



Regional Deal poised to build a better Barkly

Welcome back everyone. I hope you all had a relaxing and festive Christmas with friends and family as well as a happy New Year.

We are only three weeks into 2019 and already plans are underway for the third round of consultations for the Barkly Regional Deal to be delivered next month.

As you may recall, a joint commitment of \$60 million was announced on 10 December last year by the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Government and the Barkly Regional Council when a statement of intent was signed.

The Statement of Intent, which was signed by Federal Minister for Regional Services, Sport, Local Government and Decentralisation, Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie, Northern Territory Chief Minister Michael Gunner and myself, recognised the vision and aspiration of the Barkly community to build a stronger, prosperous and inclusive region for current and future generations.

It also called for the three

tiers of government to commit to the following:

- Working together with the Barkly community to design and implement a Regional Deal that supports the economic growth and social development of the Barkly region;

- Placing local priorities at the centre of the Regional Deal by working and partnering with the local community, including business leaders, youth and investors; and

- Supporting local Aboriginal leadership to improve social and economic outcomes in recognition of their ongoing connection to country as traditional owners and custodians of the land.

Prior to the signing of the Statement of Intent, a series of community consultations were carried out in the Barkly by a task force of departmental officers from the Australian Government's Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the NTG's Department of the Chief Minister and Barkly Regional Council.



FUTURE IS BRIGHT: Mayor Steve Edgington signed the Statement of Intent to the Barkly Regional Deal along with Federal Minister, Senator Bridget McKenzie, and NT Chief Minister Michael Gunner while Senator Nigel Scullion (rear) looked on.

The first round of consultations, held in Tennant Creek, Ali Curung and Mungkurta outstation in October 2018, confirmed whether the priorities raised over the previous six months were the right ones to focus on.

Two months later the second round of discussions were carried out in Elliott

and other communities and outstations in the Barkly as well as Tennant Creek.

These sessions confirmed the themes and priorities so that governments and the community could start developing proposals for the deal that support key priorities, including economic and social development and cultural and

place-making.

Central and critical to the deal is supporting the Barkly Aboriginal leadership develop responses to local priorities that reflect Aboriginal cultural values.

By working in partnership with the local Aboriginal peoples, governments, the business sector and wider community we can work

together to improve educational, employment and social outcomes.

The third round of consultations, planned for February, will focus on establishing the interim governance framework and testing and refining the proposed initiatives and commitments.

Once the priorities, initiatives and actions have been agreed between the government partners and the Barkly community, implementation of the Barkly Regional Deal will commence.

We have come a long way since the Barkly Regional Council first put forward the idea of a Regional Deal to the then Prime Minister in June 2018 and invited him to Tennant Creek.

Based on the City Deals model, our Regional Deal aims to improve the productivity and liveability of the Barkly by stimulating economic, social and cultural growth.

Once finalised, the Barkly Regional Deal will be the first regional deal in Australia, and underpins Council's commitment to making the Barkly the preferred place in the Territory to live, work, visit and invest in.



PLANNING AHEAD: Tennant Creek Local Authority members Tony Civitarese and Wayne Green with Chair Karan Hayward and Deputy Chair Greg Liebelt. Other members not pictured include Ray Wallis and Josephine Bethel.

Meet the Tennant Creek Local Authority

One particular focus of Council is strengthening the role of Local Authorities (LAs) in all the communities and for us to work with LA members as a team.

Local Authorities advise Council on service delivery plans and give specific advice on Council community and social projects that can improve the life of residents. Authorities also alert Council to new and emerging issues in the community.

The importance of voices at a local level being heard cannot be stressed enough with changes to Local Authority Policy introduced to reflect this grass-roots approach. Members of LAs in each community now meet monthly, as opposed to four times a year, and seven members from each community are appointed.

This month the focus is on the Tennant Creek Local Authority. With Karan Hayward as the

Chair and Greg Liebelt as Deputy Chair, all the members - Ray Wallis, Wayne Green, Josephine Bethel, Kathy Burns and Tony Civitarese - represent a wide range of interests from the community.

Kathy resigned this month and I thank her for her commitment. She will be sorely missed but there is now an opportunity for another local to help achieve goals and projects the Tennant Creek Local Authority has identified as part of a five-year infrastructure plan.

These projects include the upgrade of the Tennant Creek Cemetery, installing bike/walking paths with lighting, as well as upgrades to Lake Mary Ann and ANZAC Hill.

For further information click on the Frequently Asked Questions section on the Council website. <https://www.barkly.nt.gov.au/communities/frequently-asked-questions-and-answers>

Gearing up for Australia Day

There's only a week left before we celebrate Australia Day on Saturday, 26 January.

Hosted by Barkly Regional Council, there are plenty of activities for everyone, starting with the Triathlon at the Tennant Creek Swimming Pool at 6am sharp.

Next up, at 8am, is the outdoor breakfast and official celebrations, including Australia Day Awards and Citizenship Ceremony, at the Battery Hill Visitor Centre. From 12.30pm onwards, there's fun and games at Lake Mary Ann, including tug of war, egg relay, leaky bucket race, a free community BBQ and a canoe race with a difference.

Please see page 11 for the full story.

WHAT'S NEW...

- A community engagement plan for Domestic Animal Management in Tennant Creek will be put before councillors at the next ordinary Council meeting on Thursday, 31 January.

- Council has received up to \$30,000 to upgrade the kitchen and toilet at YouthLinks Centre under the Territory Families (NTG) Minor New Works program.

- The deadline for the first round of the 2018- 2019 Community Grant Program has been extended to 4pm on Monday, 21 January. Groups or individuals can apply for up to \$3000 per project under the program. Guidelines and application forms can be obtained from Council reception, 41 Peko Road, or downloaded from <https://www.barkly.nt.gov.au/news-events/news/ community-grants-open>

grants-open Call Grants Manager Susan Wright on 08 8962 0067 for more details.

- The Community Waste Management Strategy (CWMS) has been completed for Elliott and the communities of Alpururulam, Ampilatwatja, Ali Curung and Wutunugurra. Greentec Consulting Brisbane prepared the scope which focused on meeting compliance with the Waste Management & Pollution Control Act and providing opportunities to create a better environment through improved waste and recycling.

- Arnhem Earthmoving Mechanical Pty Ltd. won the tender (\$937,065.71 – including GST) to construct a new AFL football oval in Elliott.

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



Working together with local communities

Ali Curung, Alpururulam, Arlparra, Ampilatwatja, Elliott, Tennant Creek, Wutunugurra

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

PO Box 821, Tennant Creek NT 0861

41 Peko Road, Tennant Creek NT 0860.

Tel: 08 8962 0000 Fax: 08 8962 3302 Web: <http://barkly.nt.gov.au>

