



Newsletter VOL 29 • OCTOBER 2010

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Carol Garlett Chair WAAETC

This issue of the WAAETC Newsletter has a number of articles that should inspire you and make you proud of what is happening across Western Australia.

There is a fascinating article about three Katanning SHS students who went to Canberra to gain work experience in Parliament House. Emma-Jo Woods, Corey Colbung and Callum Hansen travelled to the nation's capital and worked for politicians. That must have been a fantastic experience for them and the Council would welcome any follow up information from the three students.

Ms Kaila Riley confidently and articulately delivered the keynote address at the launch of the Aboriginal Academy of Sport, Health and Education. Her speech was made in front of a number of dignitaries including Minister Collier and elders Mr and Mrs Wally Eattes. Kaila's speech is published in this newsletter.

The Aboriginal Education Awards of Achievement 2010 were held on 14th July at the Art Gallery. Read about the outstanding achievement of students who won awards and the outstanding people and programs operating in government schools and districts.

The Council congratulates Ms Isabelle Adams on her induction into the Aboriginal Education Hall of Fame which caps off a long career in education and is an honour well deserved by Isabelle.

The Council has been successful in securing Parent and Community Engagement (PaCE) funds and will facilitate a number of training forums across the state. The PaCE forums will provide an opportunity for participants to share ideas and try strategies in a culturally safe and secure learning environment. The ultimate purpose of the PaCE is that more Aboriginal parents, families and communities will confidently engage with schools so that together both the school and family can help students obtain a quality education.

Read about the cross-sector community forums held in Broome and Bunbury. These forums were well attended and offered the opportunity for Government, Catholic and Independent sectors to meet with the local Aboriginal community groups to discuss and resolve issues in education and training.

Finally and with much sadness, one of the features of this Newsletter is our tribute to the late Mr Kenneth Houghton who served on the WAAETC from January 2006 until his sad passing in August 2010. Jugarra, the name used when referring to Mr Houghton made an enormous contribution to the Aboriginal community and will be missed by all who knew him. We thank his family for permitting us to publish our tribute in this edition.

There are so many wonderful articles about people, schools, programs and communities in this newsletter, I hope you enjoy reading them.

Sincerely

Carol Garlett
Chairperson WAAETC



ABORIGINAL CULTURAL IDENTITY, MAINTENANCE & SECURITY

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH ALBERT HOUGHTON (JUGARRI)

by Carol Garlett

It is with great sadness that we here at the WAAETC acknowledge the tragic passing of our friend, brother, cousin and council colleague, Mr Kenneth Albert Houghton (Jugarri), a Yindjibarndi man from the Pilbara, Jugarri was born in Port Hedland in 1953.



mannerisms and before they knew it, he would be recording their details and family links. At meetings we expected him to ask for business cards of guests and henceforth, record the details. He enjoyed the playful banter or teasing he got from us about sidling up to people and getting their personal details and he took great delight in showing us the data base on his Apple Mac and promoting the brand.

Those of you who knew Jugarri, know that in recent times he never went anywhere without The Mac. He told us on the Council that this was his way of recording history which he wanted to pass onto his boys and he jokingly told us that his memory wasn't getting any better, and in his words "I'm getting to be an old bugger now so this helps my memory".

I first met Jugarri at an education conference in 1987. I remember being struck by his dashing good looks, his fashionable and sophisticated dress sense and his ragingly stylish red shoes. When he began serving on the WAAETC in 2006 we talked about that conference and those shoes. In true Jugarri style, he looked through his Apple Mac and found photos taken at that conference. As a Council we will remember him as the handsome one, the one with immaculate taste in men's fashion and the techno wiz.

Jugarri was a man of meticulous detail, and we admired his ability to match the right shirt with the most suitable Aboriginal designed tie from his numerous collection. It was his attention to detail that has made us better as a Council. We knew too that we could rely on Jugarri to fill in details of past meetings or functions because he had captured a good deal of the people's details on his Apple Mac, especially when he was socialising. He would captivate people with his charm and gentle



Jugarri was proud of his Aboriginal culture and heritage and worked hard on the Council to bring about better education and training services, opportunities and outcomes for his people. He was passionate for the Aboriginal cause and fought for equity, truth and justice.



ABORIGINAL CULTURAL IDENTITY, MAINTENANCE & SECURITY

As a Council, we knew that Jugarri was a family man. He loved his family, his friends and relations but above all he loved his boys. He was proud of Tristan and Miles and spoke often of them. Treasure his memories as we on the Council will do so. We are honoured and proud that we served on the WAAETC with Jugarri. It has been an absolute privilege to have known him; he was our colleague, our friend and our brother.

His career history commenced in 1970 when he joined the Commonwealth Bank in Port Hedland and went on to work in many of their branches throughout WA for 12 years.

In late 1981, he commenced work with the (former) Aboriginal Development Commission (ADC) in the Pilbara, promoting and supporting Aboriginal Self Management and Self determination initiatives, where he remained until the end of 1985. Whilst in Port Hedland, his two sons, Tristan and Miles, were born and he obtained his Unrestricted Private Pilot's licence.

In 1986, Jugarri started work for the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Electoral Information Service (ATSIEIS) working throughout the Goldfields, South West and Metropolitan areas. In 1988, he travelled to the US for the Presidential Elections, studying Tribal Government and various Treaties and also visited Canada and New Zealand to see how Indigenous people engaged in the democratic systems of these countries.

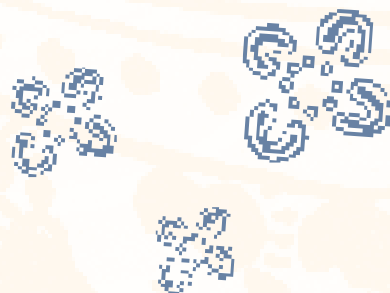


In 1991, Jugarri completed a Bachelor of Applied Science (BSc) at Curtin University specialising in Aboriginal Community Development and was awarded a place on the Vice Chancellors List for his outstanding academic achievements.

In 1997, he joined the Department of Health and Ageing working in their Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH) in Perth. While working for OATSIH, he worked in the East

Kimberley, Wiluna, Ngaanyatjarra Lands and more recently covered his home territory of the Pilbara, supporting Aboriginal Medical Services (AMS) and Substance Use Projects.

Kenneth Albert Houghton was our friend, our colleague and our brother, not just a member of the WAAETC. He will be truly missed by Council members past and present.



ABORIGINAL CULTURAL IDENTITY, MAINTENANCE & SECURITY

"OUR BROTHER, OUR FRIEND AND OUR COLLEAGUE" A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE KENNETH ALBERT HOUGHTON

By Erica McGuire



Can you see beyond the sunrise the splendour of creation above?

How each one of us were picked and placed within our families of love?

Each one of us is unique then immersed in our language group and identity.

From the moment we begin to walk we are motivated by our own destiny.

Nurturing our baby's most inner being and empowering each one for life.

Standing up for our cultural values and teaching them to overcome strife.

We have come from all walks of life leaving footprints engraved within hearts.

Our journey together has been saddened as we reflect on where we did start.

Behind our tears there lies our hurt where our memories are lovingly kept.

Behind our memories there lies our respect that we shared and will never forget.

Our respect for you and each other has linked our hearts eternally.

We took on challenges together for our people such as you and me.

Each challenge we pursued was instrumental to ensure it was leading to change.

If ever there were any barriers, one of us would take on to re-arrange.

So now as we bring you to rest we will continue to carry you through.

Each of our lives was truly blessed on our journey with you.

Our Brother, Our Colleague and Our Friend will always be with you and me.

Whether it is flying or an apple Mac computer his spirit will always be free.

He shared his humour and jokes with us in so many cheeky but loving ways.

There were times when we struggled to concentrate so he would brighten up our days.

His dress code was so swish and classy to all our Council meetings.

He would walk so tall and proud in the room until we commented and shouted our greetings.

He never complained or fussed about us when we made him feel like a king.

He would chuckle and murmur underneath his breath and the most beautiful smile would sink in.



*WA Aboriginal Education and Training Council tribute
written by Erica McGuire August 2010*

PLEASE NOTE: We extend our thanks and appreciation to Jugarrri's family for their permission to include this tribute in our newsletter, along with images and the use of his name. We also thank Erica McGuire for her permission to reproduce her poem.



CAPACITY BUILDING OF ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

WAAETC: BUILDING COMMUNITY CAPACITY AND ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION

by Lesley Radloff

Through its Parent and Community Engagement (PaCE) initiative, the Department of Education, Employment and Workforce Relations has recently granted the WAAETC funds to conduct community capacity building training throughout WA.

Community capacity building is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parents, grandparents, elders and carers of school aged children, young people and community members who:

- are willing to participate in these workshops on an agreed regular basis;
- feel they would like to work with a group of like-minded people in order to make changes in their communities and personal life;
- want to feel more confident in negotiating educational needs for their children;
- have children attending school,
- are about to become parents.

BACKGROUND

The WAAETC PaCE Project follows on from the work done where capacity building commenced in the Kimberley Education District to build the confidence and communication skills of Aboriginal staff in schools. That project was led WAAETC Chair, Carol Garlett (in her previous role as Kimberley Education District Director) and the Manager of Aboriginal Education, Edie Wright. Using consultant Gerard Cleveland, the capacity building project was designed and implemented in consultation and partnership with Aboriginal people. The project in the Kimberley was entitled "The Ripple in the Pond" and was used as a model for the implementation of similar capacity building programs in the Midlands and Canning Education Districts, during my previous roles as the Manager Aboriginal Education in those districts.

It is expected that the outcomes from this training program is transformation and empowerment of individual and communities such that it:

- Improves engagement in school decision-making groups;
- Improves student attendance and participation;
- Results in active participation of parents in school programs;
- Parents and community members negotiating School and Community Partnership Agreements; and
- Parents and community members are actively involved in the implementation of the School Community Partnership agreements.

Through capacity building in the communities, the WAAETC will continue to:

- advocate/reinforce role/rights of parental involvement in the education of their children,
- promote the outcomes and ongoing work of the communities involved so that parental involvement remains strong,
- maintain links with communities and
- advocate for those communities at appropriate intervals.



CAPACITY BUILDING OF ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

WHAT'S INVOLVED?

The WAAETC PaCE Project will support building capacity of parents, carers, support staff and community members via a series of training workshops and seminars on:

- Emotional Intelligence – child raising
- Pre and Peri natal care of children – early stages of stimulation
- Teaching reading/supporting your child
- Drugs
- Mental Health
- Learn to Budget your money
- Dealing with Difficult people and Emotional Intelligence skills
- Anger Management
- How to behave so your children will too, strategies
- Dealing with Teasing and “Shame Busting”
- Reading and homework strategies
- Discipline strategies
- Family purpose and self awareness
- Effective Test Literacy Strategies for Aboriginal students
- Cultural Training strategies and tools
- Leadership training
- Building understanding of schools and how they operate.

As part of this project, packages will be developed for each session to provide participants with a take home kit designed to reinforce the capacity building themes covered in the forums and workshops. It will include current training ideas, materials to help with reading with your children, research handouts and any relevant source material.

HOW CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING CAN ASSIST YOUR COMMUNITY

Aboriginal communities can gain a lot from the process proposed in terms of community/school communications, community involvement in education, engagement of students, attendance and retention. The capacity building session outlined above and the modules are based on life skills that will assist parents, grandparents, elders, carers and community members to maintain an understanding of the education system. Additionally, these sessions contain valuable life management skills that can pass onto your children. In this way, the capacity building process within the Aboriginal community will assist in breaking the generational cycle of the poverty and welfare dependency that is prevalent in many communities across Australia.

COST TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Participation in this program is free for Aboriginal parents, grandparents, elders, carers, young people and community members. The WAAETC will provide costs for venue, catering, training providers and session materials. Other assistance for community involvement may be negotiated.



CAPACITY BUILDING OF ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

HOW YOUR COMMUNITY CAN ACCESS COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING

Should your community be interested in any of these community capacity building session, please contact:

***Lesley Radloff (Project Manager) or
Mary-Ellen Passmore (Project Officer)***

Community Capacity Building, WA Aboriginal Education and Training Council

Ph: 08 9441 1976

Lesley's Mobile: 0448 215 202

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CAPACITY BUILDING OF ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

BROOME COMMUNITY FORUM 1 JULY 2010

On invitation by West Kimberley Council member Mr Stephen (Baamba) Albert, the WAAETC conducted its July meeting in Broome, and also held a community forum.

On the first day of the Broome meeting, the Council conducted a community forum at the Mecure Hotel and received a warm traditional Welcome to Country by Diane Appleby on behalf of her mother. Carol responded on behalf of the WAAETC and highlighted the importance of Welcome to Country and what that means for us as the oldest living culture in the world.

After introductions all round, Broome's Aboriginal personality and WAAETC Council member Stephen (Baamba) Albert facilitated the day's proceedings.

Participants travelled from various communities close to Broome and heard updated information from the following organisations:

- ⇒ Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations represented by Danielle Russ and Sandra Brogden, who spoke about the Strategies in the Kimberley for 'Closing the Gap' and 'Kimberley Success Zone';
- ⇒ Robert Somerville, Director Aboriginal Education from the WA Department of Education provided information on the 2010 – 2014 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Action Plan;
- ⇒ Regina Hill, Director of the newly formed Aboriginal Workforce Development Centre spoke about the new Centre and its commitment to training together and working together to develop strong links and partnerships with service providers and employers and to work towards sustainable employment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people;
- ⇒ Notre Dame University was represented by Professor Lynette Henderson-Yates, who outlined information on programs suitable for the Kimberley environment and encouraging Aboriginal men to gain tertiary qualifications through appropriate courses, such as the Arts and Sciences. Community members were invited to visit the campus, check out their establishment and meet the staff;
- ⇒ Kimberley District Education Office Relieving Director Schools, Paul Bridge and Manager Aboriginal Education, Edie Wright identified key challenges and how they are going to address them. Among the challenges are the high turnover of school leaders and teaching staff, which ultimately influences the learning of Aboriginal students. The KDEO indicated they are unrelenting in their focus on literacy and numeracy, and that low educational outcomes are not acceptable. Improvements across the district was reported and new programs were currently being implemented;
- ⇒ Mary Retel and Robyn Collard of Catholic Education provided a snapshot of Catholic education for Aboriginal students across the state. Catholic Education is building on the background and language base of Aboriginal students and implementing programs that will make a difference by connecting with communities, maintaining cultural connections, partnerships and celebrations.
- ⇒ John Hill and Josh Bell spoke about the Aboriginal Independent Community Schools (AICS) in the Kimberley. They indicated a very strong community involvement in developing priorities for the AICS through Indigenous Independent Governing bodies and annual conferences. They discussed the School and Community Partnership Agreement (SCPA) of Nyikina Mangala community which focused on attendance, literacy and numeracy. The presentation was ended with a short video of community people expressing their visions for their community, their children and future generations.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

After the brief presentation by each of the sectors, the participants were asked to identify local issues that affect Aboriginal students in Government, Catholic Education and Independent schools within the Kimberley region. The issues identified were:

1. Students at risk
2. Transition of Catholic Education primary school students to district high schools or government senior high schools.
3. Development of Aboriginal leadership and role model in schools and communities.
4. Parent's involvement in all aspects of the education process of their children.
5. Governance and leadership – Kimberley District Aboriginal Education Advisory Council and WAAETC working together.
6. Attendance levels for Aboriginal students to be improved.



On Friday 2nd July 2010 WAAETC members joined the local community members and participated in the NAIDOC parade and the NAIDOC Opening celebrations. The audience listened to local

Aboriginal personalities such as Stephen Baamba Albert, Carol Martin MP, Stephen Pigram, the Broome Primary School choir and other local dignitaries.



CAPACITY BUILDING OF ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES



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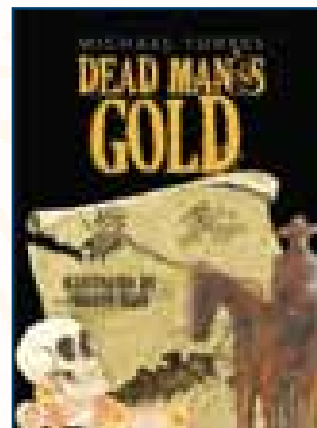


CAPACITY BUILDING OF ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

After enjoying the celebrations of NAIDOC Broome style and networking with others in the crowd, the Council members headed to Goolarri Media Enterprises where it convened its meeting. Many thanks to Baamba, Mel and the crew for looking after the Council's needs during the meeting and our stay in Broome.

Having tended to the business of the Council, members participated in a tour of St John of God Heritage Centre kindly guided by Sister Pat. Members were given an extensive tour of the exhibition at the Old Convent premises. Council members were fascinated with the Centre's Ara Iritija/File Maker Pro database and how it works and in particular, the extensive collation of photographs and impressive records of about 100 years of history of The Sisters of St John of God in the Kimberley. Maureen Kelly and Cindy Solonec trawled through photographs of family members in their younger days whilst Lesley Radloff weaved through myriads of Catholic paraphernalia, typical hostel type of furniture and reminisced about her years spent as a young impressionable country girl at St Brigid's Convent in Queensland.

Next on our Broome agenda was the book launch at Magabala Books. After browsing through the store and purchasing Dead Man's Gold by Michael Torres, we eagerly waited for Michael Torres and Noongar artist, Sharyn Eades to autograph personal copies. Local entertainment, refreshments and photo shoots helped us fill in the time as well as meeting new friends and renewing acquaintances.



“As part of NAIDOC festivities in Broome, on July 2 Magabala Books hosted the launch of new book entitled Dead Man's Gold. A crowd of about 100 people turned out as Magabala chairwoman Coco Yu officially launched the children's adventure story written by Broome's Michael Torres and

illustrated by Sharyn Egan from Perth.” Quote and photos courtesy of Magabala Books.

Some energetic members joined Goolarri Media Enterprise for their NAIDOC Quiz Night and managed to snare one of the visiting Noongar students to help our table with the questions related to modern music and sports, enabling us to be ranked third out of about seven tables. Learning about local personalities, searching our minds for those Indigenous affairs questions we should know the answers to, basking in the local talent and generally enjoying the humour of the night was really hard work. But as they say....somebody has to do it! A big thank you to Tom Betts who helped us enjoy the night and for your spontaneous creative thinking when participating in the stage call.

The Council's Broome trip was topped by the Broome NAIDOC Awards function hosted by Goolarri Media Enterprises Ltd on Saturday evening. Once again, we were exposed to the wonderful and bountiful local talents of the Broome Aboriginal community and enjoyed witnessing local Aboriginal people being recognised by their peers for their hard work and contribution to the betterment of their community.

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AWARDS OF ACHIEVEMENT 2010

The Department of Education held its annual Aboriginal Education Award of Achievement on Wednesday 14th July 2010. This year it was held in the Art Gallery of WA.

The WAAETC congratulates the winners of the Awards in the various categories.

OUTSTANDING ABORIGINAL FEMALE YEAR 12 STUDENT - TANEISHA HANSEN, EASTERN GOLDFIELDS COLLEGE



Taneisha Hansen

Taneisha is a highly respected student at Eastern Goldfields College, where she excels academically and sets a positive example for her peers. Her ability to cope with challenging situations has helped her to improve her academic results above average. Taneisha is an excellent leader and was selected by Eastern Goldfields College staff and students

to represent the importance of education during 2009 NAIDOC celebrations. She was also selected from a wide group of students to attend the year 12 seminar for Indigenous students run by The University of Western Australia. Taneisha hopes to study Health Sciences and Business at university.

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

OUTSTANDING ABORIGINAL MALE YEAR 12 STUDENT - JAKE LOUTHEAN, ALBANY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Jake Louthean

Jake is a high achiever both in and out of the classroom, where his strong school-community links have resulted in a nomination for the 2010 Active Achievers' Country Week Awards. He is an ambitious student and plans to study Medicine or Engineering next year at university. Being a member of the Claremont Football Development Squad and representing WA in basketball has allowed Jake to give back to the community by umpiring and

coaching these sports. Jake is a natural leader in the eyes of his peers, where last year Jake's leadership ability was recognised as he was awarded the national Future Leaders Indigenous Award.

Jake has always been a strong advocate for Aboriginal people through his commitment to Follow the Dream.

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

OUTSTANDING FEMALE PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARD - GEORGIA-ROSE GOSLING, LANDSDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Georgia-Rose Gosling

Georgia-Rose is a year 7 student and excellent contributor to the wider community, where she was recently awarded 'Aussie of the Month'. She is an active member of the student art committee, is a mentor to other students, and regularly assists with fundraising events. Along with her academic and educational achievements, she is a talented

musician and sportswoman having competed in State championships for Little Athletics and Cross Country. She uses her gifts and talents to enrich the lives of her fellow community members, and is also a member of the Junior Community Watch for Cowan.

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

OUTSTANDING MALE PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARD - CALLUM AH CHEE, KINGSLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Callum Ah Chee

Callum is a year 7 student, admired and respected by all staff and students. He is an active member and leader of the school community, where he is a school councillor, sport team captain and acts as a junior assistant coach for his football team. As a reliable school leader, Callum has become a strong school representative in sporting events, public

speaking and leadership meetings. Callum strives for his best and overall has all the attributes of an outstanding Aboriginal student.

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

OUTSTANDING ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER EDUCATION OFFICER - CAROLYN BEVAN, BROOME SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Carolyn Bevan

Ms Bevan is a highly-respected member of Broome Senior High School staff and a wonderful role model for students. Ms Bevan has made several significant achievements in her six years at the school including organising after-school homework classes for Aboriginal students, establishing links between the

school and the Broome Girls Academy, organising NAIDOC activities and encouraging Aboriginal students through awards programs.

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

BARRY HAYWARD AWARD OUTSTANDING ABORIGINAL EDUCATOR - CLINT BRACKNELL, LOCKRIDGE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Robert Somerville, Colleen Haywatd with Clint Bracknell (centre) and Gail Barrow

Mr Bracknell is an extremely creative individual who motivates and inspires students in innovative ways. The establishment of a Drum Beat program is just one of the ways he connects with disengaged students. The media teacher is a positive role model for Aboriginal students and has organised

many successful cultural awareness events, including celebrations for NAIDOC Week, Reconciliation Week and Harmony Day. Mr Bracknell established a successful music program and nurtures students' creativity. This has resulted in the creation of several student rock bands and a school choir.



RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR - PETER WILLIAMS, BELDON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Leslie Street (centre) accepting Peter Williams Award with Robert Somerville and Sharyn O'Neill (Director General)

For the past four years Mr Williams has worked tirelessly to establish a strong relationship between the school and the Aboriginal community. Mr Williams organised morning teas and information sessions to bring the Aboriginal community into the school. By engaging and supporting community Mr Williams was able help improve the attendance

of the school's Aboriginal students. Parents of Aboriginal students are encouraged to be involved in school events such as Harmony Day, NAIDOC Week and impart their knowledge at specialist art programs and after-school programs.

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

BEN DRAYTON AWARD OUTSTANDING DISTRICT INITIATIVE - WARREN BLACKWOOD DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICE



Brendan Murray, Tessa Grimshaw, Robyn Weston with Robert Somerville and Sharyn O'Neill

The Warren Blackwood District Education Office was recognised for the establishment of a program that engages Aboriginal students across the district's 25 schools. The program helps Aboriginal students develop leadership qualities, build on their cultural

knowledge, increase their pride in their culture and share their knowledge with others.

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

MILTON THORNE AWARD OUTSTANDING METROPOLITAN SCHOOL BASED INITIATIVE - BROOKMAN PRIMARY SCHOOL



Hans Geers (far right) and Belinda Smith with Harry Thorne and Robert Somerville

Brookman Primary School has improved attendance and academic performance of its Aboriginal students through community engagement. The school engaged Aboriginal students and their families in school-based activities. The school also developed a partnership with the local high school, Lynwood

Senior High School, so families are engaged throughout their child's school life.



RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

MILTON THORNE AWARD OUTSTANDING REGIONAL SCHOOL BASED INITIATIVE- NARROGIN PRIMARY SCHOOL



Steve Doherty (Principal) and Rita Ugle with Robert Somerville and Harry Thorne

Narrogin Primary School is leading the way in reconciliation and involving local Aboriginal people in the school community. Last year the school was awarded an achievement award in the national Dare to Lead Excellence in Leadership in Indigenous Education Awards. The school has a strong focus on

Aboriginal education and is committed to employing Aboriginal community members. The strength of community support for the school has seen improvement in attendance and in NAPLAN literacy and numeracy performances.

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP IN ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AWARD - MAXINE AUGUSTSON, MOUNT LOCKYER PRIMARY SCHOOL



Director Schools Steve Baxter (centre) receive award on behalf Maxine Augustson

Ms Augustson is an innovative leader and has developed many effective techniques to engage Aboriginal students at school. One such technique was signing a formal agreement between the school and the community. She also established an 'Elders Circle' to manage any issues that arise at the school.

Ms Augustson makes sure the Aboriginal and Islander Education Officers feel valued and ensures they receive the support and professional development they require to work effectively.

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

WA ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING COUNCIL AWARD - JANET GARLETT, SOUTH THORNLIE AND GIBBS STREET PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Christine Jackson accepted award on behalf of Janet Garlett

Ms Garlett has been an educator for the past 29 years and has mentored numerous Aboriginal students and co-workers. She works tirelessly to promote Noongar culture and language. Known by

her peers as 'Elder', Ms Garlett always makes herself available for others seeking her advice.

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

HALL OF FAME - ISABELLE ADAMS



Isabelle Adams

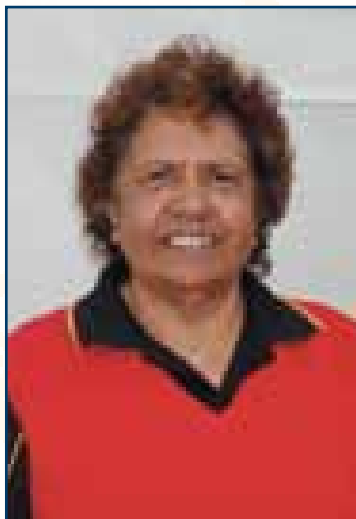
After graduating as a teacher in 1963, Ms Adams has worked tirelessly to make a positive impact on the lives of others. Ms Adams was inducted into the Hall of Fame for her work with Aboriginal students during the past three decades, for her involvement with national and State advisory committees

concerning Aboriginal education and substantial contribution to the public service.

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

JANET GARLETT WINS WAAETC AWARD

At the 2010 Aboriginal Education Awards of Achievement there were a number of worthy winners including the winner of the WAAETC Award, Mrs Janet Garlett.



Janet commenced her long career as Teacher's Aide at North Merredin Primary School on 9th February 1981 before moving to Perth metropolitan area nine (9) years later. Being committed to the education of Aboriginal children, Janet remained in the

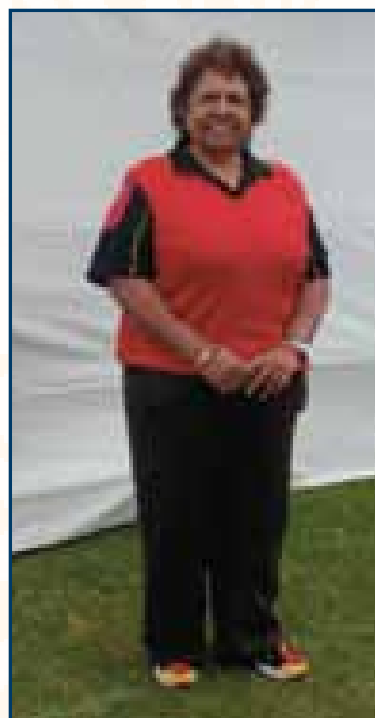
government education system as an Aboriginal Education Worker (AEW) and Aboriginal Islander Education Officer (AIEO) through nine (9) schools and six (6) districts – resulting in 29 years of service!

Over the years Janet has worked in:

- North Merredin Pre-Primary School
- Governor Stirling SHS
- Neerigen Brook PS
- Langford Primary School
- Manjimup DHS
- Parkfield Primary School/Lake Jasper Aboriginal Project
- Ashburton Primary/South Thornlie Primary School
- Millen Primary School, and is currently working in both;
- South Thornlie Primary School and Gibbs Street Primary School

Her current AIEO role is across two schools, splitting her time, energy, knowledge and commitment to the Aboriginal students and their families.

Janet is married to Eric Garlett, loving mother of two and doting grandmother of six. Janet is from the Pell family. The Pell family have been actively involved in managing camps in Busselton and working with children at risk through the Lake Jasper Aboriginal Project.



Whilst her family remain her top priority, Janet has been a dedicated worker in the education system. She not only gave support, knowledge and strong encouragement to Aboriginal students in her charge, she has been a strong leader and mentor for her peers.

In 2007 Janet, along with her colleague Ann McCormack (Tranby PS), was recognised by her peers as the most outstanding AIEO in the Canning District. This vote included AIEOs' appreciation of Janet's leadership, mentoring and the ability to provide confidential and personal advice. This also shows that Janet Garlett is considered a person of trust and integrity.

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

As one of her peers said... 'Janet is a great mentor, a cultural leader and is classified by us AIEOs as an Elder. She is in the same legacy as Mary Pearson and Ann McCormack, who have been working in the schools for many years and who have made our jobs easier. All three have always been available for advice and support and when new or younger AIEOs join us, we always tell them to ring Janet for advice'.

Whilst Janet did all the work required of AIEOs, whether it be NAIDOC activities, working with students and families, attending to her own professional development and encouraging others

to do their best, she does it with the greatest commitment to promote the strong and proud Noongar culture, language and kinship.

Janet is so committed to providing confidential and ongoing support to her students, peers and Aboriginal families in a culturally safe environment, that she has successfully negotiated her own AIEO Room at Ashburton Primary School where she meets with parents.

The WA Aboriginal Education and Training Council congratulates Janet on her achievements.



ISABELLE ADAMS INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME

CONGRATULATIONS to Isabelle Margaret Adams, whose years of dedication to Aboriginal education and training has earned her the Department of Education's Aboriginal Education Awards of Achievement Hall of Fame.



In 1963 Isabelle Adams graduated with a Diploma of Teaching and began her career as a kindergarten teacher in the Northern Territory before coming to live and teach in Western Australia.

She was employed in the WA education system for twenty one years from 1976-1997 and later employed in 2000 as a consultant in Aboriginal Education.

Isabelle has undertaken various roles and responsibilities including early childhood teacher, advisory teacher, education officer, consultant, manager, and superintendent. Isabelle career in education includes several superintendent positions including District Superintendent Perth South District; Superintendent Special Duties Aboriginal Policy and Planning; Superintendent Special Duties Murchison Gascoyne Alienated Students Project; Superintendent Special Duties Staff Allocation Taskforce and Community Liaison; and Superintendent of Education (ECE) Metro South West, Yilgarn and Kimberley Districts.

She has considerable experience at middle and senior management level in the Western Australia Public Service sector and the management of branch and unit operations including budgets, staff, projects, programs and compliance to government legislation, policy and agreements, and as a director and consultant in a private company from 1997-2008.

She has over three decades of experience in administration and management roles in government and private sector and on advisory and management boards relating to education, training, Youth Affairs and Indigenous Affairs.

Other areas of experience includes community development processes, capacity building and the links between areas such as employment, housing, health, welfare, justice, community services, native title, and economical development. This has been developed through her employment and professional positions and her liaison and involvement with State and Federal government agencies, education and training institutions, and community organizations as well as her work with Aboriginal people and communities.

Ms Adams is also an accredited trainer and experienced lecturer with vast experience at school, TAFE and university levels, and in delivering accredited customized Vocation Education & Training (VET), non-accredited customized courses for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in WA and has a Masters of Education through Murdoch University.

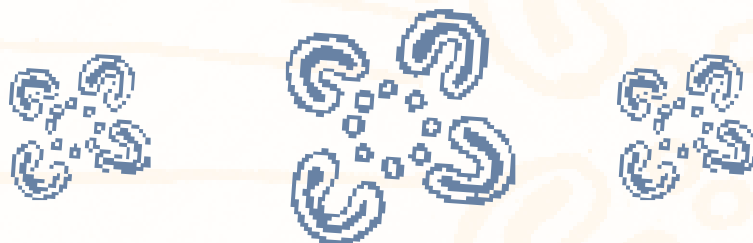
Currently the Director of her own consultancy business – Visions Networks Pty Ltd, Ms Adams has extensive experience as an advisor on state and national committees including:

- WA Aboriginal Education and Training Council – council member representing Perth metropolitan

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

- National Youth Careers & Transitions Advisory Group, Australian Government – Canberra ACT (2007)
- Consortium consultant – Review of Australian Directions in Indigenous Education 2005–2008 for the Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs
- Standing Committee on Indigenous Education, Australian Council of Educational Research – Melbourne, VIC (2004 -2006)
- WA State Advisory Committee for Stronger Families, Stronger Communities Program – Perth WA (2001-2003)
- Australian Steering Committee for OECD Review of Early Childhood Education & Care – Canberra ACT (2000)
- MCEETYA Taskforce on Aboriginal Education and Training – Canberra ACT (1995)
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies Research Advisory Committee Canberra ACT (1992 – 1996)
- National Aboriginal Education Committee Early Childhood Education Working Party – Canberra ACT (1985 – 1988)

Isabelle Adams is an Aboriginal woman who has lived in Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australia. In her employment and professional membership positions she has traveled throughout WA and other states and territories of Australia to urban, regional and remote locations. She has substantial knowledge and experience of the diversity of cultures, languages and lifestyles in urban, regional and remote locations of Aboriginal and of many other cultural groups.



RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

MOORDITJ WAANGKINY (GOOD NEWS)

INDIGENOUS WORK EXPERIENCE IN CANBERRA

By Trevor Carruthers - Deputy Principal

Three Katanning Senior High School students witness first hand the change of Prime Minister! They observed the parliamentary process at work when Julia Gillard became our nation's first female Prime Minister.



On 19 June Emma-Jo Woods, Corey Colbung and Callum Hansen flew to Canberra to join 100 other eager Indigenous students from all over Australia to be involved in a new program, Learn Earn Legend! Indigenous Work Experience Program, instigated by Senator Arbib.

Whilst it took us 13 hours for us to arrive in Canberra another group of students travelled for 2 days to reach the same destination. The three students from Katanning experienced a number of things for the first time, such as flying in a large plane, leaving Western Australia, visiting the National Art Gallery and Museum and working in Parliament House. They spent Monday and Tuesday working in the offices of Federal Parliamentarians, where their tasks were many and varied. Students rated the time spent in these offices as 10/10 and were very excited about this experience.

Whilst many students were asked to write press release statements for their parliamentary office, which you are able to see on the parliamentarian's web pages, Corey Colbung was asked to write a short speech. This was delivered by Mr Ripoll

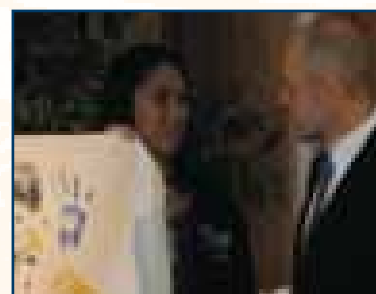
during a sitting of the Lower House. Corey is one of very few students in Australia who has achieved this and he is now the proud owner of the Hansard transcript of the speech he wrote. I have included part of Mr Ripoll's speech where he talks about the quality of Corey and another student who worked in his office. He states, "They are both really active and confident young people who have so much to offer. I am really proud to have had them spend the day with me in my office and with my staff and they will be back again tomorrow. While we do not, in this place, get as much time as we would like to spend with them individually, the little bit of time that we did have together today was absolutely fabulous. They have written an absolutely wonderful speech."

Students also listened to a number of prominent Indigenous people, including Scott Prince, talk about their experiences and how they set about achieving their goals. They also talked to Indigenous people working in the Public Service.

This program allowed our students to meet other students who aspire to achieve and people who had achieved some of their goals already. It enabled them to see that there are many career choices available for them and that there are many agencies that will help them.

Those who organised the program this year have already started planning for the 2011 Learn Earn Legend!

Indigenous Work Experience Program. I encourage students who are in Years 9 and 10 to look at being involved in this program.



RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

LAUNCH OF ABORIGINAL ACADEMY OF SPORT, HEALTH AND EDUCATION

The Aboriginal Academy of Sport, Health and Education was launched at Joondalup Arena on Wednesday 25th August 2010.

Ms Narelda Jacobs news reader from Channel 10 facilitated proceedings. Elders Mrs Doolan Leisha Eates and Mr Wally Eates welcomed everyone to country.

The keynote address was provided by Kaila Riley and it is with pleasure that we share her address.

KAILA RILEY SPEECH

Thank you Narelda. It is a great privilege to be here today to share my story with you and be part of this exciting Aboriginal Academy.

The opportunity to be one of the first students to train at the Academy and what I have achieved through my training there, has changed my life.

After finishing high school, I ran off the rails. Instead of pursuing my ambitions, I got into drugs and alcohol. That ended my training and, for a time, my hope of achieving anything in my life.



The birth of my little boy, Dwayne, two years ago was a wake-up call. I decided that I needed to change because I wanted better for him but I had no idea what I wanted to do.

The Sports Coaching course at the Academy was the perfect opportunity to combine the two things that I was passionate about – Sport and Children – and was the key to improving my health and achieving the success I have today.

My time at the Academy was a great experience. Having Aboriginal lecturers like William and Anthony and the support of Bronlyn (West Coast's Aboriginal Support Officer) made a huge difference for me. They inspired me to stay determined and follow my dreams and I thank them for that.

Training at the Academy has helped me gain confidence and self esteem that I would not have had otherwise. Before I started the program, I was very shy and found it difficult to talk to people. But now it's different – I talk with parents, the school principal, lecturers and students on a daily basis. I have the courage to ask questions and form opinions on things which has helped me take on a leadership role.

I think training does that generally – it makes you realise that you can learn new skills and put them to good use in a way that helps you and other people as well. I've learned new life skills along the way too. I've put together a good resume for the first time, learned to fill in forms correctly and explored work and further training opportunities.

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With the support of the Academy, I have also learned to balance my responsibilities as a mum with my work and study. I have enrolled my son in day care and I fit my study and employment around this.

Perhaps most importantly, I've been motivated to take care of my health and since Anthony recommended taking up boxing as a great way to stay fit and healthy, I haven't looked back. In two months, I managed to lose 10kg so I could reach my goal weight. I train three to four times a week and took part in my first competitive fight on the weekend. My sparring partner is going to compete at the Commonwealth Games and that's something I would love to do.

Completing the Sports Coaching course was a real turning point for me and I've taken my training further by studying two higher qualifications - the Certificate III in Education Support and Certificate III in Fitness. Both of these courses will improve my skills as an Aboriginal and Islander Education Officer at Greenwood Primary School.

At Greenwood, I run the Active After School Program for the Australian Sports Commission and every day, I am learning from the staff and children who are part of that program. I work with children from years 1 to 7 and we play a range of inclusive games to help them get more active and develop a love of sport.

In May, I was named West Coast Institute of Training's Overall Student of the Year and with my sister by my side, that was a night I don't think I'll ever forget. On top of this, I have become a top 5 finalist in the WA Training Awards for the WA Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander of the Year Award. So this Friday, I will get to attend a presentation dinner where the winner of this award will be announced so stay tuned!.....

The most exciting thing of all, is that I've been able to return to the Academy and mentor other students (like the ones here today) through the program. West Coast has employed me as one of their staff members so now I spend one day a week at the Academy helping these students which makes me very happy.

It has been my dream to work with Aboriginal kids and studying at the Academy has given me this opportunity. I want to teach Indigenous youth how to live a healthy lifestyle and the importance of good nutrition and exercise.

I am very proud of what I have achieved and because I want to encourage others to do the same for themselves, I actively promote the Academy to other Aboriginal people. It's easy to fall into bad ways and become unmotivated but once you start doing something you enjoy and once you really apply yourself, so many more opportunities become available.

Next year, I would like to do a course in community services or youth work. I want to continue working with Aboriginal children and teach them that they can do anything they put their minds to. I have learnt through the Academy that the more knowledge I have, the more opportunities I will get and I want to continue studying and learning for as long as I can.

Through the Academy, I have become healthy (physically); become a better mum to Dwayne; secured two jobs and developed the skills and knowledge that have set me on a very successful career path. I am so happy with the success I have achieved through the Academy, I hope that I can one day become an Academy lecturer like William and Anthony and help other young Aboriginal people find success.

Thank you

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

WHAT GAP? – BREEDING SUCCESS IN OUR ABORIGINAL STUDENTS AT GOSNELLS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Rod Simeons – Principal

For several years, Gosnells Primary School has received ITAS funding to address the particular needs of Aboriginal student in our school performing below the benchmark in WALNA tests and more recently in NAPLAN. When the NAPLAN results arrived at the school late last year, we were delighted that all Aboriginal students in Year 3, 5 & 7 were above the benchmark.

The major factors that contributed to this academic success identified by staff, parents and students were:

A marked improvement in attendance.

- An empowerment of Aboriginal students to model exemplary behaviour and assist with the social skilling of younger students.
- An enthusiasm for school motivated by success and the range of programs we offer.
- Quality teaching and accurate identification of our student needs in our school.
- An outreach programs that keeps Aboriginal parents informed on school matters.

IMPROVED ATTENDANCE – THE GAP PROGRAM [GOSNELLS ATTENDANCE PLAN]

This Plan, designed by our Assistant Principal in conjunction with staff, recognises and rewards students for attendance. The rewards are in the form of Gosnells Dollars, a token economy supported by real cash donated to us by The Community Development Foundation. Each student with poor attendance, that impacts on their learning, is rewarded with fifty cents for each day they attend. They can spend this money at the canteen or bank it in a safety deposit envelope in the Assistant

Principals office. Accumulated funds can be spent on school uniforms, swimming classes, excursions and incursions, stationery or dance classes. This simple budgeting exercise is helping to develop money management skills. The students have also been introduced to the concept of thrift, and are proud of their purchasing achievements through exercising it.

Parents of students who continue to register poor attendance are contacted by the school's AIEO and Chaplain. This contact is generally in the form of a friendly home visit which is solutions based. Solutions like reminder calls in the morning or the occasional pick up of students by staff have proved to be successful, with the percentage of attendance continuing to rise.



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PEER MENTORING

Several of the school's senior Aboriginal students are Peer Mentors. The program that is in many WA schools is highly successful at Gosnells. Students are trained by the School Psychologist and therefore well equipped to provide support and comfort to distressed junior students, sort out minor disputes and model exemplary behaviour to junior Aboriginal and non Aboriginal students.

DRUMBEAT

The Drumbeat music therapy program has been at Gosnells Primary School for three years. The program seeks to demonstrate an increased understanding of the factors that contribute to healthy relationships as well as proficiency in playing the African djembe as part of the team. The Aboriginal students, who are part of this team, are provided with an opportunity to showcase their talents and develop social skills which assist them as Peer Mentors or in leadership positions such as Councillors or Sports Captains. Anyone interested in the DRUMBEAT program can contact the manager, Simon Faulkner on Mobile 0427616793, telephone (08) 9416 4444 or Email: sfaulkner@holyoake.org.au



OUTREACH

Our social support team consists of Students At Educational Risk, Assistant Principal with the responsibility for monitoring attendance, our Learning Support Coordinator, our School Psychologist, Chaplain and AIEO. The team meets officially on every second Friday and discusses problems of student academic achievement, socio-psychological matters and parent support required. Outside agencies such as the Smith Family Group, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, Department of Child Protection, Princess Margaret Hospital, Disabilities Services, Hospital School Services, PMH, Police Liaison and assorted Not for Profit agencies – among them Family Pathways and Kinway - are all used to provide a systematic approach to assisting parents with the difficult task of effective parenting. Parents of Aboriginal students are aware of the extent and sincerity of our support and barriers have largely been broken down to a point where open honest communication provides the Gosnells support our children require.

The final accolade must go to the staff of Gosnells Primary School. Education Assistants, Teachers and Support Staff are aware of the full service requirements this hard to staff school demands. Our stringent screening and tracking and meaningful translation of data into relevant manageable programs ensures success for all our students. We are particularly proud of the achievements of our Aboriginal students, a pride shared by their parents and extended families who acknowledge and value our day to day preparation for life approach.

*Rod W Simeons - Principal
August 2010*

RECOGNITION, PROMOTION & CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

WA HEALTH NURSE RECOGNISED AT NAIDOC PERTH CELEBRATIONS

WA Country Health Service Pilbara nurse Rodney Monaghan is this year's worthy recipient of the Rhonda Marriott Award which recognises the innovation, achievement and contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurses and midwives to the WA community.

Mr Monaghan was presented this award on Sunday July 4th, as part of the NAIDOC Perth Celebrations at Wellington Square reserve in East Perth.

Mr Monaghan has been working in the WA Health system for 14 years. He first started working as an Aboriginal Health Worker in South Hedland in the 1980s, later moving into the area of dialysis.

"I had to do a bit of clinical work with dialysis patients and after mastering the clinical skills, my Nurse Manager encouraged me to do nursing", Mr Monaghan said.

"It was frightening because it was a long time since I left school but I battled through and worked hard, studying the course and working part time".

"The first three months were the hardest and I nearly gave up sometimes, but what got me through was that I got so much assistance from the nurses and the community".

The Department of Health's Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer, Cath Stoddart, said Mr Monaghan is a great example of what can be achieved if you are prepared to work hard.

"Mr Monaghan has continued to work tirelessly to further his development and has been an invaluable member of the WA nursing community".

"He upgraded to an Advanced Skill enrolled nurse, and last year was offered professional development and a move into a position as an Aboriginal Health Officer where he had the opportunity to develop his natural leadership and management skills".

In just 12 months, Mr Monaghan advanced from a health officer position to Aboriginal Health Co-ordinator to the Regional Co-ordinator of Aboriginal Health.

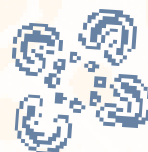
Ms Stoddart said it was a fitting tribute for Mr Monaghan to receive the award as part of the NAIDOC Perth Celebrations.

"The Nursing and Midwifery Office is proud to recognise and award Rodney Monaghan the 2010 Rhonda Marriott Award for WA," Ms Stoddart said.

Mr Monaghan said he would like to see more Indigenous Health Workers and Nurses working in his region to help people with their health.

"We need our people involved in management to have input into decisions about health for our people. Nursing for me, was vital as a stepping stone into management.

"Since I have completed my nursing, I have learned so much. I learned I can go anywhere in my career. I have a career that I am passionate about and improving Aboriginal Health in my region is my goal," Mr Monaghan said.



ADVOCACY IN ABORIGINAL EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT

MINISTER FOR TRAINING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



Hon Peter Collier MLC

Since I launched the Aboriginal Workforce Development Centre (AWDC) in March this year, it has had a significant impact in assisting jobseekers into employment.

The first of its kind in Western Australia, the AWDC has been established in the Perth CBD and is the main coordinating point to support Aboriginal people transitioning into employment.

Working collaboratively with a large range of employers and peak industry bodies, it has a vital role ensuring Aboriginal people further contribute to the State's overall skills and labour supply needs.

It will oversee the implementation of a more holistic, systematic, state-wide approach to training Aboriginal people while also working with employers, government and local communities to reduce barriers to Aboriginal participation in the workforce.

AWDC staff work closely with major companies and training providers to identify job opportunities and linking these with Aboriginal jobseekers, as well as mapping out future skills requirements across the State.

Complementing the Perth office, a series of regional centres are on track to be opened by the end of this year, providing a direct link between Aboriginal people and local employers.

Located in Broome, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Bunbury, these regional centres will identify the specific needs of the local areas, while also providing essential information to the Perth AWDC to ensure an effective state-wide strategy is maintained.

Since opening its doors, the Perth centre has hosted visits from more than 150 Aboriginal students, linking them to a range of career services and information about employment opportunities. More recently, it assisted two jobseekers to gain employment with a WA mining company.

It also attracted considerable interest from industry and individuals alike when it was represented at the inaugural Skills West Expo held in Perth at the start of September.

Creating the centre was an initial response to the Aboriginal Workforce Development Strategy, which I released at the Training Together-Working Together summit in June.

Endorsed by the State Government, the strategy was developed by the Training Together-Working Together committee and followed a series of metropolitan and regional workshops involving business, industry and community members.

ADVOCACY IN ABORIGINAL EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT

It aims to establish a stronger connection between employers and jobseekers, with opportunities to increase employer involvement and commitment to employing Aboriginal people.

One of the main findings of the committee was the lack of connection and co-ordination between employers, jobseekers and service providers with regard to training and employment opportunities for Aboriginal people.

While a large number of Aboriginal people are already in training, we need to ensure there is a seamless transition into ongoing employment. To do this, it's important that employers are aware of how to engage successfully with these jobseekers.

Work is progressing on implementing recommendations outlined in the strategy, which has involved continued consultation with community industry stakeholders.

Key recommendations include:

- developing a comprehensive mentoring strategy to coordinate and enhance existing programs
- creating an Aboriginal Workforce Development website to identify training and employment opportunities for Aboriginal people

- forming an across government group, at Director General level, to address the barriers (both government and non-government) outlined within the strategy – for example, housing and accommodation, offender transition into employment and assistance with driver's licences and job applications
- raising awareness of Aboriginal employment opportunities and services through the use of two mobile vans, which will visit Aboriginal communities
- promoting Aboriginal role models to raise the profile of successful Aboriginal people. For example, former West Coast Eagles footballer, David Wirrapanda is one of the public faces of Training Together – Working Together.

As Western Australia moves into a new era of prosperity, we must take action to ensure that Aboriginal people form a significant component of the required workforce to support sustained economic growth.

Through the strategy's recommendations and partnerships with other organisations, connections will be created that will have a positive impact on closing the gap in Aboriginal employment.



ADVOCACY IN ABORIGINAL EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS AWARDS ANNOUNCES 2010 WINNERS

AND THE WINNER OF THE COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION CATEGORY

IS

NYAARLA PROJECTS

Nyaarla Projects was presented with an Australian Business Award in the Community Contribution category at the 2010 Awards. Nyaarla Projects was one of 105 Australian Business Award recipients which received a total of 1849 separate entries from 962 organisations. The Australian Business Awards are a national program honouring organisations that demonstrate the core values of business excellence, product excellence, sustainability and commercial success in their respective industries through an established series of business and product award categories.



Alan Beattie

The Australian Business Award for Community Contribution recognises organisations which implement policies or projects that positively impact on the community and generate outcomes that have a long term benefit.

Commenting on their win, Alan Beattie, Chief Executive Officer of Nyaarla Projects says “This award reinforces our commitment to improving the quality of life of Indigenous Australians, in particular the number of young Indigenous people participating in quality education and training. This award will enable us to grow the programs we provide so that many more Indigenous people have the opportunity to change their lives”.

Nyaarla Projects Pty Ltd specialises in the provision of:

Training and Employment, Youth Services and Education, Public Participation/Community Consultation and general consulting including reviews, business facilitation, feasibility studies and planning.



Madonna Beattie

Nyaarla Projects is a 100% owned Indigenous business that commenced operation in September 2003. In 2008 Nyaarla Projects was awarded the Western Australian Indigenous Business Year of the Award. In 2006 Madonna Beattie the Owner /Managing Director was a finalist in the Telstra Women’s Business

Awards and in 2010 Madonna was a finalist in the inaugural WA Youth Worker of the Year Award. Amongst other achievements Madonna was Australia’s first Indigenous commercial pilot. Commenting on receiving the award, Madonna says “Our biggest barrier to expanding the highly successful programs we run is the availability of suitable training and accommodation related facilities, we hope that through this award we are able to highlight this issue and come up with a facility that meets our long-term requirements”.

ADVOCACY IN ABORIGINAL EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT

Nyaarla Projects either directly itself or via its sister organisation, a not-for-profit organisation (MADALAH Limited – Making A Difference And Looking AHead) which Alan and Madonna Beattie established in 2009 is supporting over 300 Indigenous youth via different education/training initiatives in 2010.

Tara Johnston, Program Director of the Australian Business Awards, commended the achievements of all Winners saying: “The standard of entries for 2010 has underpinned the strength of the Australian economy and provides a welcome opportunity for organisations committed to business and product excellence to receive the recognition they deserve. Congratulations to all the Winners for achieving exceptional results in their respective categories. In addition to highlighting the outstanding achievements of the winning organisations in the private and public sector, we are pleased that these Awards continue to promote key values in the workplace, including corporate responsibility, enterprise, innovative business practices, community contribution, product and service excellence across all industries.”

Business award entries are separated by industry classification per award category and evaluated in accordance with the award criteria across seven main areas: leadership & strategy, impact on industry, adaptability & sustainability, human resource management, customer relationship management, process management and evidence of success.

For more information please contact Alan Beattie on 08 9259 5700 / 041 888 1566 or via abeattie@nyaarla.com.au

About the Australian Business Awards

The Awards are a national, all-encompassing awards program honouring organisations that demonstrate the core values of business excellence, product excellence, sustainability and commercial success in their respective industries. The most comprehensive

of its kind, the awards are open to all Australian companies and organisations, private or public. This includes multi-national subsidiaries, government departments, agencies or bodies, franchisors and non-government organisations are all eligible to enter.

The mission of the Australian Business Awards is:

- To conduct an annual awards program with regional recognition and global significance;
- To recognise and honour corporate and product excellence;
- To ensure that the judging process is fair and objective, free of bias or influence; and
- To provide a viable world-class initiative that is technologically advanced for consumers and the business community

Details regarding the Awards program can be obtained at www.businessawards.com.au

ADVOCACY IN ABORIGINAL EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT

ARTICLES FOR OUR MARCH NEWSLETTER

Do you have a significant event in your school/community calendar coming up?

Have you been encouraged by the engagement or deeds of the Aboriginal community in the education process of Aboriginal students?

Are there any success stories for Aboriginal students and their families associated with your school?

Has your school signed off on the School Community Partnership Agreements?

How did your school celebrate NAIDOC?

Has your district office, diocese, TAFE or university been actively involved in an education, training or capacity building program that has made changes in your community?

If so, we would love to hear from you and include your success story in the WAAETC March edition.

Please call or email us your ideas for stories and don't forget to keep some great photos (with permission forms) to include in your story.

Please contact

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lesley.radloff@des.wa.gov.au

or

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ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING COUNCIL

W E S T E R N A U S T R A L I A



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Executive Officer



Ms Lorna Pedersen
Executive Assistant

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING COUNCIL

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