



SNAPSHOT OF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Highlighted public housing issues, including poor planning by the Northern Territory Government (NTG) in the construction of additional living spaces in Ali Curung, lack of air conditioning in Alpururulam homes and houses beyond economic repair in Tennant Creek and Elliott, as part of Council's role to advocate for better living conditions for the people of the Barkly;
- Successfully advocated and lobbied the NTG for additional resources in child protection and improved community safety, including the return of a mobile CCTV camera to Tennant Creek, reinstating the ECO2 position in the Department of the Chief Minister and creating a Regional Director position in Territory Families.
- Successfully lobbied the NTG to increase funding for the Youth Links After-Hours Youth Program from a two-year to a five-year funding agreement;
- Met with the former prime minister in June 2018 and presented to him the idea of a Barkly Regional Deal and invited him to Tennant Creek to meet with key stakeholders and community members;
- Held meetings with Federal and Territory Government ministers and officials to progress the 'Barkly Regional Deal';
- Completed the upgrade of the sport and recreation building in Elliott, commenced the upgrade of the football oval on Staunton Street and extension of the Tennant Creek Cemetery, and implemented a graffiti removal program in Tennant Creek;
- Developed a five-year infrastructure plan to improve community facilities in towns and communities in the Barkly;
- Advocated for improved sports and recreation facilities and street beautification, with grants of \$9million to upgrade Purkiss Reserve, \$1.45 million for a streetscape project on Paterson Street, Peko Road and Davidson Walk in Tennant Creek, and \$500,000 for a new football oval in Elliott allocated by the NTG and a \$215,000 grant from the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) for a roof over the basketball court at Ali Curung;
- Continued to lobby the NTG to return a permanent police presence to Alpururulam following the government's decision to withdraw the permanently based police officers in February 2018;
- Endorsed and adopted a Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Policy and the 'Safe in our workplace: Safe in our homes: Safe in our communities' action plan at the 22 March Ordinary Council meeting as part of its commitment to the No More Domestic Violence Campaign.
- Pledged to erect signs in seven regional communities declaring Council's intention to eradicate family violence from the region, with the first sign installed at the entrance to Purkiss Reserve, Tennant Creek, in May 2018.
- Continued to establish and maintain strong partnerships with external stakeholders, including the Mt Isa City Council, Jemena, and the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT);
- Hosted public forums, including one on anti-social behaviour in Tennant Creek and a Business Forum seeking feedback about our Purchasing and Procurement Policy and other issues of concern;
- Revised Council's Local Authority Establishment Policy to ensure Local Authorities in Arlparra, Ampilatwatja, Ali Curung, Alpururulam, Wutunugurra (Epenarra), Elliott and Tennant Creek now meet monthly and have a maximum of seven (7) appointed members;
- Encouraged locals to report the illegal dumping of waste to Council, with more than 40 tonnes of illegally dumped rubbish removed from around Tennant Creek within a month of the 'Dob in a Dumper' campaign launch;
- Commenced an investigation into options for improving waste management in Tennant Creek, including kerbside recycling;
- Approved plans to remove the roundabout on the intersection of Peko Road and Ambrose Street;
- Commenced the development of a Barkly Visitor Experience Masterplan to support and grow tourism in the region;
- Delivered a written submission to the Liquor Commission in regard to alcohol restrictions in Tennant Creek;
- Signed a 10-year lease with the Department of Education to utilise 25 per cent (250ha) of Council's Juno property as a training facility for students to obtain certificates in Vocational Education and Training programs;
- Councillors appointed on several external committees, including Mayor's appointment as Chair of the Regional Development Australia Northern Territory (RDANT) Committee;
- Maintained and encouraged participation in both Council-run and locally run events, such as Australia Day, International Women's Day, Territory Day, Careers Expo, NAIDOC Week, Youth Week, the Tennant Creek Show and the No More Violence March;
- Funded and received a three-hour training session for all Councillors to focus on improving corporate governance, meeting procedures, roles and responsibilities, agendas, minutes and following through on actions;
- Changed the principle member's title from President to Mayor; and
- Approved a new 'Delegations' manual.

TEAM PLAYERS: Back row; Cr Ricky Holmes, Cr Jeff McLaughlin, Cr Ray Aylett, Cr Kris Civitarese, Hal Ruger, Cr Ronald Plummer, front row, Deputy Mayor Noel Hayes, Cr Lucy Jackson, Mayor Steve Edgington, Cr Jane Evans and Cr Sid Vashist. Top right; Cr Jennifer Mahoney and, below, Cr Jack Clubb.

What a difference a year makes

This time last year a new team of councillors was elected for the Barkly region following the Northern Territory local government elections on 26 August.

It was a proud moment for me as Mayor and the 12 other elected members when we were officially sworn in on Wednesday, 13 September 2017.

Since then Councillors Ray Aylett, Kris Civitarese, Jack Clubb, Jane Evans, Noel Hayes (Deputy Mayor for 12 months), Ricky Holmes, Lucy Jackson, Jennifer Mahoney, Jeffrey McLaughlin, Ronald Plummer, Hal Ruger and Sid Vashist have all worked incredibly hard to plan for the long-term and sustainable future of Tennant Creek and the communities of the Barkly region.

A great deal has been reviewed and achieved in the last 12 months by Council, which has made several important changes, met a number of milestones and established many new partnerships.

Council has provided a strong voice for Tennant Creek and the Barkly to ensure support for our local businesses, residents, youth, infrastructure, tourism and economy. It has focused on improving community safety by advocating for additional social and public housing. Council wants all children to be safe.

Rather than adopting a top-down approach, we have encouraged greater community ownership and governance and assisted locals to shape and build the places in which they live from the ground up.

We have recognised that building, supporting and investing in strong Aboriginal governance is necessary to ensure local people drive local solutions and are supported in the management of local decision making.

Consequently, we have been working closely alongside each Local Authority to achieve goals, deliver projects and identify priorities as part of a five-year community infrastructure plan for the region.

Community consultation is also high on Council's agenda with a concerted effort to engage more broadly with residents around a range of critical projects, including public forums and surveys on developments, such as the Purkiss Reserve Upgrade, facilities at Lake Mary Ann and public laneways in Tennant Creek.

Local Government is about building and maintaining strong partnerships, and in October last year we established the Mt Isa-Tennant Creek Cross Border Commission. Another important partnership included teaming up with the NO MORE Violence Campaign.

Our Council is committed to delivering honest, open and accountable government, and places a high value on the importance of service delivery to the council's constituency.

It is responsive to the needs, interests and aspirations of individuals and groups within its area. We are focused on delivering local jobs for local people and ensuring there are local opportunities for local businesses which will all contribute to making the Barkly the best place in the Territory to live, work, visit and invest in.

Meet Councillor Jeffrey McLaughlin

Councillor Jeffrey McLaughlin joined Council in September 2017 after the Northern Territory Local Government elections and represents the Patta Ward.

Jeff moved to Tennant Creek in November 2005. He originally came from the Sunshine Coast in Queensland to run a two-day recording workshop for Barkly Regional Arts. More than 12 years later and he's still here offering his considerable technical expertise to local musicians.

Married with two daughters,

Cr McLaughlin is a musician himself and was instrumental in setting up the Winanjikari Music Centre, which comes under the umbrella of Barkly Regional Arts.

He is passionate about the town and its residents, and is determined to get better housing for Indigenous people, promote local business, work on infrastructure, improve community arts spaces as well as rebuild the confidence, capability and sustainability of Tennant Creek.



BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

Working together with local communities
Ali Curung, Alpururulam, Arlparra, Ampilatwatja, Elliott, Tennant Creek, Wutunugurra

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