

# Aboriginal Participation



Tyrelle Davis

Sharing stories on how we are embracing Aboriginal culture and working with Aboriginal people and businesses to provide increased and sustainable employment opportunities.

## Muchea North project delivers more than road improvements

Aboriginal participation was a major focus for the Muchea North project team who explored alternative approaches to exceed contract requirements.

Contractor, WBHO Infrastructure Pty Ltd entered into a single subcontract arrangement with Aboriginal business Dadaru-Garli Joint Venture, to deliver a specified significant component of the works.

As a result, Aboriginal participation targets were exceeded and Aboriginal people and businesses

have benefited from increased employment and development opportunities.

A [video](#) was created to document the approach taken and hear from the Aboriginal employees themselves.

One of the employees is Tyrelle Davis, a young Aboriginal trainee who has excelled during her time working on the project. Tyrelle began her traineeship on the Pithara project with Highway Constructions-ALBEM Joint Venture and in 2018 her work crew was awarded 'Work Crew of the Year' by NUDGE in recognition of

their commitment and supportive approach to Aboriginal training and employment.

Tyrelle was also nominated for 'Trainee of the Year' by NUDGE. Since then, Tyrelle began work on the Muchea North project with WBHO and the Dadaru-Garli Joint Venture and completed her Certificate III Civil Construction traineeship.

Tyrelle recently spoke with us about her experience – view the [interview here](#).

## Operating through COVID-19

Main Roads is committed to accelerate the delivery of work to help support jobs during COVID-19 while our top priority remains the safety of our workforce and the community.

The state government has approved measures to streamline the process for the awarding of contracts for transport construction projects up to a value of \$20 million, creating more opportunities for local businesses and protecting local jobs. Click [here](#) for the full media statement.

Main Roads has introduced special precautionary measures for projects in high-risk areas of the state to ensure the health and safety of local communities.

For more information about the delivery of projects and the special measures in place, please contact Main Roads' Principal Advisor Aboriginal Engagement, [Dennis Kickett](#).

## BCP Kaartdijin Joint Venture in southwest

Southwest based BCP Kaartdijin Joint Venture (JV) is providing work and development opportunities for local Aboriginal peoples.

Engaged by Fulton Hogan, the JV has been undertaking pre-construction works for the proposed duplication of Bussell Highway.

The pre-works will pave the way for construction to begin on the 5-kilometre section between Capel Bypass and Hutton Road, once Federal funding can be secured.



## Job offers for Outback Way

The Wongutha Way Alliance has engaged 11 local Aboriginal trainees who recently graduated their training program.

Carried out at CareyMC's Laverton yard and off-road material stockpile sites, the structured programs provided practical 'hands-on' training.



At a graduation ceremony on 14 February, the trainees were presented with their certificates in front of family, friends and community members. As a surprise on the day, each graduate was also

offered a job on the Outback Way project.

The graduates have since commenced the next stage of their on-the-job training involving pre-construction work.

The Alliance contract has allowed Main Roads to partner with CareyMC who has a wealth of knowledge about local Aboriginal people, and Central Earthmoving Company who has extensive experience in delivering road projects. The aim is to provide 20-30 local jobs for local Aboriginal people within Western Australia's most remote regions.

## Congratulations to trainees

Engaged by BMD on the Kwinana Freeway Northbound Widening project, Rakeam Jones and Adam Evans completed their Certificate II Civil Construction traineeship.

Rakeam and Adam have been exceptional assets to the team, supporting the project through undertaking general labouring, traffic control, service and plant spotting roles.



Jasmin Omar with Tim Bidstrup

### Smart Alliance continues to kick goals

Wilco Electrical has reached 50 per cent of its 20 by 2020 goal after creating another two apprenticeships.



Shannon Nelson

The recent apprenticeships went to, Shannon Nelson a Wangkatha (Wongai) man and Jasmin Omar a Yawuru woman from Broome, which brings the total number of apprenticeships to 10.

Director Frank Mitchell said the Smart Alliance contract played a major part in providing them with the business confidence to create three apprenticeships in the space of 12 weeks.

### Good signs for Aboriginal business venture

After two years of providing labourers for traffic management on the Broome-Cape Leveque Road Project, Nirrumbuk Aboriginal Corporation seized the opportunity to establish its own traffic management services business.

The Broome-based Aboriginal Corporation successfully registered for the Main Roads Traffic Management Company Registration Scheme.



Tim Ramsey and Mark Williams

Registration allows the company to undertake temporary traffic management on the road network

– also allowing them to provide temporary traffic management services to other organisations and businesses in the Kimberley region, improving business and employment opportunities for Aboriginal peoples.

### OMTID smoking ceremony

The new Office of Major Transport Infrastructure Delivery (OMTID) was officially opened on 11 May 2020 with a traditional smoking ceremony and a Welcome to Country performed by Aboriginal community leader, Barry McGuire.



OMTID Managing Director, Leo Coci at the smoking ceremony

Located at 34 Stirling Street Perth, OMTID brings together works that are greater than \$100 million, are of a complex nature or, where synergies make it appropriate to do so. In addition to the entire Main Roads Infrastructure Delivery team, OMTID includes the PTA delivery teams working on METRONET projects.

### Contract win celebrated

An Aboriginal owned civil contracting company recently celebrated its first contract with Main Roads. Although small, the contract is seen as a stepping-stone to future activities.

## When AFL didn't work, this man made a choice...



Oaks Civil Construction (Oaks) will provide traffic management services for Main Roads as it begins pavement sampling along Indian Ocean Drive, between Jurien Bay to Geraldton.

A three-man traffic control team from Oaks has been tasked with safe traffic flow along the busy stretch of highway throughout the two-week project.

Oaks is an Aboriginal-owned business providing employment for Aboriginal peoples and the broader community and recently earned full, unconditional accreditation from Main Roads, under the Traffic Management Company Registration Scheme.

The scheme aims to improve the quality and safety of traffic management on Western Australian roads, with companies registered only after meeting strict standards on occupational health and safety, quality assurance, financial management and experience.

Oaks founder and Managing Director is Jarrad Oakley Nicholls, a former AFL footballer and

employment manager at the Wirrpanda Foundation.

### Aboriginal Business Expo

The second annual Aboriginal Business Expo was held on 4 March 2020 to explore further opportunities for Aboriginal businesses to supply to government.

Facilitated by the Department of Finance, the Expo involved government agencies, including Main Roads, and trading enterprises showcasing the opportunities for Aboriginal-owned businesses to secure contracts for government goods and services.

### Upcoming events

- Aboriginal Advisory Group meeting: TBC
- National Reconciliation Week: 27 May – 3 June
- NAIDOC Week: 5 – 12 July  
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