

January 2019

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM MG!

MG Garralyel, directors, Dawang Council representatives, members and staff wish everyone a very Happy New Year and a prosperous 2019.

The year is shaping up to be a big one already, with negotiations underway for pastoral and agricultural development, numerous business ventures being investigated, social programs being successfully delivered, and MG strategic leadership being demonstrated at all levels. This will be a big year for MG Corporation and its members and for the East Kimberley generally. If MG's joint venture and business negotiations are successful, the economic landscape of the region could change dramatically. Locally, all eyes are on a potential Final Investment Decision from Seafarms for its aquaculture project at Legune, as well as the progress of KAI's agricultural developments at Goomig, Carlton Hill, Mantinea and Knox. Nationally, a general election may change Indigenous representation at a political level. Whatever the case this year, MG's historic successes, its resilient leadership and its cultural strength will place MG people well to take advantage of available opportunities and to do all things necessary to achieve a healthy, wealthy and culturally strong MG community.

MGCBM AND JIYLINUM ABORIGINAL CORPORATION SIGN CONTRACT

MGCBM is proud to be working with the Griffiths family on their new home.

Following months of architectural designs, funding applications and planning, the Jiylinum Aboriginal Corporation has signed a building contract with MGCBM for the construction of 4 accommodation buildings at its block just across the Northern Territory border. The contract represents the first time that MGCBM has worked with an MG family to build a community home. Both this contract and other contract opportunities with Seafarms at Legune mean that MGCBM and its builders have now obtained Northern Territory building licences, expanding the company's reach even further than the Kimberley and Western Australia. Preliminary works have commenced and MGCBM will break ground over the 2019 Dry Season.



MG TERTIARY SCHOLAR CONTINUES TO IMPRESS

Kirsty and other students at the opening ceremony for the 2018 World Indigenous Suicide Prevention conference



MG Tertiary Scholar, Kirsty McLean, has just completed her first year of medicine and has also been awarded the Indigenous Chair of the Western Australian Medical Student Society for 2019.

As well as completing her first year of post-graduate studies in medicine this year, Kirsty attended the 2018 Australian Indigenous Doctors Association conference in Perth which provided opportunities for her to network and meet many accomplished Aboriginal doctors from around Australia. Kirsty also attended the World Indigenous Suicide Prevention Conference in Perth this year.

In her new role as Indigenous Chair of the Western Australian Medical Student Society for 2019, Kirsty hopes to provide support and encouragement for current or aspiring Aboriginal medical students and to host events focused on health issues within the Aboriginal community.

In her academic achievements and voluntary positions, Kirsty is setting an example for all MG people and what they can achieve, with her sister enrolling in an Indigenous pre-medicine and health sciences enabling course at Curtin University this year. Congratulations to Kirsty and her family.



MG REPRESENTATIVES EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES IN QUEENSLAND



Representatives from MG travelled to Queensland in December 2018 to consider joint venture opportunities with other Aboriginal groups, learn from existing employment programs, research agricultural developments at the University of Queensland and investigate alternative ways to deliver Aboriginal ranger programs.

The MG team was generously hosted by the Myuma Group and stayed at Myuma's workers' camp in Camooweal.

On the first day, the group attended Myuma's headquarters in Mount Isa to learn about the organisation's employment programs—including its CDP, JobActive and Jails to Jobs initiatives—the latter working with a similar cohort of people as MG's 100+ Jobs program. Back at the camp, the group heard from Myuma's founder, Colin Saltmere, about the history of the organisation and its ranger program, which is one of the largest in the country. The group was also given a presentation by the head chemist leading Myuma's spinifex project, demonstrating the equipment created by Myuma to harvest spinifex and speaking of the plant's numerous properties and uses.

Later travelling to Brisbane with the Myuma Group, the MG team attended a tour of the University of Queensland's Spinifex Research Unit. Director Carlton also represented MG as runner-up in the local Camooweal pool competition!







Following a competitive tendering process, MGCBM has secured an historic construction contract for the new Kununurra Neighbourhood House building on Chestnut Drive, next to the Ewin Centre and close to the MG office.



KNH is a not-for-profit family service committed to providing emotional and practical support within the community for young children and their families. It delivers a number of programs for parents and children throughout the week.

In 2017, a grant of just over \$2 million dollars from Lotterywest towards the construction of the new KNH building was announced by the Minister for Regional Development, Alannah MacTiernan, and local Member for the Kimberley Josie Farrer, at a playgroup sundowner in Kununurra. The Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley has reserved land for KNH on Chestnut Drive.

MGCBM is proud to be working on such a landmark building in Kununurra and one which brings the whole community together. Construction will begin once approvals have been obtained, likely to be late February 2019.

MG PEOPLE GAIN EMPLOYMENT UNDER 100+ JOBS INITIATIVE



Magdaleine Winton registered with the 100+ Jobs program late in 2018 and commenced work at the Boab Lounge in Kununurra airport on 5 December 2018.

The Boab Lounge is operated by KGT Employment and provides local Aboriginal people with experience, training and employment in the hospitality industry.

As part of her employment, Maggie will complete a Certificate 3 TAFE course in hospitality. The 100+ Jobs team will work in partnership with KGT Employment to support Maggie in her new role and assist her to complete her studies. Well done Maggie!

Indigo Gerrard registered with the 100+ Jobs program last year and commenced employment with KGT Employment on 26 November 2018.

The 100+ Jobs team has had numerous discussions with Indigo about her career development and is working with KGT Employment to support Indigo to complete a Certificate 3 TAFE course in business. Congratulations Indigo!



SAVE THE DATE

MG Board quarterly meetings are being held from 25-28 February 2019 in the MG/GT conference rooms.

The **Indigenous Women's Forum** is being held in Kununurra at the **Kimberley Grande on 7-8 May 2019**. The Forum is open to all Aboriginal women, as well as those working at Aboriginal Corporations, and provides an opportunity to discuss everyday issues including cultural healing, women's health and leadership development.