

Barkly Regional Council News

with Mayor
Steve Edgington



Time to invest in a brighter future for the Barkly

It's been a busy month with a number of important community events and meetings, ranging from a day celebrating children to attending the annual NT Resources week in Darwin.

Councillors are committed to supporting the local community with elected members regularly attending events, including Stress Less in the Park, organised by the Mental Health Association of Central Australia, and the Connected Beginnings Children's Day at the Tennant Creek Primary School.

Council is also committed to making Tennant Creek and the Barkly region the best place in the Northern Territory to live, work visit and invest in.

And during the past month there have been some exciting developments to bring renewed hope for jobs and investment growth in Tennant Creek and the Barkly region.

Moving forward always starts with ideas. Four

members of the Tennant Creek Regional Economic Development Committee (REDC) – Josephine Bethel, Tony Civitarese and Steve and Jared Baldwin – recently attended the two-day 10th annual NT Resources Week, including presentations on Mining the Territory, Building the Territory and the South-east Asia Offshore and Onshore Conference.

I also attended and chaired the Barkly and Tennant Creek Regional Spotlight session which included presentations from the NT Government geological survey, Emmerson Resources, Verdant Minerals and Territory Resources.

After ideas, comes action. One of the most encouraging developments is Territory Resources Ltd purchasing the Warrego Mill site from Emmerson Resources with plans to start construction of a 300,000 tonne per year carbon-in-pulp mill in the near future.

The strategic alliance will realise Emmerson's long-

held ambition of Tennant Creek being re-established as an integrated exploration, mining and minerals processing hub to create local jobs and a stronger economy with more investment in mining.

The Chief Minister Michael Gunner also visited Tennant Creek this month to promote the Territory Government's 'Boundless Possible' campaign and population strategy.

As key ambassadors to help encourage people and businesses to consider our region as a place of opportunity it was disappointing that Mr Gunner did not invite any elected councillors to his presentation.

It would have been a good opportunity to ask him about the results of a feasibility study conducted for a multi-modal transport facility. Initially proposed by the REDC, it was to be located in Tennant Creek and used as an inland container port in conjunction with the north/south rail and a new rail corridor between here



GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY: Deputy Mayor Kris Civitarese and Mayor Steve Edgington were given a tour of Warrego by Territory Resources Chairman, Mr Yuzheng Xie.

and Mount Isa.

The proposed site, adjacent to the quarry off Warrego Road, had been surveyed and was ready to go with strong interest from at least one company wanting to progress the site. But instead of being based in Tennant Creek it

has now been mooted by the NT Government under its Planning for a Vibrant Future discussion paper to move the inland container port up the road to Katherine.

How does that promote sustainable employment and economic develop-

ment and opportunity in this region?

As a matter of public interest, residents and local businesses not only need to have access to the feasibility study to read the results for themselves, they need to feel their voices are being heard.

Community film win

Fantastic to hear that Barkly Regional Arts won the Community Award at the recent Capricornia Film Awards in Darwin for the production of 'Which Way? Right Way!' TV advert series.

This locally made project is a great example of people working together in the best interests of our community.

Congratulations to the entire technical and artistic team, the community members who acted and helped out on the production, and the Tennant Creek Women's Refuge.



Meet Cr Ronald Plummer

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

A proud Warumungu man, Cr Plummer is a Traditional Owner and lives in Tennant Creek with his wife and five children.

Cr Plummer serves on the boards of the Purrutu and Patta Aboriginal Corporations and is particularly keen to improve housing and living conditions for Aboriginal people in Tennant Creek and the Barkly region.

He is also committed to working with other elected members to lobby on the issues of economic development, improving infrastructure, tackling social dysfunction, and working on community initiatives.



Cr Plummer is keen for everyone in the Barkly, individuals, businesses and organisations, to talk together, walk together and move forward.

Thumbs up for the police

Great to hear the Northern Territory Police Force has placed a police officer at the Tennant Creek High School.

The school-based policing model is designed to contribute towards keeping the community safe, preventing youth crime, encouraging youth engagement, initiating youth diversion, and making sure the first interactions kids have with police are positive ones.

A greater focus on preventing crime and building strong relationships with young people will enhance the fantastic work already being delivered by our police here in Tennant Creek and across the Barkly region.

Building a better Barkly

Patta Ward Councillor Sid Vashist and I attended the Barkly Region Accommodation Action Group (BRAAG) meeting in Tennant Creek.

During the meeting, which was facilitated by the Regional Coordinator for NT Shelter, Hannah Purdy, I provided an update on the 'Barkly Regional Deal' and spoke about the need for social and economic infrastructure to help reduce overcrowding in houses and to keep children safe.

Some of the ideas for social infrastructure included a new boarding facility (similar to Nhulunbuy) for students that would free up the hostel for visitor use; a new primary school; more social & public housing; returning government houses occupied by government workers to



the public housing stock; a new purpose built Tennant Creek Women's Refuge; and encouragement of private investment and partnerships.

WHAT'S NEW...

- Councillor Kris Civitarese was elected as Deputy Mayor at the August Ordinary Council meeting. His position, like that of former Deputy Mayor Noel Hayes, will last for 12 months.
- The Juno Centre has been shortlisted for a Chief Minister's Award – 'Making the NT a better place to live in through innovation'.
- Councillors Sid Vashist and Jeffrey McLaughlin and Mayor Steve Edgington met with Year 9 students at the Tennant Creek High School to talk about the role of Council, local events, council decision making and its role with the media.
- Area Managers from Ali Curung, Alpurrurulam, Ampilatwatja, Arlparra, Elliott and Wutunugurra came into Tennant Creek for three days of meetings to provide support and assistance with the continued improvement of delivery of services in the Barkly region.

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



Working together with local communities
Ali Curung, Alpurrurulam, 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>

