

*Djooroot djena kooliny kendjil*  
WALK THIS PATH TOGETHER

## Aboriginal Participation Bulletin

Welcome to the first of our Aboriginal Participation Bulletins. This Bulletin has been introduced to keep our stakeholders informed of what we have been doing in respect to our continuing journey of Aboriginal employment and business participation - a journey we commenced last year.

### Our journey

Our journey started with the Aboriginal Employment Initiatives (AEI) framework and development of a Strategic Business Case in 2017.

Main Roads, in collaboration with Nudge (a not-for-profit organisation), worked on a Strategic Business Case for Aboriginal Employment Initiatives. As part of the process, two participatory workshops were held providing valuable input into the document and plans for the future.

While this work was underway, we were very conscious of the fact that Main Roads was introducing new regional maintenance contracts, which were at varying levels of development. As a consequence, Main Roads introduced new Aboriginal participation initiatives into these contracts so as not to lose the opportunities that were presented.

These contracts, which will run from between two and five years, have now incorporated differing forms of Aboriginal participation and associated key performance criteria such as:

- Key performance indicators for Aboriginal employment and business participation.
- Annual (capped) bonus for each Aboriginal person employed, subject to meeting predetermined criteria set out in the contract

- Mandatory Aboriginal Participation Plan incorporating targets for Aboriginal employment, traineeships and business participation via subcontracts.

Some of these are already meeting or exceeding expectations.



*Attendees participating in Workshop No.2 – October 2017*

Our program has now changed to implementation and monitoring, so we have changed the name from AEI to Aboriginal Participation.

### Excellent approach in Kimberley

In her capacity as acting Director General Transport, Nina Lyhne, accompanied by acting Managing Director Peter Woronzow and Executive Director Central and Northern Regions John Erceg, made a three day visit to the

Kimberley at the end of July 2018 and saw first-hand some of the projects and associated Aboriginal employment.

### Broome Cape Leveque Project

First off was a trip to the Broome Cape Leveque Project Office where, in its first year of construction, the project is going above original Aboriginal participation goals. Clearing is underway, with various other activities being undertaken by local businesses. The project will see the last 90 km section of road sealed as well as reconstruction and sealing of the existing 13.6 km narrow seal section and upgrade of the intersection of Broome Cape Leveque Road and Broome Highway. View [November project update](#).

### Bow River Bridge

Next was the new two lane, high level Bow River Bridge, which replaces the existing single lane bridge that was built in 1965. This will greatly improve reliability of the road network in the region by reducing the impact of flood waters. Aboriginal participation has also been a key focus for this project and exceeded original targets. The bridge was opened on 13 November 2018.

### Maggie Creek to Wyndham

The project team's relationship building and engagement with local Aboriginal people and businesses resulted in the surpassing of participation targets on the Great Northern Highway Maggie Creek to Wyndham project.

Construction of the realigned section known as 'Maggie's Jump-Up' was in progress, including bridgeworks (now complete), drainage works, and culvert replacements and extensions which are due for completion by the end of December.



*Broome – Cape Leveque Office staff with Ms Lyhne and Peter Woronzow, Acting MD of Main Roads*

In a thank you message to Main Roads, Ms Lyhne stated:

*"I would like to say thank you to you and your team for arranging the trip to the Kimberley. I really appreciated the opportunity to get an insight into the work that you do and to meet some of the great Main Roads people. Your operation in the Kimberley has a very challenging role which they do well. I was particularly impressed with the work you are doing in Indigenous employment. It was a real privilege to see this first hand."*

### Aboriginal contract for Roy Hill Bridge works

Single-span bridge works to carry Great Northern Highway over the Roy Hill rail line in the Pilbara has local contractor Gebro Contracting Pty Ltd undertaking site supervisory works. Construction of the 25 metre bridge will be self-managed by Main Roads and undertaken by Georgiou Pty Limited.



*The Premier with members of the remote Bidyadanga community and visitors, 26 July 2018*



A focus on local content and Aboriginal participation is expected to create 65 jobs over the life of the project.

### **Bidyadanga to get road and airstrip**

Work to seal the final 5.4 km section of the 12.9 km Bidyadanga Access Road will connect Great Northern Highway south of Broome to the Bidyadanga remote community.

The work will involve a partnership between Main Roads and the Kullari Regional Communities Inc. to create training opportunities for local residents.

The airstrip, which provides access to medical services, will also be sealed by Main Roads. It enables year round access to vital health clinic visits, access by primary care workers and medical evacuations, which were often previously unavailable when conditions prevented the landing of aircraft.

### **Artwork Blessed in Smoking Ceremony**

A Smoking Ceremony to bless the striking artwork by Noongar/Yammatji artist Tjyllyungoo (Lance Chadd) in the underpass at Collier Road marked the completion of the NorthLink Southern Section project.



Tjyllyungoo's design is an artistic representation of artefacts found at the site and their traditional use. It also depicts travel and marriage in the Bubbulmun Lore (Law) which only permits legal marriage between the two moieties of Munartjmat (White Corellas) and Wardongmat (Crows).

The Smoking Ceremony was led by Aboriginal Elder Representatives Barry MacGuire and Troy Bennell who paid respect to traditional custodians and ancestors. Further detail can be found on Main Roads website under [NorthLink WA, Construction Update, September 2018 Southern Section](#).

### **New Network Contracts**

New regional network maintenance contracts now include Aboriginal employment initiatives and associated performance indicators. These include one or more of the following targets being for the number (%) of:

- Aboriginal people engaged
- local Aboriginal people employed
- Aboriginal Traineeships
- Aboriginal businesses employed.

Although there will be variations, depending on the location and size of the works, financial incentives are also assigned. Metropolitan maintenance contracts also have similar performance indicators, but these contracts are currently in their infancy.

### **State Government targets Burrup for World Heritage Listing**

The Burrup may soon be one of only two World Heritage sites in Western Australia inscribed for its cultural values.

The State Government announced that it will commence a UNESCO World Heritage nomination for the Burrup Peninsula and surrounds, following formal support from traditional owners. The Dampier Archipelago, Burrup Peninsula and Murujuga National Park are home to the world's highest concentration of rock art engravings, or petroglyphs.

The process involves a nomination submission to the Federal Government, which will progress the nomination to UNESCO for consideration.

### **Aboriginal Advisory Group (AAG) to be established**

An AAG, a forum for representatives to inform and support the implementation of the AEI Strategic Business Case recommendations, is to be established. The purpose of the AAG is to guide Aboriginal business development across the State to assist in delivering Main Roads works and services; provide input on framework development; policy; targets and measures, to ensure positive change and raise awareness of related State and Federal initiatives.

Members of the AAG will include members of the original AEI Taskforce and representatives from the Aboriginal community and business.

### Senior Advisor - Aboriginal Engagement appointed



Main Roads welcomes Dennis Kickett to its team in the role of Senior Advisor - Aboriginal Engagement.

Dennis joined us in this new strategic role on 22 October 2018 to assist in particular the Infrastructure Delivery and

Central, Northern, Metropolitan and Great Southern regional teams to engage, explore and develop opportunities for Aboriginal employment and business participation. Dennis will act as a point of contact for the engagement of Aboriginal businesses to Main Roads locations across the State and will provide advice internally.

Dennis has worked in similar roles for the likes of Shell Australia and Rio Tinto and therefore has a wealth of knowledge to share.

Dennis's traditional links are the Ballardong language group (Father) and Whadjuk language group (Mother).

### Newsletter design

The design of our newsletter has been inspired by the artwork *Djooroot djena koorliny kendjil* (walk



this path together) by Barbara Bynder that was commissioned by Main Roads. The complete picture is shown here. This vibrant artwork is quite lovely and fitting for the work we are doing.

### Website introduction

The development of a targeted section on Main Roads website for our Aboriginal Participation is underway. This will provide access to information about the progress of our work, to the AAG, Aboriginal Participation related documents and publications so keep an eye out on [Main Roads website](#).

### Local Capability Fund – Regional Aboriginal Business Round

Are you aware of the Local Capability Fund – Regional Aboriginal Business Round? This is a State Government initiative to help competitive regionally-based, small to medium Aboriginal businesses to better prepare to participate as suppliers of products, services and works to State, Federal or Local Government agencies and the private sector.

Up to \$20,000 in funding is available to eligible Aboriginal businesses to assist them to secure procurement opportunities in the public and private sectors with funding provided for the below listed eligible activities:

- Expert consultant services
- Purchase and upgrade of equipment
- Improvements to internal business infrastructure and systems
- Training and qualifications

The level of funding provided to successful applicants is 75% of eligible costs up to a maximum of \$20,000 (excluding GST).

Applications will be accepted up until 31 December 2018 or while funds are available, so go to [Local Capability Fund - Regional Aboriginal Business Round](#) for more information and the application form, and an Eligibility Criteria/Self-Assessment Checklist.

### Contact details

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