



MG CORPORATION NEWS



Cotton like this could be grown on MG land under the Cubbie deal.

MG CORPORATION SIGNS MOU WITH COTTON GIANT CUBBIE

MG Corporation has taken an important step in its pursuit of commercial agriculture ventures on MG land with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with cotton giant Cubbie Farming.

The organisations will work together to investigate the feasibility of cotton growing trials on Lots 15 and 16 at Goomig in the Ord Valley once MG Corporation (MGC) finishes negotiations to transfer the legal title

for the parcels. MGC Executive Chair Lawford Benning said signing the MOU could lead to a substantial agricultural portfolio.

“MG Corporation is currently very focused on realising our economic potential, so that we can generate income from our land to fund social programs to benefit our community,” he said.

Continued on page 4





MG Corporation Executive Chair Lawford Benning, centre back, with Ken Wyatt, Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians, Matt Canavan, Federal Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, and other attendees at the Ministerial Forum on Northern Development.

MG CORPORATION REPRESENTED AT MINISTERIAL FORUM

MG Corporation Executive Chair Lawford Benning travelled to Katherine in the Northern Territory in December, for a meeting of the Indigenous Reference Group (IRG) at the Ministerial Forum on Northern Development.

Chaired by Matthew Canavan, Federal Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, the fourth Forum focused on the next phase of the northern development agenda, and strategies to increase economic engagement by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across the north.

Ministers also launched the Northern Australia Indigenous Development Accord to drive a coordinated approach to improving economic development going forwards.

Lawford was pleased additional funding was committed to extend the important advisory role of the IRG.

The group will continue to work across governments to develop further proposals aimed at strengthening Indigenous economic outcomes in alignment with the new refreshed plan for northern Australia.

MG CORPORATION PRESENTS AT FORUM

MG Corporation Executive Chair Lawford Benning and Senior Legal Counsel Dominique Reeves attended the PBC Collaborative Forum and Compensation Workshop in Broome.

Held in early December, the Forum was organised by the Kimberley Land Council and the National Native Title Council and ran over two days.

The first day focused on PBC information sharing on topics including future acts, heritage protection agreements, CATSI amendments, water rights, closing the gap, Cook 250 and empowered communities.

The Forum's second day featured discussion of the Timber Creek decision and Dominique gave a presentation to the group on comprehensive settlements and lessons learned from the Ord Final Agreement.

PBC representatives were also given the opportunity to discuss the common issues facing PBCs.



MG Corporation travelled to Broome for the PBC Collaborative Forum and Compensation Workshop in December.



EMPLOYMENT SUCCESS IN HALLS CREEK

MG Corporation's 100+ Jobs Initiative's newest employment coordinator, Miranda Gore, has been making an impact in Halls Creek since her appointment in August.

Miranda has been working three days a week in the region to address a need to engage more with the Halls Creek community.

She has wasted no time building strong relationships with community stakeholders, service agencies and, most importantly, the program's clients.

Miranda has been able to help both Dennis Morris and Jocelyn Abbot secure employment by assisting with updating resumes, securing identification, filling out applications and overcoming other barriers.

Jocelyn now holds a position at Far North Community Services, while Dennis Morris has joined Trancollino Madden Contracting, but Miranda will continue to provide ongoing support and mentoring going forward.



Jocelyn Abbot at Far North Community Services, her new place of employment.





“We are also committed to creating sustainable opportunities for MG people, and agriculture may be an employment and training pathway in the future.”

Cubbie currently runs the largest irrigated cotton farm in the southern hemisphere at Cubbie Station in Queensland.

Cubbie Farming Director Paul Brimblecombe said Cubbie was excited to explore cotton farming on MG land.

“Farming Lots 15 and 16 at Goomig is a significant step forward for both Cubbie and MGC,” he said.

If the cotton trials prove successful, MGC and Cubbie will consider seeking federal funding to build a cotton gin in Kununurra. The parties are already involved in discussions with other local growers regarding potential joint ownership models for the gin.



NOTICE OF HOLIDAY CLOSURE

Please be advised that the office will be closed between Monday 23 December 2019 – Friday 3 January 2020, reopening on 6 January 2020.



MG CORPORATION
Yawoorroong Miriuwung
Gajerrong Yirrgeb Noong Dawang

Follow us on:

 @MGCorporationWA

www.mgcorp.com.au