

November 2018

MG CELEBRATES YEAR OF SUCCESS AT 2017-2018 AGM

The Annual General Meetings of MG Corporation and the MG PBCs took place on 28 November 2018 and were well-attended by MG directors, Dawang Council Representatives, rangers, members and staff.

The meeting was largely a celebration of the incredibly successful year that the MG Group has had. MG Group Executive Chair, Lawford Benning, provided details of the year's achievements, including: increased economic activity, particularly involving agricultural and pastoral land and the Goomig EOI process; MGCBM's successful construction projects under the North West Aboriginal Housing Fund; training and employment outcomes via the 100+ Jobs program; the presentation of MG's Youth Wellness Initiative to Ministers in Kununurra and Perth; MG involvement in WA Police initiative Operation Orange Sky; the completion of community distributions to 16 Dawang groups; and MG involvement in other business initiatives such as Seafarms works packages, hemp trials, and spinifex production. Lawford also reiterated the critical role of the MG PBCs—the only official representatives of the MG native title holders—and reminded attendees that all activities affecting MG country must be approved by the MG PBCs in consultation with the appropriate MG people.

The MG rangers book-ended the meeting, giving a presentation of their annual achievements at the beginning of the meeting and tending the fresh killer barbeque lunch at the end, which went down very well.

Further information about the MG Group's successes throughout the year is in the annual report, available on the MG Corporation website: <u>www.mgcorp.com.au</u>.



MG DIRECTORS HONOURED BY NEW APPOINTMENTS



MG Executive Chair, Lawford Benning, has been appointed as an inaugural member of the Australian Government's Indigenous Business and Economic Advisory Council.

The Advisory Council members were appointed by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to provide expert advice on the needs of the Indigenous business sector and to provide feedback on the implementation of the Indigenous Business Sector Strategy. The IBSS is the Government's 10 year plan to increase the number, size and diversity of Australia's business sector. As with his existing work with the Indigenous Reference Group, advising the Government on the development of Northern Australia, this new appointment means that Lawford will be able to promote MG country and the successes of the MG people, as well as securing new opportunities for the region.

MG director, Louise Mengil, has been announced by Jawun as one of this year's emerging Aboriginal leaders.

Reversing the traditional secondment concept, where corporate employees are sent to work in Aboriginal Corporations, the Jawun Emerging Leaders Program offers Aboriginal people an opportunity to work within the corporate sector. The theme for the 2019 program is *'how economic development and enterprise is leading to empowerment'* which dovetails very well with the MG Group strategic plan. Louise will be travelling to Sydney and Canberra in the New Year, as well as North East Arnhem Land in June 2019 where she will be participating in a group case study.

JAWUN SECONDEE



MG Corporation continues to work in partnership with the Jawun program and recently welcomed a new secondee to the organisation. For the first time, the secondee worked directly with an MG elder, Ben Ward.

Tim Stevenson from NAB in Melbourne worked with Ben to help progress a multi-stage tourism initiative. This involved running one-on-one training with members of the community while working together to plan a business and hearing the narrative behind the land. This journey highlighted community challenges, allowed Tim to meet some of the community members who are embodying the self-determined attitude and helped him to learn about the importance of Aboriginal connection to country.





EXCITING RESPONSE TO GOOMIG EOI

MG Corporation's call for expressions of interest from potential joint venture partners to develop agricultural and pastoral enterprises on its land closed on 2 November 2018.

A large number of promising joint venture proposals were received by MG from across the country. If successfully implemented, the proposals have the potential to significantly improve the agricultural and pastoral industries in the region.

A strong MG Corporation negotiating team will now work with preferred JV partners to identify next steps. MG people will be consulted at every stage of the process.