# DANGEROUSLY LOW COVID VACCINATION RATES DISCUSSED

The council meeting took place in the region with Australia's lowest COVID vaccination rate, the Barkly.

Only two days before the NT recorded its first case of community transmission, delegates discussed what will happen when the virus breaks out in their communities.

The chair, CEO and a doctor from the Alliance of Aboriginal Medical Services of the NT (AMSANT) warned that the virus will "spread like a bushfire" among unvaccinated people.

They answered questions about vaccinations and also spoke about a 12-week plan to boost the vaccinations across the Barkly with the help of additional nurses and the Flying Doctor Service.

Anyinginyi Health CEO Barbara Shaw paid tribute to CLC delegate Annie Morrison, who has been visiting town camps and

outstations to spread the word that vaccinations save lives.

"If it wasn't for her we would have never reached as many people as we have," Ms Shaw said. Everyone was worried because it is unclear what will happen when the government opens the borders.

The NT Government wants to open up when its own vaccination numbers show that eight out of every ten Territorians have been double-vaccinated, no matter what the rate is in remote communities.

Aboriginal medical services want to keep the borders closed until the Australian Government's numbers show that more than nine out of every 10 Territorians are double-vaccinated.

Once again, nurses from the local Aboriginal medical service were at the council meeting to vaccinate members and staff.



Anyinginyi praised the work of CLC delegate Annie Morrison.



Deputy chair Barbara Shaw helped the chair to run the meeting.

# LAJAMANU LONGTERM STUDY

Over the next five years, the CLC is measuring what difference its community development and land management work is making

in Lajamanu. The CLC is doing this to learn what projects are working well and what projects need to be improved.

**CLC MEETINGS**  
**Executive:** 8-9th December 2021, Alice Springs  
 The executive will set the dates for the 2022 council meetings.