



MG CORPORATION NEWS



TH Group Madame Chair Thai Huong, with TH Group representatives, and MG Corporation Executive Chair Lawford Benning exchange gifts in Vietnam.



MG Corporation director Carol Hapke and Executive Chair Lawford Benning with Her Excellency Robyn Mudie, Ambassador to Vietnam, centre.

MG CORPORATION MAKES HISTORIC VIETNAM VISIT

MG Corporation Executive Chair Lawford Benning and director Carol Hapke recently travelled to Hanoi in Vietnam to discuss business opportunities for the East Kimberley.

Lawford and Carol met TH Group Madame Chair Thai Huong and visited the organisation’s operations in Vietnam.

The TH Group is known internationally for ground-breaking achievements in the dairy industry, while also producing natural and organic products.

MG Corporation has received interest from TH Group in working together on MG land to create training and employment for local people while pursuing economic growth opportunities.

Any potential partnership could be particularly beneficial for MG Corporation’s pastoral and agricultural interests.

After visiting the TH Group’s dairy operations and meeting key representatives, Lawford and Carol took the opportunity to visit the Australian Embassy.

While there, they discussed economic development in the East Kimberley region with Ambassador to Vietnam Robyn Mudie, and met with senior embassy officials Rebecca Bryant and Kellie Raab.

Lawford and Carol’s visit is the first time that representatives of any Aboriginal group have visited the embassy, making it a significant milestone for MG people and a boost to their international standing.



Meeting attendees included Geoff Stooke, Freda Chulung, Chris Dawson, Lisa Rodgers, Carol Hapke, Michelle Andrews, Jo McCabe, from left, and others.

MG CORPORATION PLANS FOR FUTURE WITH POLICE AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION

MG Corporation met with a delegation from WA Police and government departments recently to discuss a plan to work alongside MG people to improve outcomes for those living in the East Kimberley.

The delegation included Commissioner of Police, Chris Dawson; the Director General of Communities, Michelle Andrews; the Director General of Education, Lisa Rodgers; PCYC president Geoff Stooke and WA Police Aboriginal Affairs superintendent Brian Wilkinson.

Other points of discussion included how the departments can create appropriate job opportunities for local people and how the introduction of the PCYC can enhance the good work already being done in the community.

Some issues facing Kununurra were also raised, including the problems caused by kids on the street, and what to do about children who are not participating in or attending school.

100+ JOBS PARTNERS WITH NORTH REGIONAL TAFE ON CAREER SAMPLER PROGRAM

MG Corporation's 100+ Jobs Initiative recently launched a new 10-week program for its participants in partnership with North Regional TAFE.

The 'I am ready' program was developed to help job seekers identify where their passions are by providing a taster of a variety of career opportunities.

Callan Hatchman, the manager of the 100+ Jobs Initiative, said finding a job that is the right fit can be the biggest hurdle to sustained employment.

"A large factor in a participant sustaining employment is whether they enjoy what they do in a job. If a person is passionate about what they are doing, then long-term success comes far more easily," he said. "Hopefully this program is providing participants with a glimpse of possible career paths they would like to take."

Program participants will sample basic construction, engineering, art, loader operation, small engines and a week of leadership training.



100+ Jobs participants try their hand at metalwork as part of the 'I am ready' program.

Over the course of the practical portion, participants will develop projects from each component to take home with them. Once this is complete, participants will spend a week with 100+ Jobs employment coordinators, East Kimberley Job Pathways caseworkers and Wunan's Jobs and Skills Centre to develop resumes, apply for employment opportunities and visit potential employers on site.

MGCBM'S DIRECT EMPLOYMENT SUCCESS RECOGNISED WITH AWARD

MGCBM Building and Maintenance (MGCBM) has been recognised as the region's top employment and training provider for 2019 at the East Kimberley Aboriginal Awards.

The award is recognition of MGCBM's work providing Indigenous apprentices with the greatest opportunity for training and employment success.

This is achieved through MGCBM's direct employment model, under which apprentices are employed by the organisation itself, rather than through a group training scheme.

Unlike group schemes, the model provides apprentices with long-term job security and features a unique mentoring system to manage cultural challenges.

MGCBM has worked hard throughout the year on numerous projects in the region, including construction on stage one of Kununurra Neighbourhood House and transitional houses being built under the North-West Aboriginal Housing Fund for the State Government.



Law student and Wiradjuri man Nick Costello.



MGCBM Project Manager Dean Baker, centre left, and other members of the team at the East Kimberley Aboriginal Achievement Awards night.

KUNUNURRA NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE AWARDED STAGE TWO FUNDING

Construction on stage two of Kununurra Neighbourhood House (KNH) is set to be started ahead of schedule, after the project was awarded funding through the Regional Economic Develop Grants program.

MGCBM has been working on stage one since March this year and is on track to finish in December.

MGCBM general manager Dean Baker said the project is a "tangible expression of the strong sense of

community that is behind both of our organisations."

Construction of stage two, including a storage shed and a multi-purpose room, was seen as a long-term project, but with the new funding is now expected to be complete by February next year.

The finished KNH will provide a new base for family support services, emergency relief and an expanded roster of activities and events for the local community.

WIRADJURI MAN NICK COSTELLO COMPLETES PLACEMENT WITH MG CORPORATION

MG Corporation recently welcomed Nick Costello for a four-week stint with the organisation through the winter round of the Aurora Project.

The Aurora Project places top Australian law students within Indigenous organisations to build organisational capacity.

Nick is a final year law student and Wiradjuri man from the Gold Coast in Queensland and spent his time with MG providing briefs on MG legal interests and governance matters.

"My time at MG Corporation was a great personal pleasure. I extend my thanks to the entire MG community who ensured I felt most welcome – and had lots of fun," he said.

He said his favourite moments were engaging with MG people, learning the local culture, camping on country and weekly training with the Waringarri Crows.



Construction on Stage one of Kununurra Neighbourhood House.



MG Corporation's Executive Officer Wendy Casey met with students at the Clontarf Foundation employment forum in Kununurra.

MG CORPORATION'S 100+ JOBS INITIATIVE SUPPORTS CLONTARF FOUNDATION EMPLOYMENT FORUM

MG Corporation's Executive Officer Wendy Casey attended the Clontarf Foundation employment forum at East Kimberley College in Kununurra recently.

The forum is a great employment event held for year 11 and 12 students to provide them with information on different career paths.

The event provided an opportunity for local students to gather information and ask questions of the representatives from the local businesses and organisations which attended.

Clontarf delivers employment forums at multiple locations as part of its mission to improve the education,

discipline, life skills, self-esteem and employment prospects of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men.

By doing so, it hopes to equip those young men to participate meaningfully in society.



New 100+ Jobs Initiative team member and Bardi Jaru woman Miranda Gore.

MG CORPORATION'S 100+ JOBS INITIATIVE ADDS BARDI JARU WOMAN MIRANDA GORE TO TEAM

MG Corporation has welcomed a new team member to its 100+ Jobs Initiative, with local Bardi Jaru woman Miranda Gore taking up a position in Halls Creek.

The role will see Miranda working hard to engage clients and assist them on their path towards job-readiness.

Miranda said her passion for helping her people drove her to take up the role.

"I'm looking forward to seeing our mob motivated to work, and to know that I have been a part of that," she said.

"I am passionate about seeing my people making a difference for themselves, their families and others around them, and seeing the broader community working together."

Miranda hopes to see all 100+ Jobs participants be successful in training, to be employed, or achieve employment, and see more people take up the wonderful opportunity to use the service.



MG CORPORATION
Yawoorroong Miriuwung
Gajerrong Yirrgb Noong Dawang

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