

KIMBERLEY LAND COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023





ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

The Kimberley Land Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and pay our respect to Elders past and present. The KLC acknowledges the First Nations of the Kimberley region upon whose lands we live and work. We recognise the diversity of Traditional Owner rights and interests in country, and support right people for right country. We thank and respect our Elders who have paved the way before us, and upon whose shoulders our emerging leaders now stand.

Aboriginal readers are warned that this report may contain images of deceased people.

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ABOUT

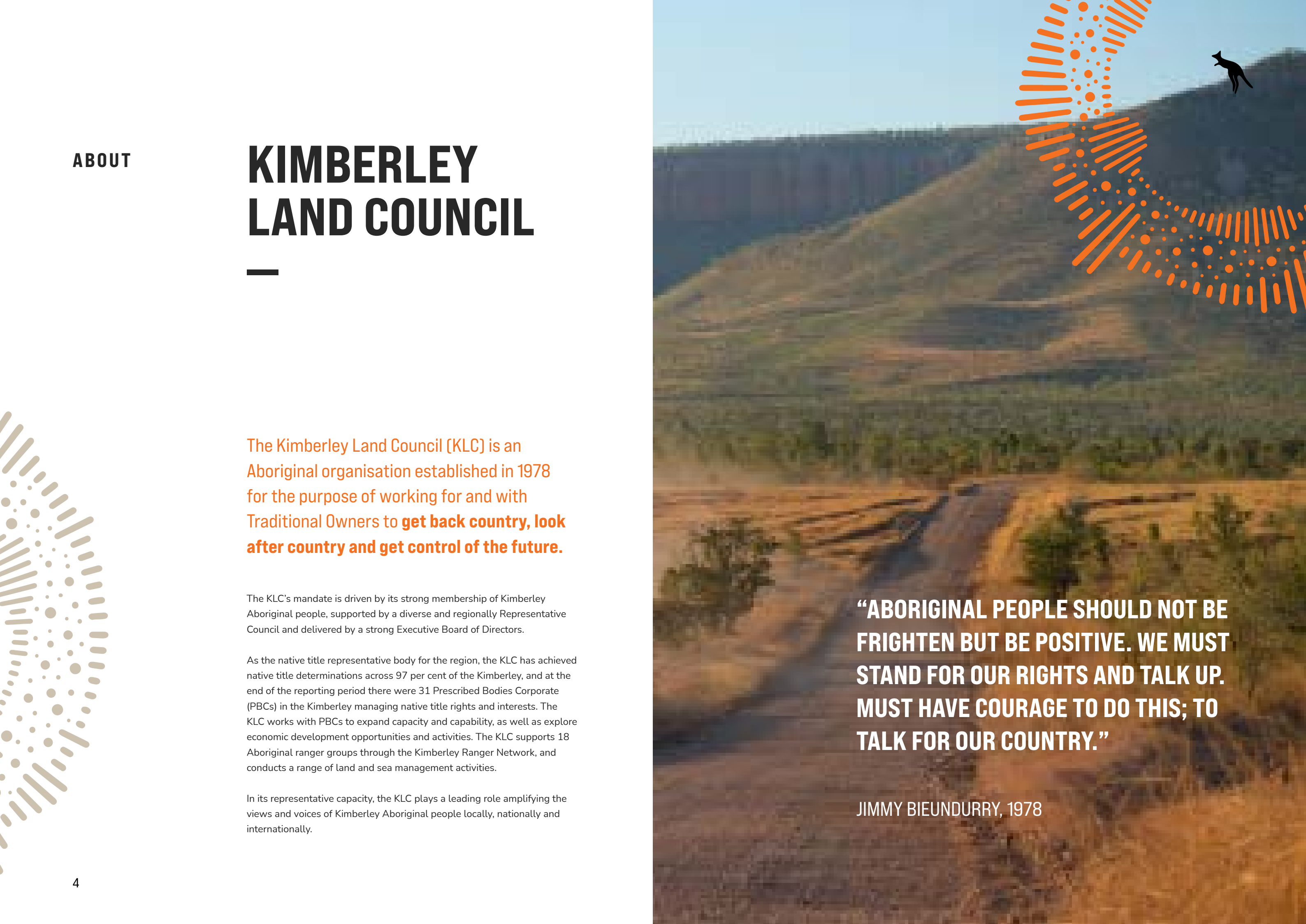
KIMBERLEY LAND COUNCIL

The Kimberley Land Council (KLC) is an Aboriginal organisation established in 1978 for the purpose of working for and with Traditional Owners to **get back country, look after country and get control of the future.**

The KLC's mandate is driven by its strong membership of Kimberley Aboriginal people, supported by a diverse and regionally Representative Council and delivered by a strong Executive Board of Directors.

As the native title representative body for the region, the KLC has achieved native title determinations across 97 per cent of the Kimberley, and at the end of the reporting period there were 31 Prescribed Bodies Corporate (PBCs) in the Kimberley managing native title rights and interests. The KLC works with PBCs to expand capacity and capability, as well as explore economic development opportunities and activities. The KLC supports 18 Aboriginal ranger groups through the Kimberley Ranger Network, and conducts a range of land and sea management activities.

In its representative capacity, the KLC plays a leading role amplifying the views and voices of Kimberley Aboriginal people locally, nationally and internationally.



“ABORIGINAL PEOPLE SHOULD NOT BE FRIGHTEN BUT BE POSITIVE. WE MUST STAND FOR OUR RIGHTS AND TALK UP. MUST HAVE COURAGE TO DO THIS; TO TALK FOR OUR COUNTRY.”

JIMMY BIEUNDURRY, 1978

MARBOO NGIMBI

I have served as the Chairperson of the Kimberley Land Council for nine years now. It continues to be one of my greatest honours as I dedicate my time to fighting for our people, country and culture. This is what guides me every day.



The work, as always, is demanding, and this year delivered some extra challenges for our region.

Extreme flooding events have had a devastating impact on residents in both the Fitzroy Valley region and the east Kimberley with the loss of homes, damage to country, limited food supplies and restricted travel.

The commitment to rebuild our communities shown throughout this hardship is a testament to how much we have endured, and our continued resilience.

Sadly, we have lost many of our old people this year. It is important we remember them and carry their voices so we can shape a better future for our children.

For many years there has been frustration among our people that our words have been lost. We have spoken loudly about our desire to

sustain our communities, revitalise our laws and customs, and seek self-determination.

From the battlefields of first contact, to the days of the mission, working on stations for no pay, fighting for land rights, and pursuing our native title claims, we have been adjusting to the new western framework imposed upon us.

Ineffective and discriminatory laws and policies have continued the status quo, trapping many of our people in a cycle of poverty.

We have not been included in decision making and we have been adjusting to a new system that has not given us protection and has locked us out of many opportunities.

I reflected on this last December when we celebrated the release of the KLC's book *The Shield and The Spear*, an



KLC Chairperson Anthony Watson and KLC CEO Tyronne Garstone stand next to the Uluru Statement From The Heart at the Sydney Peace Prize Event, November 2022.

incredible documentation of our history, with over forty years of our stories, published by Magabala Books and now sold nationwide.

I am proud to turn those pages and to see the inspiring work of leaders who have come before us. The giants on whose shoulders we stand. But I am also sad to read the speeches and statements from the leaders, calling for change in relation to the same issues our people continue to call for change on today. Decade after decade, our voices have either not been heard, or they have been heard and ignored.

This year I have been proud to watch KLC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Tyronne Garstone call for leaders, politicians and the Australian people to support an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament. When the KLC

travelled across the Kimberley on the Referendum Roadshow this year, I heard our members' voices in Kununurra, Halls Creek, Fitzroy Crossing and Derby calling for Australia to vote yes.

I truly hope that at the end of this year I will be celebrating a successful referendum.

Governments always change, but what we have been fighting for as Aboriginal people stays the same – a real and practical say, self-determination and recognition. We cannot lose sight of the bigger picture. The KLC is here to carry the voice of our members. We need active involvement from our families, communities and PBCs to continue to drive our people forward.

I invite you to turn these pages and celebrate the achievements of

our people. I ask you to remember where we began, and I hope you will call for change alongside us so that our children have a better future.

The KLC continues the long and difficult journey that was started by our old people.

Galia widoo ngarnga
'our true words'

Anthony Watson
Chairperson



CEO'S MESSAGE



GORNA MOYON AMBOORINY

This year, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people look towards one of the most momentous occasions of our nation's history, a referendum to recognise our people in Australia's founding document through a practical and meaningful Voice.



Kimberley Aboriginal people have called for a Voice and appropriate national and regional representation for more than 40 years. Our organisation believes in the importance of this opportunity and, as such, we have been heavily involved in the many years of consultation and design that resulted in the historic Uluru Statement from the Heart, and now the journey towards a successful referendum.

To ensure people have all the facts and to fulfil our role as a leading organisation advocating for Aboriginal rights, the KLC has embarked on a mission to share information and answer questions travelling across more than 1,000km for the Kimberley Referendum Roadshow. From the east to the west, the roadshow was an incredible display of engagement, discussion and unity, with Kimberley Aboriginal people

acknowledging the need for change and questioning the status quo. It was inspiring to hear the stories of our people, and as one of our leaders exclaimed "now I have a reason to vote".

We stand on the precipice of a great moment of change, one that will forever be etched in the nation's history books.

We have continued our focus on getting back country with less than 5 per cent of the Kimberley yet to be determined. In December we celebrated the finalisation of the Purnululu claim, first lodged in 1994, and what was the oldest active native title claim in Australia. Exclusive possession native title, the highest and strongest form of native title, was recognised over the world-heritage-listed Purnululu National Park and the neighbouring Purnululu Conservation Reserve under an agreement reached with

the State of Western Australia, allowing the Federal Court to recognise this form of native title. The decision brings to a close a difficult and long process for Traditional Owners to realise their rights to country and now begins the important process of using those rights to get control of the future. I extend my congratulations to the Purnululu and Gajangana Jaru native title holders.

The KLC has been advocating strongly for Traditional Owner rights to care for our country, seas and waterways. Throughout the reporting period we continued our work speaking up for the protection of the Martuwarra Fitzroy River, calling for a three-day water forum of Traditional Owners to talk with the WA Government and play a legitimate role in shaping water reform in this state.

"The KLC has a decades-long history of advocating for a proper form of regional representation. The Voice presents a once in a lifetime opportunity for fundamental change."

KLC CEO Tyrone Garstone

Kimberley leaders at the Broome Referendum Information Event, April 2022

The KLC also continued its support and management of many ranger groups across the Kimberley and has been working with groups on healthy country planning to create and support a strong environmental and cultural future for the next generation. Indigenous rangers are inspirational leaders and role models, not only undertaking important biodiversity and environmental management work, but playing a significant role in the social fabric of our communities. Nowhere was this more evident than following the devastating Fitzroy River floods, with ranger groups including the

Gooniyandi, Ngurrara, Bunuba and Nykina Mangala rangers joining the recovery effort. It has also been inspiring to see our women's ranger program continue to expand and strengthen across the region throughout the reporting period. Women play a vital role working on country and it is important that we continue to move towards gender parity across our ranger teams.

The protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage has continued to be at the forefront of much of the KLC's operational and advocacy work, including a significant focus on Western Australia's new

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act (ACH Act). The KLC participated in an extensive process to provide feedback on the guidelines and regulations that support the Act, a process that was extremely disappointing due to the lack of uptake of the vast majority of the KLC and other stakeholders' feedback. The KLC has spoken out strongly about the failures of the now defunct legislation and the potential for damage and destruction of culture and heritage that it would have permitted. We will continue to advocate for the protection of heritage, to call for tougher laws and to ensure



KLC CEO Tyrone Garstone addresses the crowd at the Halls Creek Kimberley Referendum Roadshow Event, June 2022.



KLC Directors and members show their support for the Martuwarra Fitzroy River at the 2022 KLC AGM in Kupartiya community.

that Traditional Owners are fully aware of the changes to the way culture and heritage is protected in Western Australia.

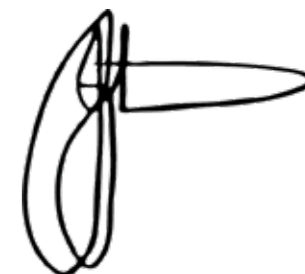
In a first-of-its-kind partnership, we are extremely proud to be collaborating with MG Corporation and Balangarra Aboriginal Corporation to deliver one of the nation's largest clean energy projects, producing green hydrogen products for domestic and export markets.

The East Kimberley Clean Energy Project will take advantage of the region's abundant sunshine, fresh water and export-ready harbour to create Australia's first 100 per cent renewable energy hydrogen and ammonia production hub. This project has been many months in the making and is an example of Kimberley Aboriginal people working together to develop

sustainable economic development opportunities within our region. Project scoping has been completed and development will continue over the next 12 months. Pending the completion of feasibility and capital raising stages, construction could commence as early as late 2025 with first production by the end of 2028. I look forward to sharing more about this opportunity in the future.

The KLC represents Kimberley Aboriginal people's history, our struggle, and our unending determination to realise our rights as custodians of our land. As we look towards the future we will always remember our past. The release of *The Shield and The Spear*, the book produced by the KLC in late 2023, celebrating our more than 40-year history, is a strong reminder of who we are and why we do what we do.

As we honour our past, we now look towards a thriving and positive future. The KLC will continue to push for change, to raise the bar and to elevate the voices and aspirations of Kimberley Aboriginal people locally, nationally and internationally. We do this for our children and their children, so that they can experience a world where their voices are heard and they can truly take control of their futures.



Tyrone Garstone
Chief Executive Officer



EXECUTIVE BOARD

The KLC would like to acknowledge the leadership and dedication of the cultural advisors and directors who have guided the organisation over the past year.



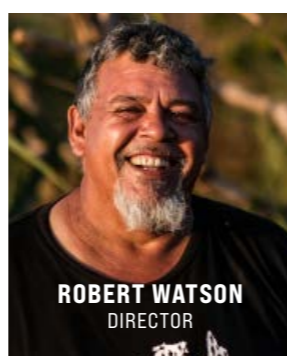
ANTHONY WATSON
CHAIRPERSON



TREVOR COX
VICE CHAIRPERSON



WAYNE BERGMANN
DIRECTOR
(AUGUST 22 - MAY 23)



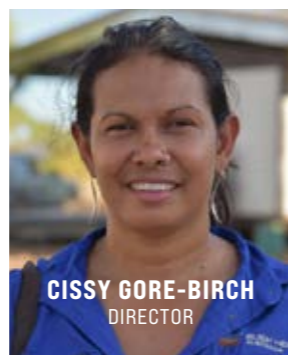
ROBERT WATSON
DIRECTOR



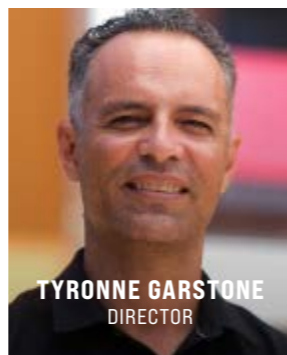
JEAN MALAY
DIRECTOR



MARIANNE SKEEN
DIRECTOR



CISSY GORE-BIRCH
DIRECTOR



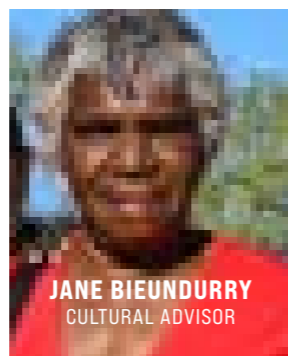
TYRONNE GARSTONE
DIRECTOR



JOHN WATSON
CULTURAL ADVISOR



TOM LAWFORD
CULTURAL ADVISOR



JANE BIEUNDURRY
CULTURAL ADVISOR



IRENE DAVEY
CULTURAL ADVISOR



The KLC membership appointed 12 new directors and acknowledged 38 Representative Council members at the KLC's Annual General Meeting at Kupartiya community in September 2022

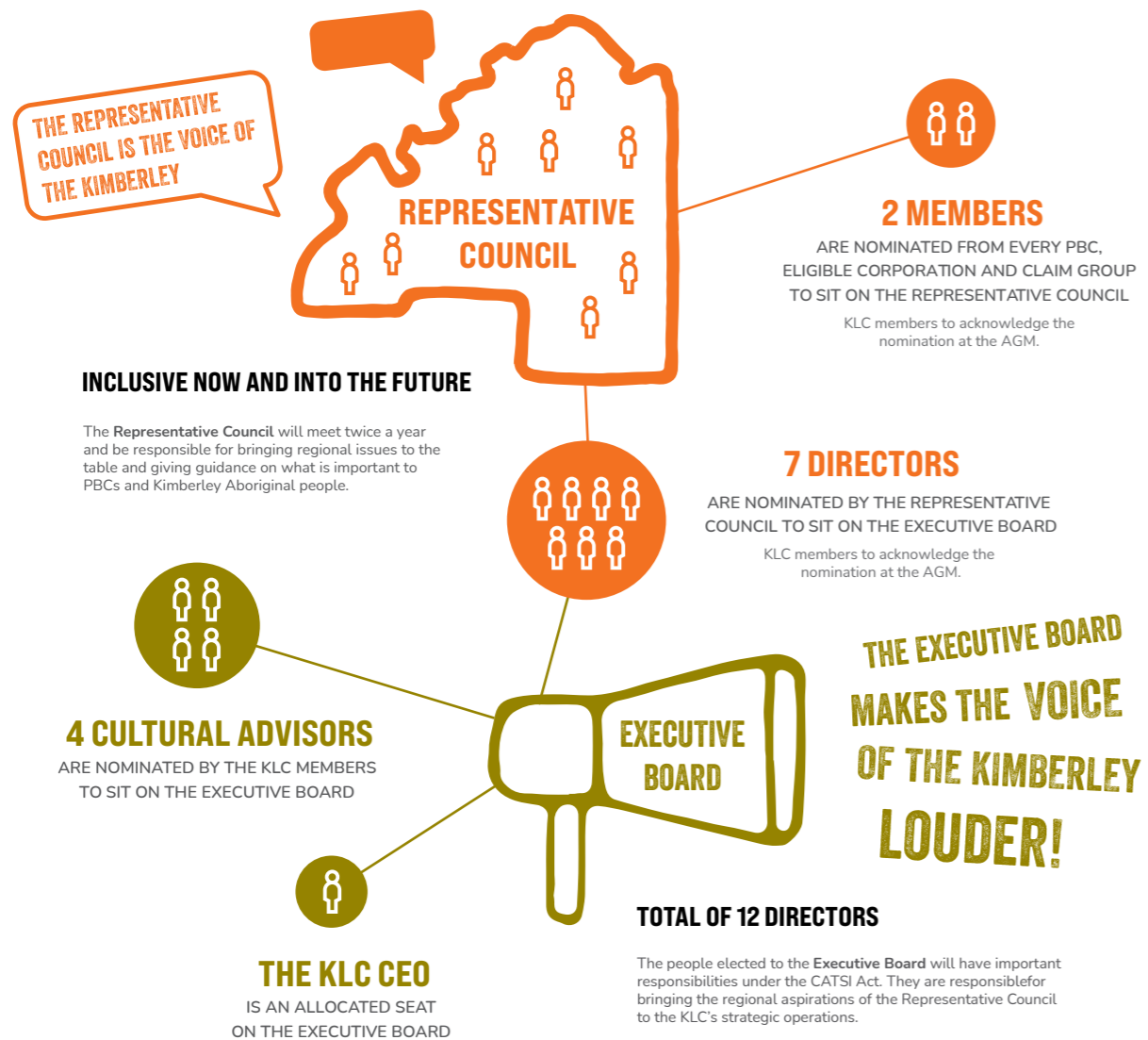


REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

The KLC would like to acknowledge the inaugural Representative Council for its guidance on regional issues affecting Kimberley Aboriginal people.



First ever Representative Council meeting held in Broome, May 2022.



KLC REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Cissy Gore-Birch - Balanggarra | Edith Skeen - Koongie-Elvire | Robert Watson - Walalakoo |
| Clement Maraltadj - Balanggarra | Vicki Butters - Malarngowem | Rosita Shaw - Walalakoo |
| Valarie Wiggan - Bardi Jawi | Russell Gregory - Malarngowem | Raymond (Ray) Paul Sahana - Wilinggin |
| Patrick (John) Jacky - Bardi Jawi | Dwesmond Wiggan-Dann - Mayala | Gordon Smith - Wilinggin |
| Anne Poelina - Boorroola Moorrool Moorrool | Joan Simon - Miriwoong Gajerrong | Percy Brown - Yanunijarra |
| Rona Charles - Boorroola Moorrool Moorrool | Greg Tait - Ngarrawanji | Dean Matthews - Yawuru |
| Kamus Green - Bunuba | Trevor Cox - Nimanburr | Jean Malay - Yurriyngem Taam |
| Selina Middleton - Bunuba | Scott Cox - Nimanburr | Le'Laine Shoveller - Yurriyngem Taam |
| Nathan Lenard - Giniyawarrni Yoowaniya Riwi | Rowena Wright - Nyangumarta Karajarri | Tom Lawford - Cultural Advisor |
| Elizabeth (Betty) Dixon - Gogolanyngor | David Aloysious Francis - Nyul Nyul | John Watson - Cultural Advisor |
| John Hamilton - Jaru | Marcella Augustine - Nyul Nyul | Jane Bieundurry - Cultural Advisor |
| Anne Rivers - Jaru | Shirley Drill - Purnululu | Irene Davey - Cultural Advisor |
| Wayne Bergmann - Joombarn-Buru | Glenn Bonney - Tiya-tiya | Annette Kogolo - Cultural Advisor |
| Gordon Marshall - Karajarri | Donovan Jenkins - Tjurabalan | Anthony Watson - Chairperson |
| Marianne Skeen - Koongie-Elvire | Isabel Palmer - Tjurabalan | Tyronne Garstone - CEO |

OUR TEAM

The KLC continues to be one of the top employers for the Kimberley region. The KLC is proud to offer competitive salaries, benefits and a supportive working environment that attracts talent from around Australia, whilst supporting the development and training of Kimberley Aboriginal people into leadership positions.



KLC Staff in the Broome NAIDOC march, 2022.

LEADERSHIP



CEO
Tyronne Garstone



Deputy CEO
Sarah Parriman



The KLC is proud to employ a diverse workforce, with strong female and Aboriginal representation.

120
STAFF WORK AT THE KLC

55%
OF STAFF ARE ABORIGINAL 

45
NEW STARTERS IN THE 2022-23 FINANCIAL YEAR

35%
OF STAFF HAVE WORKED AT THE KLC FOR 5+ YEARS

90%
OF STAFF SAY THEY USE THEIR STRENGTHS IN THEIR JOBS EVERY DAY

91%
OF STAFF ARE SATISFIED WITH WORKPLACE FLEXIBILITY



LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The KLC is committed to providing learning and development opportunities for our employees. We have a strong focus on succession planning and providing career progression pathways. In the 2022–23 financial year, the KLC held several workshops and training opportunities, including an all-staff workshop focused on building the culture and leadership of the organisation. There has also continued to be a strong focus on safety and wellbeing support for staff. It is increasingly recognised that there is evidence of trauma associated with native title processes. The KLC has recognised the need to support staff within the native title environment (and those staff who themselves are Traditional Owners) who are working with Traditional Owners who are experiencing trauma directly or vicariously.

VEHICLES

Throughout the reporting period, the KLC has undertaken significant work on vehicle safety. This has included:

- Reviewing and implementing policies, procedures and best practice
- Introducing new monitoring hardware and GPS units into the majority of KLC vehicles
- Undertaking an audit of all KLC vehicles
- Employing a dedicated fleet coordinator
- Developing formal pre- and post-trip checklists
- Facilitating 4WD training for staff

Moving forward, the KLC will continue to work towards improvements in vehicle safety and maintenance.

KLC ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT

The KLC has commenced Enterprise Agreement (EA) negotiations, with the current EA due to expire on 14 October 2023. The KLC anticipates that the new EA will continue to provide staff with competitive employment benefits, a workplace where staff feel valued and recognised for their work, and support with work/life balance.

HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING

The KLC continues to drive and improve our safety culture. Throughout the reporting period, the organisation introduced the 'Take 5' safety procedure to assist KLC staff in identifying and controlling risks at work. Site safety inspections also occurred at KLC offices and remote locations to identify hazards and areas for improvement. The KLC's Safety Committee continues to meet regularly and is a driving force for the promotion of work health and safety across the organisation.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE



KLC AGM, Kupartiya community, 2022.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for the day-to-day operational and administrative management of the KLC and is supported by a senior management team. The CEO is the interface between the KLC Executive Board and KLC staff. The CEO also works to achieve the strategic objectives of the organisation.

KLC EXECUTIVE BOARD AND REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

In 2022, the KLC introduced a new structure including an Executive Board and a Representative Council. At the KLC's Annual General Meeting (AGM) at Kupartiya community in September 2022, the KLC membership appointed 12 new directors and acknowledged 38 Representative Council members. The KLC Executive Board had its first full board meeting in December 2022 and again in May 2023, when the KLC held and celebrated the inaugural meeting of the Representative Council. In the reporting period, there have been three Executive Board meetings and one Representative Council meeting. The KLC Executive Board is supported with a detailed and regularly updated governance manual, induction and governance training, and several directors have been supported to represent the KLC at key events regionally and nationally.

FUNDING

The KLC acknowledges the support of the Commonwealth Government through the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) and other funding bodies which support the KLC in operational and activity-based programs. However, the KLC continues to struggle to meet ever-increasing needs and demand for services, amid cost-of-living pressures and limited increases in core funding available for programs. Holding on-country meetings and providing travel and accommodation arrangements for Traditional Owners, directors and staff continues to be challenging, particularly when working in extremely remote parts of the Kimberley.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Understanding the risks the KLC faces and managing them appropriately enhances the organisation's ability to make better decisions and deliver on its strategic objectives. The Executive Board is ultimately responsible for risk management and approves the organisation's approach to risk.

The Executive Board identifies the level of risk the Board is willing to take in pursuit of the KLC's goals. Under the Risk Appetite Statement, the Executive Board identifies the risk tolerance across five key areas, including financial, members, reputation, governance and resourcing. The Executive Board – including through the CEO and senior management team – regularly reviews, approves and maintains oversight of the organisation's risk through the organisation's policies, procedures and practices. The Executive Board receives updates at its meetings about key risks, changes in risks and emerging risks.

Stringent financial and operational procedures are maintained and applied to make sure the organisation is effectively managed. The KLC retains a qualified financial accountant to provide financial reporting to the Executive Board and the CEO, and who provides certification and acquittal of funding agreements. The KLC also engages an external independent auditor to ensure the organisation fulfils its financial management obligations and corporate compliance.

The senior management team is responsible to the CEO for planning the activities, services and projects necessary to manage risk. The management team meets regularly to review progress and identify upcoming issues, which are reported to the Executive Board. The KLC is proactive in identifying potential financial and operational issues to ensure appropriate action is taken to minimise or exclude those risks.



ETHICAL STANDARDS

All KLC employees are required to maintain high standards of honesty, integrity and respect, while behaving in an appropriate and fair manner. Employees conduct their work in accordance with the ethical standards relevant to their professions and codes of conduct. Staff performance guidelines are included in the KLC's policies and procedures and the KLC Code of Conduct.

EXTERNAL SCRUTINY

An annual financial external independent audit was conducted by Australian Audit for the 2022–23 financial year. The KLC also underwent a comprehensive examination by the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) in the 2022–23 financial year, with documentation provided across the organisation's financial and governance practices. The examination ranged from documentation and compliance, to rules and regulations relating to KLC membership, information to members on the business of the KLC, recordkeeping of meetings and appropriate notifications, governance practices and documentation of the Executive Board, and the Executive Board's duties and obligations.

ORIC conducts examinations to assess the corporate governance and financial health of corporations. The Registrar conducts a rolling program to regularly assess the largest corporations, with the KLC also undergoing an ORIC examination in 2016–17. The Registrar's ability to examine a corporation is a regulatory power unique to the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* (CATSI Act). All ORIC examinations and outcomes are publicly available on the ORIC website.

COMPLAINTS

The KLC received two complaints in the reporting period. Both complaints were resolved in accordance with the complaints process outlined as part of the KLC's policies and procedures.

KIMBERLEY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CHARITABLE TRUST

The Kimberley Sustainable Development Charitable Trust (KSDCT) was established 20 years ago as a low-cost alternative to commercial for-profit trustees. The primary purpose of the trust is to ensure that the funds under management are preserved and where possible grown, and spent on beneficiaries of the trust rather than operating expenses. KSDCT is administered by a corporate trustee, Kimberley Sustainable Development Pty Ltd (KSD Pty Ltd), which is a wholly owned subsidiary of the KLC. The trustee is governed by an independent Board.

In October 2022, the KLC welcomed the findings and recommendations of an independent inquiry and review into KSDCT undertaken by leading barrister Anthony Power. The extensive review found the KSDCT had discharged its primary roles and obligations remarkably well, and that its trustee acted independently of the KLC and in the best interests of the KSDCT and its beneficiaries, Kimberley Aboriginal people. More information about the review, including the final report, can be found at www.klc.org.au/newsroom



KLC AGM, Kupartiya community, 2022.



POLICY, ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATIONS

As a leading Aboriginal organisation committed to the rights of First Nations people, the KLC's voice and platform are important tools for influencing change.

MG Corporation Director Ted Carlton at the Kununurra Referendum Roadshow event, June 2022.



MEDIA



CUMULATIVE POTENTIAL AUDIENCE REACH

53 MILLION PEOPLE

Through its advocacy, the KLC is constantly working towards the empowerment and self-determination of Kimberley Aboriginal people. The KLC does this by calling for improvements to policy and legislation, making submissions to government consultation processes and inquiries, speaking at key forums and events, meeting with State and Commonwealth Ministers and senior government officials, holding community engagement events and maintaining strong stakeholder relationships.

In the 2022–23 reporting period, the KLC elevated the voices of Aboriginal people across a number of key areas with the aim of strengthening rights, building the capacity of people and organisations, caring for country, protecting culture and heritage, and developing new and emerging opportunities. The KLC also worked collaboratively with other organisations to

KLC WEBSITE VISITS

67,000 VISITS
107,000 PAGE VIEWS



strengthen its advocacy efforts and push for change.

In the reporting period, the KLC made 16 submissions to various government processes and inquiries, and participated in extensive consultation processes, including more than six months of ongoing feedback centred on the new WA Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act. The KLC also appeared before the Joint Select Committee on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice Referendum, as well as the Select Committee on Australia's Disaster Resilience. There is increasing demand for Indigenous perspectives and input in the public discourse, especially in law and policy making. While the KLC welcomes the effort to listen to and include the views of Aboriginal people, the ability to manage the volume and disparate nature of government consultation processes and inquiries is an ongoing challenge.

FACEBOOK



10.7K FOLLOWERS
CONTENT REACHED
220,000 PEOPLE

Throughout the reporting period, the KLC held several community events to engage with KLC members and the broader public. These included the KLC AGM at Kupartiya community, the launch of the KLC book *The Shield and the Spear*, the region's first Kimberley leaders referendum workshop and a four-day Kimberley Referendum Awareness Roadshow from Kununurra to Derby. We also supported other regional community events, including the KALACC Women's Cultural Festival and the Empowered Young Leaders gathering at the 2022 AGM. Although just outside of the reporting period, it is also worth noting that the KLC held an additional two events in June 2022, the Fitzroy River Film Festival and the Kimberley Culture and Heritage Showcase.

PARTNERSHIPS

The KLC prides itself on its long history of strong partnerships with a variety of Indigenous and non-Indigenous, government and non-government, not-for-profit and industry-based organisations and individuals. Partnerships are important because they help the KLC to lead and effect change for Kimberley Aboriginal people. They are based on an understanding and respect for truth telling, cultural protocols and native title rights and interests, and exist at local, regional, state, national and international levels.

The KLC is proud to partner with PBCs and other Aboriginal organisations across the Kimberley to foster regional advocacy, leadership and representation. The KLC would like to acknowledge the support of its many other partners whose contributions allow the KLC to continue to serve its members and First Nations people more broadly.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Ahmuth Binomar, Member for the Kimberley, Divina D'Anna, YES23 Campaign Director Dean Parkin, Constitutional law expert, Dr Shireen Morris and KLC CEO Tyrone Garstone at the Kununurra Referendum Roadshow event, June 2022.



KEY AREAS OF ADVOCACY & REFORM 2022-23

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER VOICE

The KLC has collaborated with key Indigenous and non-Indigenous organisations and individuals to actively support Indigenous constitutional recognition through an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice. KLC CEO Tyrone Garstone is a member of the Referendum Engagement Group and has been a key spokesperson and advocate for the Voice. The KLC has undertaken significant work to provide education and resources to Kimberley Aboriginal people about the upcoming referendum, including a workshop in Broome, and a roadshow visiting Kununurra, Halls Creek, Fitzroy Crossing and Derby. The KLC made a submission in support of the provisions of the Bill introduced by the Commonwealth Government to finalise the wording of the referendum question, with KLC Chairperson Anthony Watson appearing before the Joint Select Committee in Perth.

APPLICATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN AUSTRALIA

The Joint Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs conducted an inquiry into the application of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in Australia. The committee, which was headed up by Senator Patrick Dodson, was looking into the international experiences of the implementation of UNDRIP, considering options for improving adherence to UNDRIP principles in Australia, and assessing how the implementation of the Uluru Statement from the Heart can support the application of UNDRIP. The KLC made a submission to the Inquiry focusing on the Uluru Statement from the Heart, native title, and heritage protection. The KLC identified many areas where the current laws of Australia fall short of the standards required for the Commonwealth Government to meet its obligations under UNDRIP.

CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021

The information in this report is for the period 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023. However, since 1 July 2023 significant developments have taken place that affect Aboriginal cultural heritage in Western Australia. The information that KLC is aware of (up to when this Annual Report was published) is included below because of the importance of these developments.

On 8 August 2023, the WA Premier Roger Cook announced that the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021* (ACH Act), which had come into effect on 1 July 2023, would be repealed by the WA Government. The Premier also announced that the heritage protection law in Western Australia would go back to the previous *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*. The KLC had consistently voiced its concerns about the ACH Act and its inability to protect heritage and culture. While the KLC has cautiously welcomed the repeal of the ACH Act, we continue to hold concerns, particularly about a 'revamped' 1972 Act that does not go far enough to protect Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Throughout the reporting period, the KLC dedicated significant time and resourcing into advocating for improvements to the ACH Act, and had taken significant steps to prepare for its commencement, including communication with PBCs about the new Act, supporting PBCs to prepare to meet their requirements, and preparing the KLC to become a Local Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Service (LACHS). The planned repeal of the ACH Act creates great uncertainty over all this work and the future protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage in the state. It is extremely disappointing that the views of Aboriginal organisations and Traditional Owners, who had predicted the failure of the legislation, were not listened to in the first instance, and that it appears that the repeal of the ACH Act and its replacement with the old 1972 Act further removes Traditional Owners from the decision-making table.

National cultural heritage legislation

For many years the KLC has called for stronger protections for Aboriginal culture and heritage. In response to the destruction of Juukan Gorge in 2020, the Commonwealth Government committed to legislate new national cultural heritage protections. KLC Chairman Anthony Watson travelled to Canberra for the historic signing of the First Nations Heritage Protection Alliance Partnership with Minister for the Environment Tanya Plibersek, Minister for Indigenous Affairs Linda Burney and Senator Patrick Dodson. Since then, the KLC has been a part of the Alliance, providing strategic direction on the approach for developing new protections. Strong national cultural heritage laws are extremely important for Aboriginal people all over Australia, and particularly in Western Australia because of the instability and inadequacies of current cultural heritage protection in this state.



Kimberley elders Irene Davey, Shirley Drill and Jean Malay at the KLC's Protect Aboriginal Heritage March in Perth, August 2021.

CARBON

In 2022, the Commonwealth Government ordered an independent review into the integrity of Australian Carbon Credit Units. The KLC made submissions about the risk of carbon projects being registered on native title holders' land without their consent. The KLC also highlighted the significant benefits to communities and the environment that Indigenous savanna fire management carbon projects have delivered in the Kimberley. The review's findings were released in January 2023 and recommended that carbon legislation be amended to incorporate the principle of free, prior and informed consent for projects on Indigenous land. The Commonwealth Government has accepted the review's recommendations and is expected to introduce changes to Parliament.

NATURE REPAIR MARKET

The 2021 State of the Environment Report found a significant investment in conservation and restoration is needed to reverse the decline in Australia's natural environment. In response to the report, the Commonwealth Government released the Nature Positive Plan, which includes the establishment of a Nature Repair Market. The KLC has made three submissions on the Nature Repair Market Bill and overall welcomes the effort to establish innovative ways to create better environmental outcomes across Australia. The KLC welcomes the Commonwealth Government's commitment to the principle of free, prior and informed consent, as well as the active participation of PBCs as project proponents within the scheme. The KLC will continue to advocate for specific mechanisms that support full Indigenous participation in decision-making processes, and empower Traditional Owners and native title holders to have the capacity to become project proponents if so desired.



KLC CEO Tyrone Garstone and Chair Anthony Watson joined by Kimberley leaders and supporters campaigning to protect the Martuwarra Fitzroy River at Perth Parliament House



WATER REFORM

Championing Indigenous rights to freshwater and saltwater is extremely important, as historically, Indigenous people’s rights to water have largely been excluded from Australia’s water planning and management. For many years the KLC has been elevating the voices of Traditional Owners, particularly around the Martuwarra Fitzroy River. The KLC has consistently called on the WA Government to respect the wishes of Traditional Owners for zero extraction of surface water from the Martuwarra, and has called on the Government to hold a three-day forum with Traditional Owners to talk about ongoing water planning relating to the river and its tributaries. The KLC is aware that the WA Government plans to introduce major water reforms through new legislation. The KLC has requested that the WA Government provides Traditional Owners with ample opportunity to review and provide feedback on any draft water reform legislation, takes on board the views of Traditional Owners and updates any drafting accordingly.

WA LAND USE

During the reporting period, the KLC provided extensive feedback on the WA Government’s proposed changes to the Land Administration Act. The changes will have a significant impact on land use and native title, particularly with the introduction of a new type of lease called a diversification lease. Throughout the consultation period for the draft Bill, the KLC made several submissions to the WA Government outlining its concerns. They include concerns about the Minister’s power to compulsorily acquire native title interests and support for PBCs to hold diversification leases.

The KLC continues to hold significant concerns that diversification leases may be granted without consultation with native title holders in a culturally appropriate and well-informed way. Without a funding or resourcing process, native title holders will also be at a serious disadvantage in ILUA negotiations and ILUA implementation.

FITZROY RIVER FLOODS

In early 2022, the Kimberley experienced extreme flooding across the Fitzroy Valley and east Kimberley, with the loss of homes, damage to country, limited food supplies and restricted travel due to the collapse of the Fitzroy River bridge. Throughout the emergency and recovery phase, the KLC was consistently advocating for appropriate State and Commonwealth Government support, as well as providing on the ground logistical assistance where required. The KLC was proud to assist Yanunijarra Aboriginal Corporation in early January with the important transport of the Ngurrara Canvas from Fitzroy Crossing to the KLC office in Broome for safekeeping. The Gooniyandi, Ngurrara, Bunuba and Nyikina Mangala ranger groups also provided invaluable assistance with the flood recovery. In May 2023, the KLC appeared before the Select Committee on Australia’s Disaster Resilience to discuss the impact of the floods and what action could be taken to prepare for future disasters in the region.





GETTING BACK COUNTRY



NATIVE TITLE ROLE & FUNCTIONS



The Native Title Act allows the Minister to recognise organisations as **‘representative bodies’** for a period of up to six years. Representative bodies have functions under the Native Title Act and are provided with grant funding by the Commonwealth Government each financial year to carry out those functions. **The functions of representative bodies are set out in section 203B of the Native Title Act.**

THE REPRESENTATIVE BODY HAS THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS:

- **(a)** the facilitation and assistance functions referred to in section 203BB
- **(b)** the certification functions referred to in section 203BE
- **(c)** the dispute resolution functions referred to in section 203BF
- **(d)** the notification functions referred to in section 203BG
- **(e)** the agreement making function referred to in section 203BH
- **(f)** the internal review functions referred to in section 203BI
- **(g)** the functions referred to in section 203BJ and such other functions as are conferred on representative bodies by the Native Title Act

REPRESENTATIVE BODY STATUS

In February 2023 the KLC applied to the Commonwealth Government for re-recognition of its native title representative body status. The Minister for Indigenous Australians has since informed the KLC that based on the application and advice from the National Indigenous Australians Agency, the KLC satisfactorily performs its existing functions as a representative body under the Act and is able to continue to do so. The KLC has therefore been recognised as the as the representative body for the Kimberley area for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2026.

FACILITATION AND ASSISTANCE FUNCTIONS

Representative body functions are carried out in accordance with available resources and competing priorities. However, priority must be given to the protection of native title rights and interests.

The facilitation and assistance functions of representative bodies are:

- (a) to research and prepare native title applications, and to facilitate research into, preparation of and making of native title applications; and
- (b) to assist registered native title bodies corporate (also known as PBCs), native title holders and persons who may hold native title (including by representing them or facilitating their representation) in consultations, mediations, negotiations and proceedings relating to the following:
 - Native title applications
 - Future acts
 - Indigenous land use agreements (ILUAs) or other agreements in relation to native title
 - Rights of access conferred under the Native Title Act or otherwise
 - Any other matters relating to native title or to the operation of the Native Title Act

The KLC carries out its facilitation and assistance functions by allocating resources to progress native title claims, to PBCs, for the negotiation of agreements or resolution of disputes, future acts, and other matters relating to native title. The KLC also provides legal advice and representation where requested and if appropriate.



Dancers at the AGM, Kupartiya Community, August 2022.



NATIVE TITLE ASSISTANCE

During the 2022–23 reporting period, the KLC provided native title assistance to **seven native title claims, five compensation claims and 27 PBCs within the Kimberley region**. Throughout the year, the number of claims has fluctuated, as some claims have been determined or withdrawn, and other claims have been lodged.

NATIVE TITLE CLAIMS

All the native title claims for which the KLC provides facilitation and assistance are important, but with limited resources available, not all claims can be progressed at the same time. Claim priority assessment determines the direction of organisational activities. The prioritisation of claims is informed by, but not limited to, resourcing considerations, Federal Court case management priorities, and the availability of suitably qualified consultants such as anthropologists. For more information about current native title claim work conducted by the KLC, please refer to page 42.

NATIVE TITLE COMPENSATION

The KLC assists a number of PBCs to prepare for and make native title compensation claims. Compensation claims can be made under the Native Title Act for the impacts of acts, such as mining leases, exploration licences, roads and public works, on native title rights. The KLC provides assistance by meeting with PBC Boards to provide information about native title compensation, assisting with research and recording evidence, providing legal representation and other expert services such as anthropology when a compensation claim is made in the Federal Court, and providing project management support for authorisation meetings and on-country activities.

PBCs

The KLC provides assistance to PBCs in relation to establishment, meeting assistance, expert advice, resources, and governance and compliance matters. There is a high level of demand for the KLC to support PBCs that otherwise have limited resourcing to carry out their statutory and corporate governance functions. More information about the KLC's PBC support can be found on page 90 of this report.

FUTURE ACTS & HERITAGE

The KLC supports PBCs and claim groups in the Kimberley region by providing legal and anthropological assistance in response to future acts. Future acts happen when an interest impacts native title rights. Most future acts also impact cultural heritage. Examples of future acts are mining leases, exploration licences, new pastoral or grazing leases, and activities by government authorities like Water Corporation or Main Roads. The KLC responds to future acts by providing the views of native title holders, negotiating Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs), and gathering evidence to support objections or hearings before the National Native Title Tribunal.

Future acts HPAs are important for looking after country and ensuring native title holders can control what happens on their country.

The core principles of HPAs are:

- **No means no** – If an activity is not agreed to or 'cleared' by Traditional Owners, the proponent will not do that activity.
- **Work program clearance** – Activities, not country, are cleared. If a proponent wants to do any additional activities in the future, they must come back and obtain the consent of Traditional Owners.
- **Community benefits** – Traditional Owners receive a benefit proportionate to the scale of the activities.
- **Cost recovery** – The proponent pays for the costs of its commercial activities, including meeting with Traditional Owners and undertaking clearances, as well as contributing to the costs of negotiating agreements.

The KLC responds to future acts by providing the views of native title holders, negotiating Heritage Protection Agreements, and gathering evidence to support objections or hearings before the National Native Title Tribunal.



EXPEDITED PROCEDURES

Most of the future act notices issued for the Kimberley region are exploration licences subject to the 'expedited procedure' statement. The effect of the expedited procedure statement is that native title parties must either:

- object to the statement and then try to win a legal argument before the National Native Title Tribunal that the right to negotiate should apply to the future act; or
- do nothing and the proponent will be granted an exploration licence without any consultation with native title holders.

Reforms by the State have reduced the number of future act notices that the expedited procedure applies to, however the KLC believes this new approach is not consistent with the intent of the law.

To maintain the rights of native title parties to negotiate, the KLC objected to almost every s29 notice it received during the 2022–23 period and gathered evidence to support inquiries in the National Native Title Tribunal where the proponent had not agreed to enter into a HPA. This process is resource intensive and often requires extensive evidence gathering with Traditional Owners.

APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE

Individuals or groups may apply to the KLC for assistance in relation to a native title matter, such as to research and lodge a new native title claim, resolve a native title dispute, or agreement-making. The KLC Native Title Grants Committee is a subcommittee of the KLC Executive Board which considers and decides on applications for assistance.

In the reporting period, the KLC received two applications for assistance. Both of these applications will be considered by the Native Title Grants Committee in the next reporting period.

CERTIFICATION FUNCTIONS

The KLC's representative body functions include certifying that native title claims and Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) have been properly authorised by native title holders or claimants. The KLC certified one ILUA in the reporting period. The KLC did not certify any new native title claims in the reporting period.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION FUNCTIONS

It is the KLC's policy to, wherever possible, resolve disputes relating to native title by consultation at claimant meetings and during the course of claim preparation.

The existence of disputes can have a significant negative impact on the ability of Traditional Owners to exercise their native title rights and interests, or to have those rights and interests recognised.

For example, the existence of a dispute might have a negative impact on:

- Priority for assistance
- Registering a native title claim (because of adverse impacts on certification or authorisation processes)
- Responding to future acts
- Obtaining a determination of native title

The process for achieving successful native title determinations often raises difficult questions for claimants. Disputes may arise, particularly where the relationship between the Native Title Act and traditional law and customs is not clear. As a result, the KLC may be called upon to assist in resolving disputes.

It is a requirement of the Native Title Act for the KLC to make all reasonable efforts to minimise the number of overlapping native title claim applications. The dispute resolution function assists to streamline the native title process and increase certainty for parties involved in native title matters.

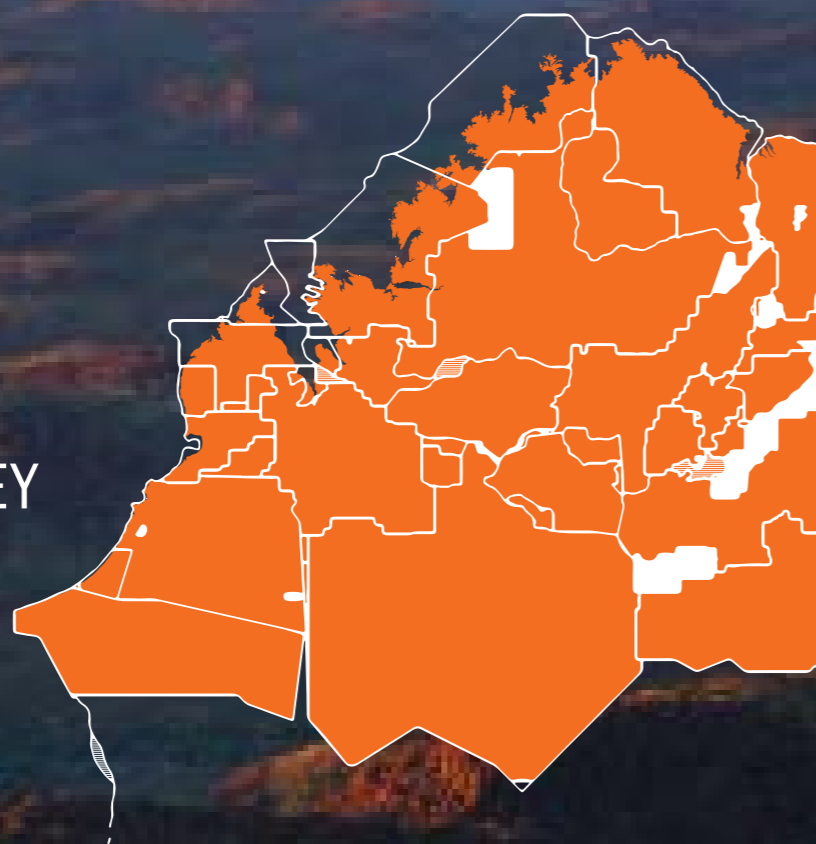
The KLC provided assistance for mediation of disputes that affected four different native title claim groups during the reporting period. All of this dispute resolution assistance involved some level of formal mediation by the Federal Court.





NATIVE TITLE CLAIMS

MORE THAN 97% OF THE KIMBERLEY IS NATIVE TITLE RECOGNISED.



The KLC has been very successful over the past three decades, since the Native Title Act came into force in 1994, in assisting Kimberley Traditional Owners to have their native title rights recognised by the Federal Court of Australia.

Less than 5 per cent of the Kimberley remains to be recognised. Some of the remaining areas are disputed and subject to competing claims, and it is possible that some of these disputes will only be resolved through Federal Court hearings.

The KLC continues to provide support for native title claimants who are in dispute through the exercise of its representative body functions.

PURNULULU & GAJANGANA JARU

In an historic development last December, exclusive possession native title, the highest and strongest form of native title in Australia, was recognised over Purnululu National Park and the neighbouring Purnululu Conservation Reserve following an agreement with the State of Western Australia under the new section 47C of the Native Title Act. Section 47C agreements enable governments and native title claimants to reach agreement to disregard prior extinguishment of native title, and allow recognition of native title over areas of land set aside for conservation purposes.

The determination of the Purnululu and Gajangana Jaru claims recognises the native title rights and interests of the Traditional Owners who together have Kija, Jaru and Malgnin language identities. The agreement to recognise exclusive possession native title in Purnululu National Park and the Purnululu Conservation Reserve sets the foundation for a strong relationship over an area which is of great cultural significance to Traditional Owners and has recognised global significance under a World Heritage Listing. The Purnululu native title claim was the oldest claim in Australia. The newly established PBC for the determination area is Bungles Bungles Aboriginal Corporation.

KOONGIE-ELVIRE, NGARRAWANJI #3, & HALLS CREEK

The KLC Board has approved assistance for a number of groups for the Koongie-Elvire claim area, the Ngarrawanji #3 claim, and the Halls Creek area. This assistance is for funding for separate legal representation. KLC lawyers and anthropologists do not act for any of the native title parties to these claims. The Federal Court made the KLC a respondent to the Koongie-Elvire claim because it is the native title representative body for the area of the claim.

WARRWA COMBINED & BOORROOLA MOORROOL MOORROOL

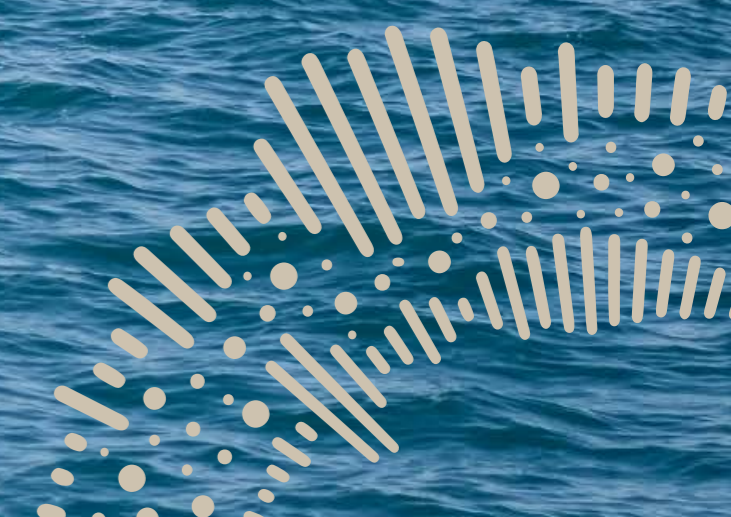
The Warrwa Combined claim and the Boorroola Moorrool Moorrool claim overlap in the area of Derby. The KLC supports the Warrwa Combined claim through representation by KLC lawyers. The KLC also supports the Boorroola Moorrool Moorrool claim through funding for separate legal representation. The KLC is also a respondent to the Warrwa Combined Claim as part of its representative body functions.

ARGYLE CLAIM

The Argyle Participation Agreement ILUA was signed in 2005 by the KLC, Traditional Owners and Argyle Mining. Under this agreement, the KLC must assist Traditional Owners to make a native title claim over the Argyle Grazing Lease area. The KLC held a number of community consultations from 2021 to 2023 and engaged an anthropologist to work with Traditional Owners to undertake research and prepare a connection report to support the native title claim once it is authorised and lodged with the Federal Court.



LOOKING AFTER COUNTRY





LAND & SEA MANAGEMENT

“Working as a ranger means you can be on country, close to your home, getting to know your surrounds and what lives in it, the different habitats, breeding cycles, seasonal calendars, species, what they eat, where you can locate them. This reinforces the value of looking after country, and our culture, which has always had plants and animals acknowledged in our laws and customs.”

Anthony Watson, KLC Chairperson

The Kimberley Land Council strives to create cultural and economic opportunities that empower Traditional Owners to lead and maintain cultural practices that protect the rich biodiversity and cultural values of the Kimberley region.

The Kimberley is larger than 75 per cent of countries around the world, with a biologically diverse landscape predominantly managed by Aboriginal people. The West Kimberley region has been recognised on the National Heritage List as a significant Aboriginal cultural landscape.

With an estimated population of just 35,000 people across 423,000 km², the Kimberley has fewer people per square kilometre than almost any other place on earth.

Kimberley Aboriginal people are using their cultural values to enrich the natural environment, deliver employment and training, ignite social change, support carbon abatement, and stimulate economic activities in their communities. Indigenous ranger groups across the Kimberley demonstrate this best.

The KLC looks forward to expanding the vital work of ranger teams throughout the Kimberley.



Bardi Jawi Oorany and Aamba rangers Hennarlia Rex and Terrick Bin Salia conducting early season prescribed burning





Kija women rangers early season burning

KIMBERLEY RANGER NETWORK

Over the past 15 years, the KLC has managed 11 ranger programs spanning across the region. Five of these ranger groups have divested over the last several years, having reached the capacity to successfully manage their own programs.

All 18 Indigenous ranger groups that operate in the Kimberley are part of the Kimberley Ranger Network, a KLC initiative which acts as a voice for ranger groups within the region. The network is underpinned by cultural values and the positive benefits of the program have been far and wide reaching. It has significantly improved community wellbeing, is working to reduce poverty through creating economic opportunities and is building leadership in communities.

While some groups within the Kimberley Ranger Network are independently run and managed, the KLC still provides support to the groups through advocacy, training, development and hosting regional forums.



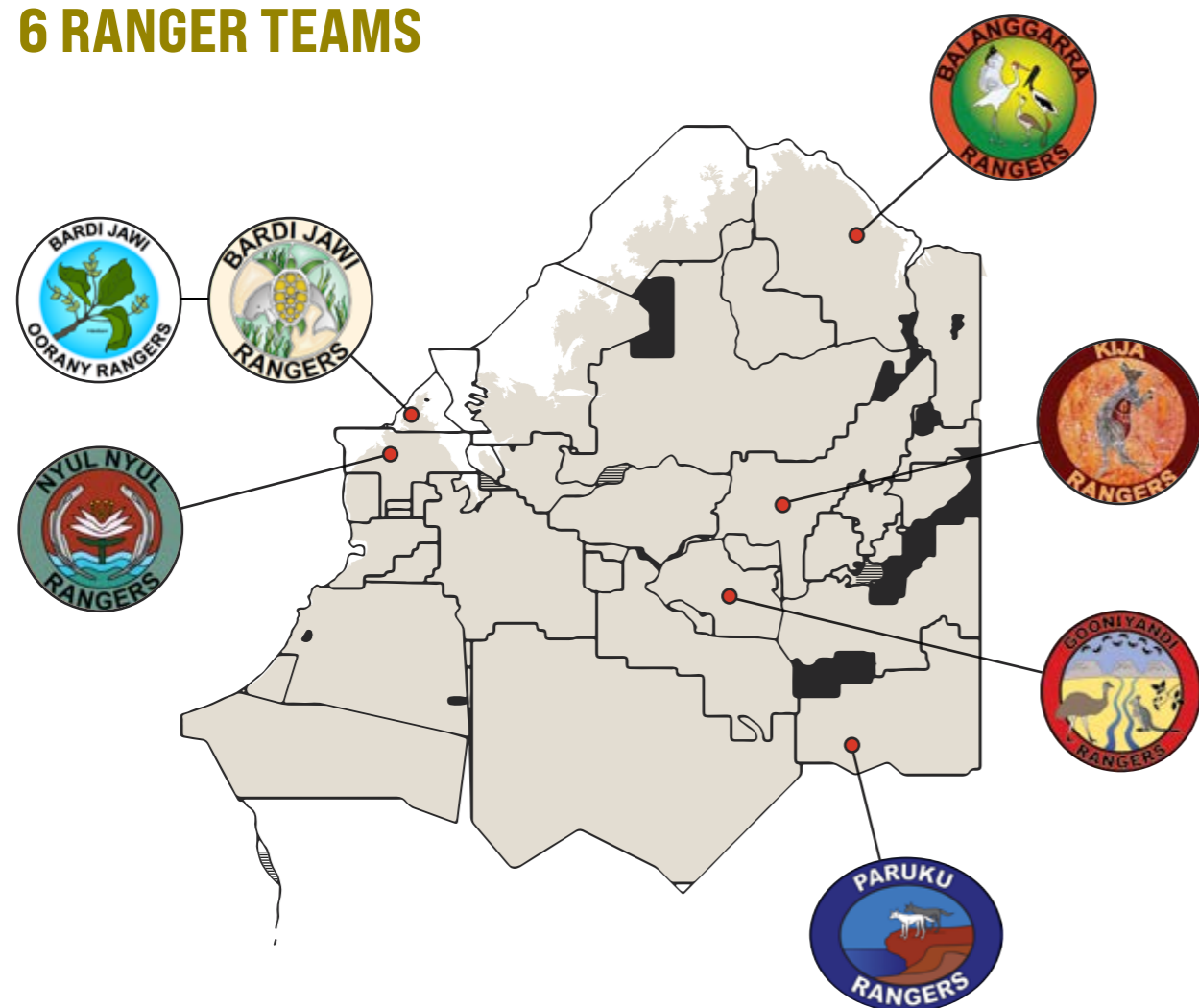
Kimberley Ranger Network celebrate at the end of year ranger awards, December 2022.

The KLC works to get better outcomes for country and support Kimberley rangers, Prescribed Bodies Corporate (PBCs) and Traditional Owners through land and sea management support services like:





THE KLC DIRECTLY MANAGES 6 RANGER TEAMS



INDIGENOUS RANGER PROGRAM

The KLC directly manages six ranger teams under the Indigenous Ranger Program (IRP) and provides support services to another eight teams as part of the fourth largest IRP contract in Australia.

These ranger teams, as well as a number of other independently run teams, form the KLC-facilitated Kimberley Ranger Network. As a result of the recent expansion of the IRP by the Commonwealth Government, there is currently an opportunity to grow the Kimberley Ranger Network. The KLC is preparing for this expansion, with a focus on building existing ranger teams to reach their capacity, working towards gender equity by supporting the development of women rangers and establishing new ranger teams aligned with PBC governance.

ABORIGINAL RANGER PROGRAM

Complementary to the Indigenous Ranger Program is the Aboriginal Ranger Program (ARP) run by the WA Government and administered by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

In 2022, the KLC was awarded ARP funding to support the growth and professional development of women rangers and coordinators within the Bardi Jawi, Gooniyandi, Kija and Nyul Nyul ranger teams. Since receiving the funding, the KLC is pleased to have increased the employment of women rangers and appointed a women's ranger coordinator for each team.

The KLC would also like to acknowledge the success of the Balangarra Youth Rangers who successfully secured funding through the ARP and who work closely alongside the KLC-managed Balangarra Rangers.



Gooniyandi women rangers on country

KIMBERLEY LAND & SEA MANAGEMENT TIMELINE

**Bardi Jawi Ranger Kevin George
was one of the first rangers to
work in the Kimberley**

<p>1998 Indigenous Land Management Facilitator employed at KLC</p>	<p>2001 First Healthy Country Project</p>	<p>2001 Paruku IPA becomes first dedicated IPA in WA</p>	<p>2005 Kimberley Appropriate Economies Roundtable Forum</p>
<p>2006 Ranger groups begin to formalise under Community Development and Employment program and the Saltwater Country Project</p>	<p>2007 KLC looks to develop a Kimberley-wide ranger program</p>	<p>2008 Ngurrara, Paruku, Nyikina Mangala, Wilinggin, Wunambal Gaambera, Bardi Jawi Aamba Rangers established</p>	<p>2010 First Kimberley Ranger Forum held at Home Valley</p>
<p>2011 Bardi Jawi Oorany Ranger team established as the first women's ranger team with designated funding in the Kimberley</p>	<p>2013 Kimberley Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs) create largest Indigenous conservation corridors in Australia. Dedicated at Gumbanan</p>	<p>2014 North Kimberley Fire Abatement Project Registration</p>	<p>2015 Green Army contracts and increases in women's ranger numbers</p>
<p>2016 KLC puts traditional fire management methods of Kimberley Aboriginal people on the world stage at the UN COP22 in Marrakech</p>	<p>2017 KLC holds Australia's largest ranger forum on the Dampier Peninsula with over 400 people attending</p>	<p>2019 50 women rangers come together for an Indigenous women's ranger forum in the West Kimberley</p>	<p>2021 Commonwealth Government commits to doubling the number of rangers supported through the Indigenous Ranger Program</p>
<p>2022 First Women in Fire Forum held</p>	<p>2022 Kimberley ranger groups attend the International Desert Alliance Festival in Yulara, NT.</p>	<p>2023 KLC Kimberley Ranger Network is foundational to the ISWAG Kimberley Indigenous Turtle and Dugong Initiative 2022-2023</p>	

BARDI JAWI AAMBA RANGER AZTON HOWARD

Bardi man Azton Howard has been in the ranger program for nearly 10 years. Azton began his career with the Bardi Jawi Aamba Rangers as a trainee in 2014. This year, Azton became the first Indigenous ranger in the Kimberley to advance to a specialised fire position within his team, as the Bardi Jawi fire officer.

Through the new role, Azton and the Bardi Jawi Rangers will now develop and manage the delivery of the fire plan, ensure the completion of effective Traditional Owner and stakeholder consultation, and manage burning permits. The KLC hopes in future that ranger teams will continue to see rangers in specialised roles driving progression and expertise.

Through the ranger program, Azton has made use of the training and opportunities provided to achieve a number of significant accolades in land and sea management.

This year, Azton became one of the first rangers to complete a TAFE Certificate IV in Conservation and Ecosystem Management and in August 2022 Azton was the

recipient of the Australian Marine Sciences Association inaugural Excellence in Sea Country Award.

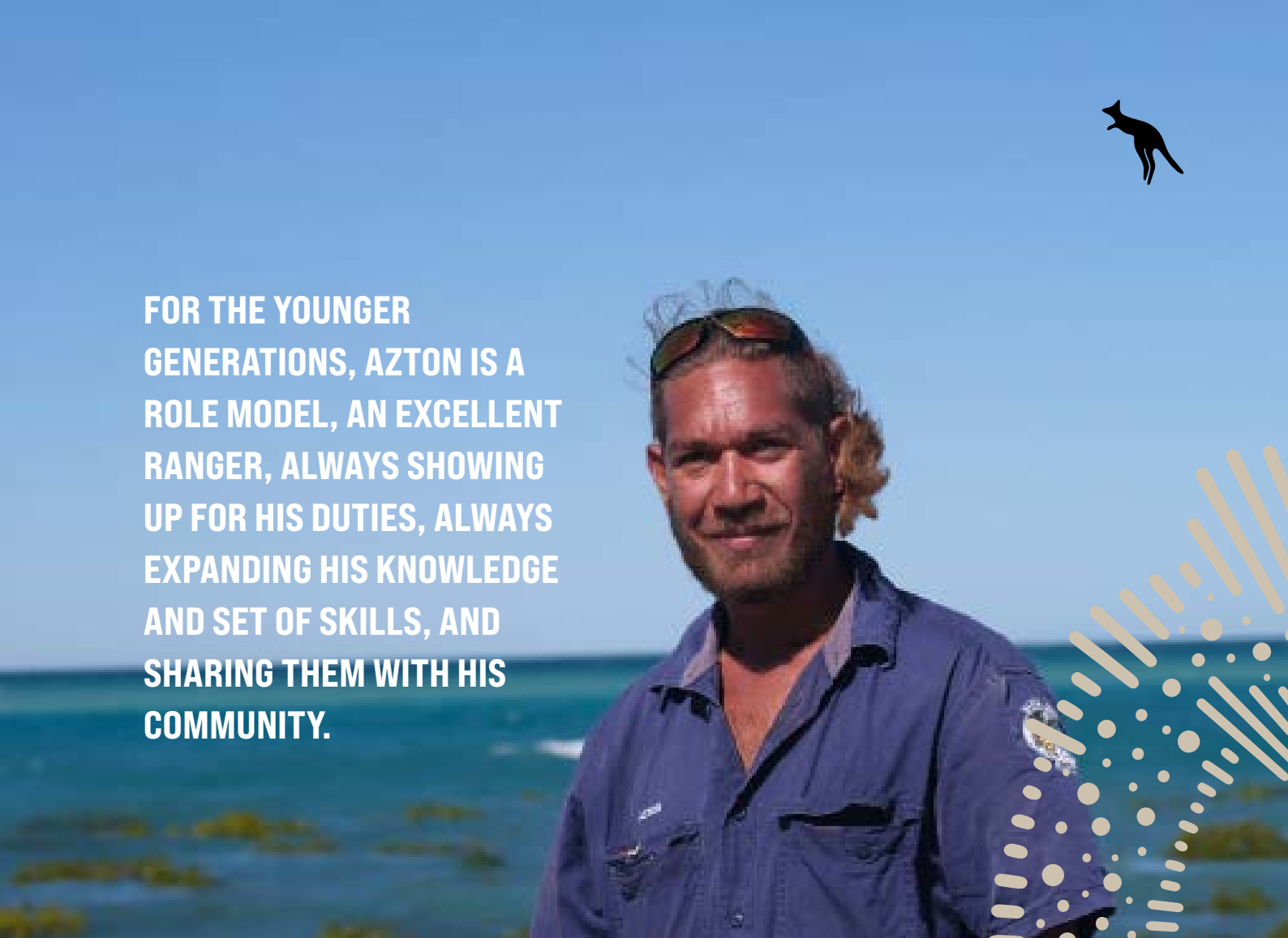
The award was recognition of Azton's contributions throughout his career with the Bardi Jawi Rangers, where he has demonstrated strong leadership skills, expanded the scope of ranger activities across diverse ecological projects and supported the development of junior rangers.

Azton has been instrumental to the success of many marine science programs across government agencies and universities, including through the Australian Institute of Marine Science, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Fisheries and the CSIRO.

As a Bardi man, Azton is dedicated to his community and fulfilling his duties as a Traditional Owner. He has played a key role in communicating how partners can assess sea country health with monitoring and has ensured these monitoring results are delivered back to community.

For the younger generations, Azton is a role model, an excellent ranger, always showing up for his duties, always expanding his knowledge and set of skills, and sharing them with his community.

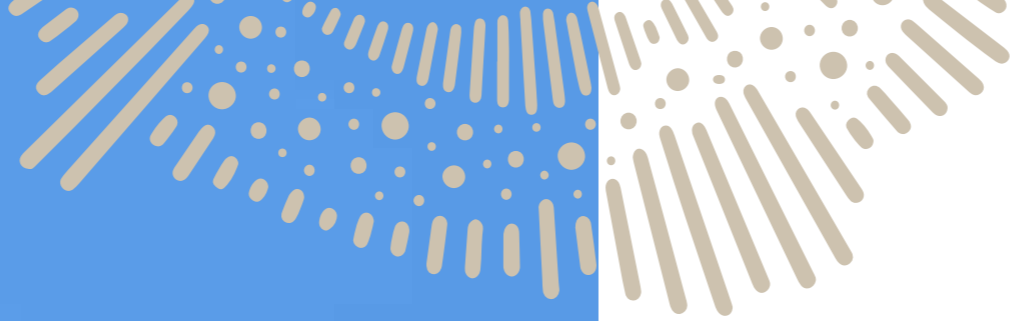
The Bardi Jawi Aamba ranger team was amongst the first ranger teams to be established in the Kimberley in 2008, and the KLC has been proud to support the development of the team and individual rangers.



FOR THE YOUNGER GENERATIONS, AZTON IS A ROLE MODEL, AN EXCELLENT RANGER, ALWAYS SHOWING UP FOR HIS DUTIES, ALWAYS EXPANDING HIS KNOWLEDGE AND SET OF SKILLS, AND SHARING THEM WITH HIS COMMUNITY.



ECOLOGY



Gouldian Finch, photographed on a survey with the Balangarra Rangers.

Gooniyandi Rangers - The Gooniyandi Rangers conducted 100 step vegetation surveys to assess bilby foods in relation to fire, surveyed for active bilby sites, deployed cameras, erected educational signage, collected scats for population estimates and began planning for feral animal control. **12 Days | 9 Rangers | 1 Traditional Owner | Partner Organisations: Environs Kimberley**



BILBIES

Paruku Rangers - The Paruku Rangers surveyed multiple sites to confirm presence of bilbies, deployed camera traps and conducted bilby habitat assessment surveys. **7.5 Days | 8 Rangers | 2 Traditional Owners**



GRASSWRENS

Gooniyandi Rangers - The Gooniyandi Rangers used call playback surveys to find an unidentified species of grasswren sighted on Gooniyandi country. **12 Days | 9 Rangers | 1 Traditional Owner | Partner Organisations: Environs Kimberley**

Paruku Rangers - The Paruku Rangers explored great desert skink suspected habitat, conducted habitat assessments and deployed camera traps. **4 Days | 5 Rangers | 1 Traditional Owner**

GREAT DESERT SKINK

WYULDA (SCALY-TAILED POSSUM)

Kija Rangers - The Kija Rangers recovered and re-deployed camera traps in remote gorges to confirm presence of illusive Wyulda (scaly-tailed possum). **4 Days | 6 Rangers | 3 Traditional Owners**

Paruku Rangers - The Paruku Rangers collected song meters deployed in 2022, which are now under analysis. The rangers also surveyed night parrot habitats and deployed further song meters by helicopter in 2023. **8.5 Days | 7 Rangers | Partner Organisations: Desert Support Services, Indigenous Desert Alliance**

NIGHT PARROTS



APPROXIMATELY
30%
OF RANGER WORK
IS ECOLOGY RELATED

The Kimberley is home to a diverse array of plants and animals that also hold significant cultural values. However, many of these animals and plants are under threat from inappropriate fire regimes, impacts of feral species like cats and cane toads, weeds, wildfires and their decline in population. The KLC continues to support ranger teams to reduce these threats to country, people and culture.

From July 2022 to June 2023, KLC ecologist Marlee Hutton supported six ranger teams in their work to protect threatened species and habitats, conduct biodiversity surveys and manage feral animals and weeds in line with their Healthy Country Plans.

Gouldian Finches



Bardi Jawi Rangers - The Bardi Jawi Rangers conducted call playback surveys as part of ongoing monitoring of Gouldian finches, while incidental sightings are also regularly recorded by the rangers. The Bardi Jawi Rangers also speak to community members about Gouldian sightings and their activity across Bardi Jawi country. **3 Days | 9 Rangers**

Balangarra Rangers - The Balangarra Rangers deployed cameras to known Gouldian finch water sites to monitor their presence. **2 Days | 7 Rangers**

Gooniyandi Rangers - Using multiple methods, the Gooniyandi Rangers have been monitoring their important freshwater places to assess fish stocks, rare species presence, cattle damage, tourism impacts, feral presence, cultural significance and weed impacts. The rangers have collected eDNA, deployed cameras and created photo mosaics to compare the sites before and after fencing. The team has started work to fence these significant sites. **8 Days | 10 Rangers | 3 Traditional Owners | Partner Organisations: Environs Kimberley, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)**

Freshwater Places

Nyul Nyul Rangers - The Nyul Nyul Rangers surveyed Beagle Bay for subtidal seagrass meadows and conducted drop camera transects to assess seagrass species and coverage. Nyul Nyul Rangers built and trialed their own drop camera frame out of affordable resources, making this method more accessible for other ranger groups. **2 Days | 5 Rangers | Partner Organisations: Environs Kimberley**

Seagrass



Balangarra rangers deploy cameras to Gouldian finch water sites to monitor their presence.



Balangarra rangers deploy cameras to Gouldian finch water sites to monitor their presence.

RANGER TRAINING

The KLC is proud to support the ongoing training and development of Kimberley rangers. Over the 2022–23 financial year there were significant achievements reached by both male and female rangers.

70
TRAINING
EVENTS



98
MEN COMPLETED
TRAINING EVENTS

600
TRAINING UNITS
ACHIEVED



69
WOMEN COMPLETED
TRAINING EVENTS

FIRST RANGERS TO COMPLETE TAFE CERTIFICATE IV

In 2023, Nyul Nyul ranger Preston Cox and Bardi Jawi ranger Azton Howard became the first rangers to complete the TAFE Certificate IV in Conservation and Ecosystem Management.

A TAFE Certificate IV in Conservation and Ecosystem Management provides rangers with the practical skills and knowledge to lead and coordinate conservation and land management activities. Rangers learn about the various areas of the industry such as land management, natural resource management, mine site rehabilitation, forestry and national parks.

The KLC is pleased to report that 39 Kimberley Indigenous rangers are currently completing units that will go towards the Certificate IV qualification.

The qualification will allow individuals to develop post-trade skills and gain a broad knowledge of the industry prior to undertaking higher level roles in conservation and land management, opening up opportunities for future employment.

Each year the KLC provides training to rangers to obtain TAFE certifications in land management. These certifications provide rangers with fundamental skills to work in the land management industry. The skills and knowledge gained from the courses open up both work and study options for the rangers.

TAFE CERTIFICATIONS OBTAINED IN THE 2022–23 FINANCIAL YEAR:

1

CERTIFICATE II

7

CERTIFICATE III

3

CERTIFICATE IV



COXSWAIN QUALIFICATIONS: **9 RANGERS & 1 INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AREA COORDINATOR**

YOUNG RANGERS WITH BRIGHT FUTURES

Congratulations to the Bardi Jawi Rangers who were recognised at the Rio Tinto Leadership Awards graduation ceremony at North Regional TAFE in March 2023. Tamara Moore was awarded 2022 Student of the Year and Rodney Maher Junior received the Study Recognition Award.

Both Tamara and Rodney started with the Bardi Jawi Rangers working casually as trainees. Over the past three years they have transitioned into full-time Bardi Jawi Rangers employed by the KLC whilst completing their certifications.

Bardi Elder and senior ranger Kevin George said both Tamara and Rodney have made their families and communities proud.

"We are very happy to have such dedicated rangers for Bardi Jawi, it makes the whole tribe very happy. Rodney and Tamara are part of the new generation that's coming along. Hopefully us rangers who have been around for a while have been mentoring them in the right direction, but this is the recognition they deserve for their talent and hard work," he said.

"The ranger program does well for any young ones that come to us. It's pride that flows on from learning from the elders and working on their country. I could talk forever about those two and all the young people in the ranger program. All young rangers have so much potential and deserve recognition for the work they are doing."



Tamara Moore and Rodney Maher Junior at the Rio Tinto Leadership Awards graduation ceremony



"Employment as a ranger empowers future leaders to support their families and communities. Training opportunities equip rangers with a broad skillset and the confidence to continue their future careers in whichever direction they choose."

Daniel Oades, KLC Land and Sea Unit Manager



Rangers celebrate training achievements, KLC AGM 2022

WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT



Since the KLC first appointed a dedicated Women's Ranger Development Coordinator in 2017, the Kimberley Women's Ranger Network has continued to grow.

49

WOMEN RANGERS IN THE KIMBERLEY RANGER NETWORK

27

ARE IN FULL TIME POSITIONS

11

ARE IN LEADERSHIP ROLES



The KLC is dedicated to empowering Aboriginal women rangers by building ranger skills and capacity through training and development, as well as acknowledging their invaluable cultural knowledge of country.

The increased participation of women has solidified the importance of women's cultural knowledge of plants and animals and provided more pathways for female empowerment in community.

Across the Kimberley, through the support of the KLC's Land and Sea Management Unit, assistance has been provided to six dedicated women ranger teams and five mixed teams who regularly engage women on a part-time or casual basis.

To support women rangers, the KLC works in partnership with various organisations to secure funding and project opportunities, provide connection and support for the Women's Ranger Network, and facilitate training, exchanges and fieldwork activities.

The KLC's goal is to establish a more inclusive ranger network and promote gender equity within the Kimberley Ranger Network by increasing the number of women in leadership positions.

In 2023, the KLC has been successful in securing funding for existing women's ranger teams as well as the commencement of two new women's ranger teams.



FROM THE KIMBERLEY TO TROPICAL NORTH QUEENSLAND

Each year, through the Kimberley Ranger Network, and in collaboration with partners, the KLC supports ranger team exchanges.

Ranger exchanges enable professional capacity development by maintaining connections between rangers working across vast areas of country and by providing a platform for exchange of information and enhancement of skills and knowledge.

In October 2022, a group of Kimberley women rangers and KLC staff set off on an exchange to tropical North Queensland to learn from the Girringun rangers.

Women from Karajarri, Bardi Jawi Oorany, Nyul Nyul and Dambimangari ranger groups, alongside three KLC Land and Sea Unit staff members, took part in the exchange, which was funded by WWF Australia.

Over the three-day trip, the Kimberley women learnt from the Girringun rangers about their culture and land and sea management over their country.

The exchange provided opportunities for the rangers to discuss the similarities of their work, learn about Girringun's Traditional Use Marine Resources Agreement (TUMRA) and develop an understanding of land tenure and joint management in Queensland.



KIMBERLEY INDIGENOUS WOMEN RANGERS STRATEGY

As the Kimberley Women's Ranger Network continues to expand in both size and capacity, the KLC has been working on a strategy to best support the program into the future.

The strategy focuses on the support and capacity building needs of the network, and has involved extensive research and in-depth consultation.

In September 2022, more than 45 Kimberley women rangers met at the Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre (KALACC) Women's Cultural Camp at Gumbanan to discuss regional priorities and create the first draft of the Kimberley Indigenous Women Rangers Strategy.

The strategy will include specific training and support for female ranger development. In the next year the KLC hopes to finalise and implement the Kimberley Indigenous Women Rangers Strategy.



Kimberley women rangers visiting Girringun country

RANGER GROUP IN FOCUS



KIJA RANGERS

The Kija Ranger team was established in 2009 and is based in Warmun community in the East Kimberley.

The Kija Rangers, which are supported and managed by the KLC, have a long history of depending on short-term funding through various programs and projects and in-kind support to bridge gaps in government funding and contract renewals.

In 2017, when Green Army funding ceased, six trained and work-ready rangers lost their jobs, including the only remaining female ranger. In the following years, short-term funding also meant the loss of a Women's Ranger Coordinator position. Despite this adversity, the Kija Rangers have continued operations and the important work of caring for country. The KLC has continued to

seek long-term funding for the Kija Rangers and in 2022 was successful in securing Commonwealth Indigenous Ranger Program (IRP) funding and State-based Aboriginal Ranger Program (ARP) funding for the team. As a result, the Kija Rangers have the most stable multi-year funding in their 14-year history for the men's and women's ranger teams, and their respective coordinators.

This translates to job security for rangers, which allows them to commit to longer-term projects and ultimately results in better outcomes for country and the wider community.

A HAVEN FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Kija Rangers protect important remnant rainforest ecosystems, and rare and threatened species, including the endangered Gouldian finch, bilby, Kimberley crevice skink, and critical-weight-range mammals such as the golden-backed tree rat, northern brown bandicoot, and Wyulda (scaly-tailed possum).

Kija country also contains potential habitat for the night parrot and black-footed rock-wallaby. In 2022, the Kija rangers received nation-wide media interest after they uncovered new populations of Wyulda. The scaly-tailed possums in Wuggubun Gorge lived undetected until the work of the Kija Rangers, due to their extremely timid nature and nocturnal behaviour.

These species and habitats are of vital conservation and cultural significance to Kija Traditional Owners, and State and Commonwealth Governments. Increasing capacity in conducting biodiversity surveys, animal trapping, producing baseline data, investigating the presence or absence of feral animals, monitoring and evaluation, effective fire management, and increased engagement with Warmun community and the broader scientific community will enhance the future conservation of these areas and species.

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES

As with many remote communities across Australia, there exists an undersupply of employment opportunities for local residents.

The Kija Ranger program not only provides employment but creates opportunities for Kija people to remain connected to country, culture and language whilst supporting PBCs and other Traditional Owners to realise their aspirations for their land through delivering work activities relating to social, cultural and environmental outcomes.

Aboriginal Ranger Program funding has recently facilitated the growth in the Kija Rangers. This not only ensures that there are increased environmental outcomes for Kija country, it also helps to deliver many positive social and cultural impacts for more individuals, their extended families and households.



FIRE & CARBON

IN THE 2022-23 YEAR, THE KIMBERLEY LAND COUNCIL FIRE PROGRAM:

CARRIED OUT

65

PRESCRIBED BURNS

TRAINED

92

RANGERS IN
FIRE MANAGEMENT

MANAGED

19,196,700

HECTARES IN THE
KIMBERLEY

FACILITATED

116

TRADITIONAL OWNERS TO
JOIN BURNING TRIPS ON
COUNTRY

CLOCKED

110

HELICOPTER HOURS AND 7
PLANE HOURS

CONDUCTED

11

FIRE PLANNING
MEETINGS



In 2022–23, right-way fire management in the Kimberley avoided over **180,000** tonnes [carbon dioxide equivalent] of greenhouse gas emissions from fires.



This is equivalent to over **6,000** round trip flights between Perth and Broome.

RIGHT-WAY FIRE

For thousands of years, Aboriginal people have been using fire to manage the land, maintain ecosystems and hunt animals.

The KLC right-way fire program aims to reduce the amount of 'hot' destructive late season wildfires by burning 'cool fires' early in the dry season. Cultural cool burning practices produce less greenhouse gas emissions than hot, late, dry season fires, while also protecting areas with ecological, cultural and economic value.

The KLC works alongside Kimberley ranger teams, Traditional Owner groups and stakeholders like pastoralists and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) to ensure effective fire management to care for country and reduce bushfire risk.

Since right-way fire began in the north Kimberley there has been less fire across 126,443km², an area approximately the size of Greece.

In the 2022–23 financial year, the KLC maintained the assurance certification from the Office of Bush Fire Risk Management (OBRM). This was a key achievement as it ensures the KLC can continue to undertake fire management and provide support to groups across the Kimberley.

CARBON PROJECTS

In the 2022–23 financial year, the KLC continued to support and build capacity across five ranger teams to develop fire operations into an economic development opportunity.

Carbon projects deliver significant funding to invest back into community and ranger projects, and have acted as a catalyst for ranger and capacity building of PBCs. They provide a sustainable, untied source of funding which enables Traditional Owners to take control of their future.

The KLC is committed to right-way carbon project development which ensures the rights of Kimberley Aboriginal people will be upheld. It is critical that Traditional Owners providing consent for carbon projects on their country know what is being agreed to and that decision-making is in alignment with the best practice principles of free, prior and informed consent, which the KLC continues to advocate for.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are well situated to tackle climate change and our participation in carbon markets has the potential to provide an avenue to pursue culturally appropriate activities that meet local livelihood and economic development aspirations. Traditional Owners should always have a right to say no if a carbon project does not align with aspirations for their country.

The KLC has been working with native title groups who do not already have carbon projects to determine whether it is possible and worthwhile to register new savanna burning carbon projects. There is a lot of work involved in registering and managing a carbon project, and it is important to look at both the costs and the benefits before deciding whether carbon presents a good enterprise opportunity in each individual case.

In 2022–23 KLC provided carbon support to the following PBCs:

- **Wanjina-Wunggurr**
- **Balanggarra**
- **Yuriyangem Taam**
- **Nyul Nyul**
- **Nimanburr**

The KLC also provided carbon support to the following Traditional Owner groups:

- **Dambimangari**
- **Nyaliga**
- **Ngallagunda**
- **Wilinggin**
- **Wunambal Gaambera**



NGALLAGUNDA FIRE PROJECT

Ngallagunda Aboriginal Corporation registered the Ngallagunda Fire Project on Gibb River Station in 2019. Even though the project is on Wilinggin exclusive possession native title land, the WA Government insisted the government had to provide consent before the project could earn carbon credits.

Thanks to the efforts of Ngallagunda, Wilinggin Aboriginal Corporation, the Wanjina-Wunggurr PBC and the KLC, the WA Minister for Lands provided consent in late 2022. This was the first time this consent has been granted.

The project is now applying for carbon credits for the first time and should be able to make its first sale by the end of 2023.



NORTHERN AUSTRALIA SAVANNA FIRE FORUM



The KLC and Kimberley rangers attended the 2023 Northern Australia Savanna Fire Forum held in Darwin in February 2023.

The forum brought together more than 350 fire practitioners and industry leaders from across the Kimberley, Northern Territory and Cape York for the first time since 2020 and the COVID pandemic.

Aboriginal ranger groups presented on their fire projects and took part in workshops on developments in satellite technology for fire mapping, new digital tools available to support savanna burning and ranger career progression in the fire space.

The KLC facilitated a workshop with representatives from Corporate Carbon and the Clean Energy Regulator about the recent review into the integrity of Australian Carbon Credit Units by Professor Chubb and how it will affect savanna fire management.

Fire management on the world stage was also a key focus for the forum, with more than 30 delegates from the International Savanna Fire Management Institute attending and sharing their practices from countries such as Namibia, Belize, Brazil and Malaysia.

The KLC would like to congratulate the Bardi Jawi, Nyul Nyul, Karajarri, Dambimangari, Yawuru, Wilinggin and Nyaliga Rangers for their informative and engaging presentations on their burning programs.

The forum continues to be an important opportunity for KLC to connect with other fire practitioners, and get across the latest developments in policy, science and best practice savanna fire management.



TWO-WAY SCIENCE PROGRAM



The KLC launched its pilot Two-Way Science Program in 2022. Two-Way Science is an evidence-based program that provides a process for self-determination in education, by supporting communities and students to have a say on their focus at school.

The program is designed to support ranger teams to engage young Traditional Owners and immerse them in on country learning activities. It focuses on developing not only western science, but acknowledging a past, present and future that brings culture to the forefront of learning.

TWO-WAY SCIENCE PROGRAM 2022-23

ARDYALOON

Collaboration between Bardi Jawi Aamba Rangers, Bardi Jawi Oorany Rangers and One Arm Point Remote Community School

BEAGLE BAY

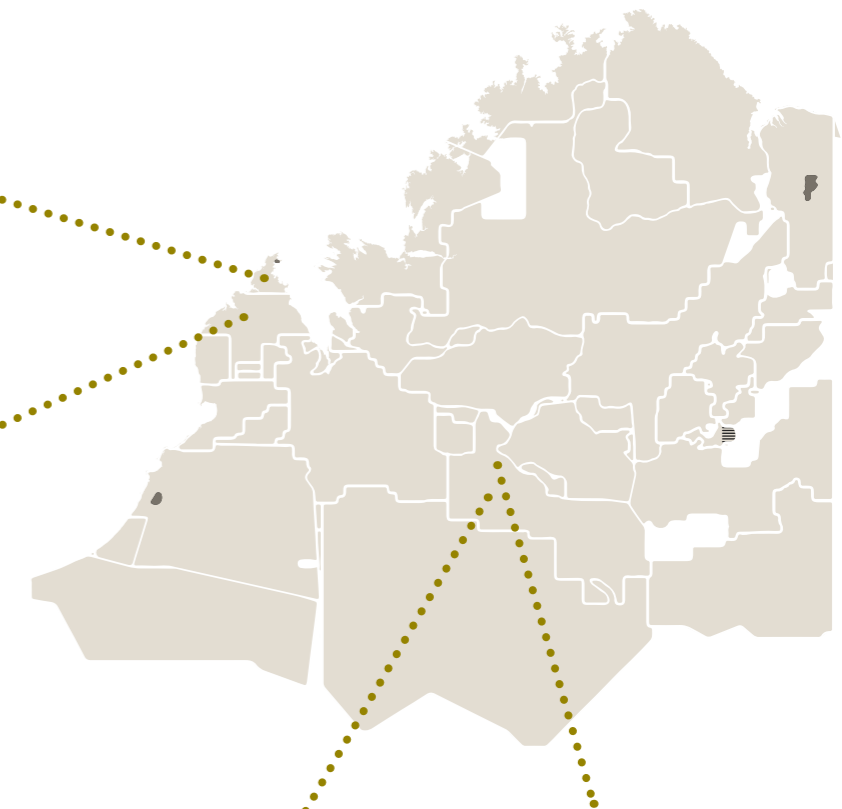
Collaboration between Nyul Nyul Rangers and Sacred Heart School

DJUGERARI

Collaboration between Ngurrara Rangers and Djugerari Remote Community School

YAKANNARA

Collaboration between Ngurrara Rangers and Yakanarra Community School





IN THE 2022-23 YEAR, THE TWO-WAY SCIENCE TEAM HAS SUCCESSFULLY ACTIVATED FOUR PILOT PROJECTS AND CONDUCTED:

37

TRIPS TO SUPPORT CAPACITY BUILDING OF **3 RANGER TEAMS** INCLUDING MEETING SUPPORT

12

TRIPS TO DELIVER SUPPORT FOR ON COUNTRY EXCURSIONS AND IN CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Over the past year, the KLC has been working together with rangers, students, teachers and community members to create a resilient partnership that lasts. The Two-Way Science model is grounded in consultation with Elders, community members and communities. The program offers connection to Elders, community members and the school, with an emphasis on new styles of learning and engagement.

The KLC supports rangers and schools to run community consultation with Traditional Owners and community members to decide on the focus of the educational program, identify cultural goals for Indigenous knowledge transfer and contribute cultural knowledge to the program. Employment opportunities are created for people in community as KLC engages Elders and Traditional Owners to attend on country activities to share stories, culture and language.

The KLC Two-Way Science team is currently developing a Kimberley specific Two-Way Science resource which includes localised educational videos for remote schools about right-way fire and revegetation projects.

“Since the Two-Way Science program began at the school, several students have clearly identified that they would like to pursue studying to become rangers in their future.”

Teacher, One Arm Point School





HEALTHY COUNTRY PLANNING

The KLC has been working to progress Bardi Jawi, Mayala, Nyul Nyul and Paruku Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) and Healthy Country Planning.

This planning has been used for nearly a decade in the Kimberley and beyond to help Aboriginal people look after their country, culture and resources. It encourages strong community engagement and ensures Aboriginal knowledge is central to planning processes.

Several meetings and consultations were organised throughout the 2022–23 year where Traditional Owners collaborated alongside a team of KLC coordinators and program managers to address issues, set targets, and work through challenges and threats of on country projects.

The KLC is pleased to see the ranger groups working to develop and review the long-term management plans for their country.

PLAN OF MANAGEMENT FOR PARUKU IPA & TJURABALAN LANDS

Workshops for the revised and extended Plan of Management for the Paruku Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) and broader Tjurabalan lands have been underway since May 2022.

The IPA includes significant wetlands that provide feeding and breeding grounds to migratory birds and local species, and many of the local stories that make up Tjurabalan law are linked to the waters. The IPA also co-exists with Lake Gregory and Bililuna pastoral leases. Management of such diverse values and aspirations make this IPA unique and the IPA has been the focus of ranger work to date.

In response to calls from the Tjurabalan PBC, the new Plan of Management will extend across more of the Tjurabalan determined lands and set the direction for the management of country from 2023 to 2033. To date, the steering committee and rangers have reviewed the existing plan and set targets for the new one. A larger community led workshop is scheduled to take place, with the first working draft of the plan to be produced by September 2023.

ESTABLISHING INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AREAS

The KLC is working with the Nyul Nyul and Mayala PBCs to establish Indigenous Protected Areas and draft plans of management.

Consultation has been underway through community meetings and on country trips to build a picture of Traditional Owners' views of how best to manage country and culture, delivering a clear vision for country management that will guide the work of rangers for the next decade. The IPAs will be dedicated by early 2024.



Healthy Country Planning session, Broome



COMING TOGETHER FOR SALTWATER COUNTRY

The Indigenous Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) is an Indigenous-led and facilitated saltwater forum for the Kimberley and was created to support Kimberley saltwater managers to implement Healthy Country Plans through collaborative research, policy and management.

“ISWAG is very important because it allows us to deal with a regional issue amongst our people. It allows us to be proactive and gives us greater control over our country and culture.”

Russell 'Wossy' Davey, Bardi man



ISWAG event to establish a regional framework for customary harvest practice, Broome, May 2023

ISWAG includes members from nine saltwater PBCs, including Balangarra, Wunambal Gaambera, Dambimangari, Mayala, Bardi Jawi, Nyul Nyul, Yawuru, Karajarri and Nyangumarta. This represents Traditional Owner groups across 90 per cent of the Kimberley coastline.

In May 2023, the KLC funded an ISWAG event in Broome to establish a regional framework for customary harvest practice. Representatives from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Authority, Girringun Aboriginal Corporation and Dawul Wuru (Three Rivers) Aboriginal Corporation travelled from Queensland to attend and present on the development of their Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreements (TUMRA). It also featured presentations from Indigenous ranger groups on their land and sea management practices

and collaborative workshops to plan for future conservation of the region.

The event, which was coordinated by Yawuru, led to Kimberley rangers and Traditional Owners agreeing to support the use of a regional framework to guide local area agreements to manage regional populations of marine turtle and dugong in the Kimberley, in line with traditional law and customary practices.

ISWAG Co-Chair and KLC Land and Sea Manager, Daniel Oades, said the event demonstrated the importance of Indigenous-led conservation efforts.

“ISWAG is successful because we are utilising a cooperative approach where both western conservation science and Indigenous knowledge,

seeks to maintain healthy and sustainable populations of animals in Kimberley waters, aiming to ensure Indigenous livelihoods, culture and customary practices are supported.”

Bardi man Russell 'Wossy' Davey said the clear message from the group was that Traditional Owners recognised the importance of protecting turtle and dugong populations.

“We want sustainable hunting in the future and we have to get that message out there to our young people and teach them about our special places. Us all coming together here is a proactive step we can take to empower our young leaders, and there are so many great young leaders in our ranger teams.”

GOONIYANDI RANGERS AID FLOOD RELIEF EFFORTS

The KLC would like to acknowledge the Goonyandi Rangers, who were directly affected by the severe flooding in the Fitzroy region in January, 2023.

The ranger team was heavily utilised by state agencies in the emergency response and received community-wide praise for the support they provided during the flood relief.

The Goonyandi ranger vehicle was flown over to Fitzroy Crossing from Broome by the Royal Australian Airforce in February which enabled the ranger team to provide much-needed support on the ground.

Head Ranger Virgil Cherel led the team of rangers to assist in the relief effort by delivering essential supplies and helping to tidy up homes in the Fitzroy region.

Goonyandi Ranger Coordinator Russell Chestnut played a key role in supporting emergency services to communicate with and reach affected communities around the Fitzroy Valley. Russell said the community is learning how to recover, but that it will be a slow process.



“It’s the first time we’ve experienced floods of this severity. Our bridge and many homes are destroyed. The community of Fitzroy Valley is very resilient, and we are learning as we go very quickly but there is a very long road ahead. Hopefully we come back stronger and more united than before.”

Russell Chestnut, Goonyandi Ranger Coordinator



TAKING CONTROL OF THE FUTURE



PBC SUPPORT

The KLC is pleased to work with many Prescribed Bodies Corporate (PBCs) throughout the Kimberley. **In total there are 31 PBCs in the region**, and the KLC is proud to support those PBCs with **strong advocacy and regional representation** that aims to create positive change for all Kimberley Aboriginal people.

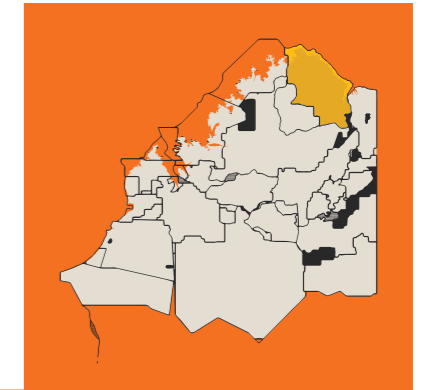
In relation to the KLC providing PBC basic support and country management throughout the reporting period:

24 PBCs in the Kimberley region were provided with a range of services and support relating to legal and governance, project and logistics, anthropological advice and country management (including carbon support). The following section of this annual report provides an overview of the services provided to these 24 PBCs.

Four Kimberley PBCs — Kunin Native Title Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC, Warlangurru Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC, Yungngora Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC, and the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation (PBC for the Birriman-gan determination area) — did not request any assistance from the KLC.

Three Kimberley PBCs — Miriuwung and Gajerrong #1 (Native Title Prescribed Body Corporate) Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC, Miriuwung and Gajerrong #4 (Native Title Prescribed Body Corporate) Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC, and Yawuru Native Title Holders Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC — received assistance from the KLC solely in the form of administration of NIAA basic support funding.

BALANGGARRA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	East Kimberley
Determinations:	Balanggarra Combined (2013), Balanggarra #3 (2015), Balanggarra #4 (2020)
PBC established:	2013
Ranger team:	Balanggarra Rangers
Representative Council Member/s:	Cissy Gore-Birch, Clement Maraltadj

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Balanggarra Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Balanggarra PBC) in relation to future acts, including making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted on Balanggarra country. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and consultation and monitoring agreements on behalf of the PBC. Balanggarra PBC manages its own corporate governance and regulatory compliance.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During the financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Balanggarra PBC in relation to various future acts matters.

CARBON SUPPORT

KLC provides carbon project management services for the Balanggarra 1 Fire Project registered under the Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative—Emissions Abatement through Savanna Fire Management) Methodology Determination 2015, which covers most of the Balanggarra IPA. This includes:

- Maintaining project records
- Applying for Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU)
- Analysing emissions from fires in the project area
- ACCU sales support
- Training and education on carbon projects
- Advice on relevant policy developments.

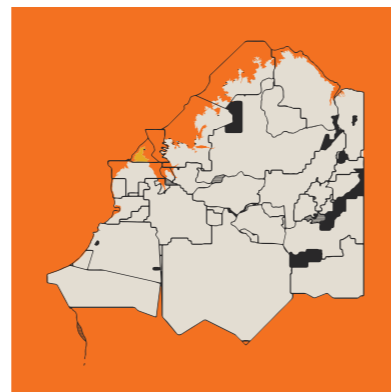
The KLC has drafted a feasibility study and begun early discussions about registering another carbon project around Carson River Station and Kalumburu.

COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

The Balanggarra Rangers are based in Wyndham in the east Kimberley. Working across 30,000km² of native title determined land and seas, the Balanggarra Rangers' work area extends beyond Kalumburu to the northernmost point of Western Australia. This area includes the Balanggarra Indigenous Protected Area (IPA), Drysdale National Park, and the North Kimberley Marine Park.

The Balanggarra Rangers work to manage, protect and enhance the unique biodiversity values of their country through protecting cultural sites, cleaning tourist areas, and undertaking coastline patrols, prescribed burning activities, and marine and terrestrial biodiversity surveys.

BARDI AND JAWI NIIMIDIMAN ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	West Kimberley
Determination:	Bardi and Jawi Native Title Determination (2005)
PBC established:	2007
Ranger team:	Bardi Jawi Rangers and Bardi Jawi Oorany Rangers
Representative Council Member/s:	Valerie Wiggan, Patrick John Jacky

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Bardi and Jawi Niimidiman Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Bardi Jawi PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted on Bardi and Jawi country. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and other agreements on behalf of the PBC. This year, the KLC assisted Bardi Jawi PBC to negotiate HPAs in relation to various public works.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and Native Title Act, and advising on changes to the rule book.

The KLC also provides project support for all directors' and members' meetings, including supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

During the financial year 2022–23, the KLC assisted Bardi Jawi PBC to hold four directors' meetings and one members' meeting.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Bardi Jawi PBC in relation to native title interests.

COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

The Bardi Jawi Aamba Rangers were established in 2006 and operate from One Arm Point Community. The Bardi Jawi Oorany Rangers were established in 2011. An IPA was declared over the native title area in 2013. The KLC has facilitated these programs from inception and continues to support the ranger and IPA programs.

The rangers undertake a large range of cultural and environmental management projects across land and sea country. This work is driven by the Healthy Country Plan, created for the IPA. The rangers undertake extensive consultation and collaboration with native title holders to inform the planning and prioritisation of activities and engagement/participation in specific projects. The rangers also collaborate with various not-for-profit organisations and educational institutions to deliver enhanced outcomes across Bardi and Jawi land and sea country.

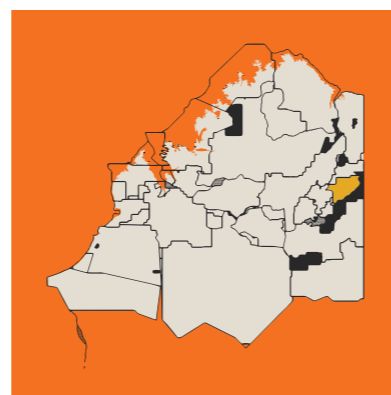
The KLC supports country management activities through fire management, ecological projects, women's support, the two-way science program, asset management and the provision of development and training opportunities. The KLC also facilitates the engagement of external support for specialised areas including data collection and mapping.

The KLC supports Bardi Jawi PBC by brokering partnerships and assisting with research arrangements for collaborative works with a cultural heritage and environmental focus.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided support to Bardi Jawi PBC (through the IPA Program) to hold a strategic planning workshop and develop a 2023 strategic plan for the PBC. The rangers and IPA coordinator work closely with the PBC and provide regular reports at directors' and members' meetings.



BUNGLE BUNGLES ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	East Kimberley
Determination:	Purnululu & Gajangana Jaru (2022)
PBC established:	2002
Ranger team:	N/A
Representative Council Member/s:	Shirley Drill

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Bungle Bungles Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Bungle Bungles PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC), maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book.

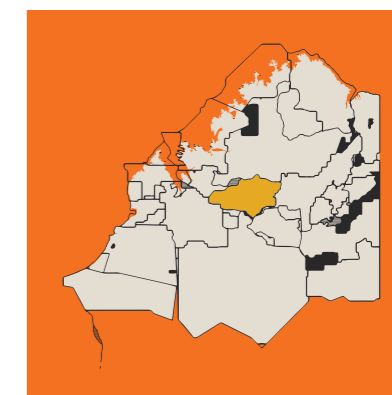
The KLC also provides project support for each directors' and members' meeting, including working with directors to prepare meeting documents such as agendas and notices, supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Bungle Bungles PBC in relation to future acts matters, family tree requests from native title holders and PBC membership applications.

BUNUBA DAWANGARRI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	Central Kimberley
Determinations:	Bunuba (2012), Bunuba #3 (2015), Bunuba People #2 Part A (2015), Bunuba Part B (2015), Bunuba #2 Part B (2019)
PBC established:	2012
Ranger team:	Bunuba Rangers
Representative Council Member/s:	Kamus Green, Selina Middleton

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Bunuba Dawangarri Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Bunuba PBC) in relation to some future act matters, including making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted on Bunuba country. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) on behalf of the PBC.

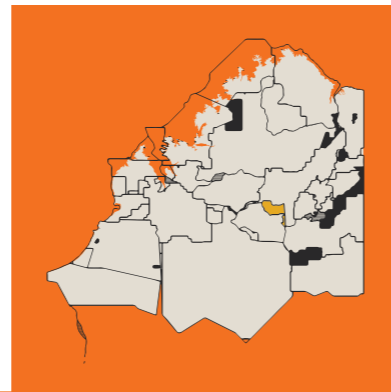
Bunuba PBC manages its own corporate governance and regulatory compliance.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Bunuba PBC in relation to various future acts matters.

GINIJAWARRNI YOOWANIYA RIWI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	Central Kimberley
Determination:	Giniyawarrni Yoowaniya Riwi (2018)
PBC established:	2019
Ranger team:	N/A
Representative Council Member/s:	Nathan Lenard

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Giniyawarrni Yoowaniya Riwi Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (GYR PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and consultation and monitoring agreements on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book. The KLC also provides project support for all directors' and

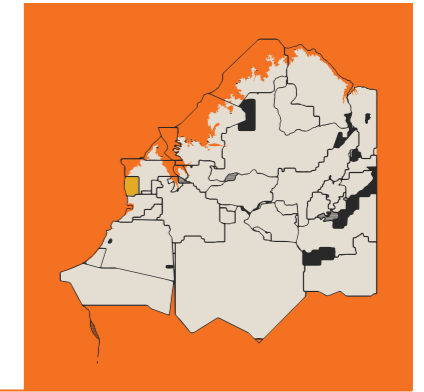
members' meetings, including working with directors to prepare meeting documents such as agendas and notices, supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to GYR PBC in relation to various future acts matters.

GOGOLANYNGOR ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	West Kimberley
Determinations:	Jabirr Jabirr / Ngumbarl (2018), Bindunbur (2018), Bindunburr#2 (2019), Bindunbur Part B (2019), Jabirr Jabirr Ngumbarl Part B (2020)
PBC established:	2018
Ranger team:	N/A
Representative Council Member/s:	Elizabeth Dixon

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Gogolanyngor Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Gogolanyngor PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and consultation and monitoring agreements on behalf of the PBC.

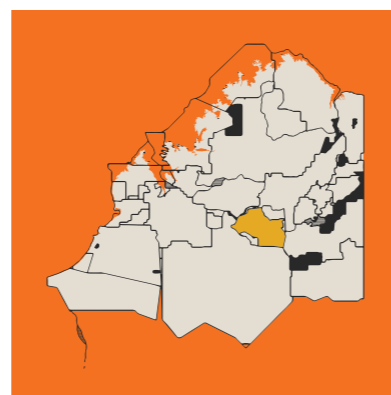
Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance are provided on an as needed basis and include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book.

The KLC also provides project support for all directors' and members' meetings, including working with directors to prepare meeting documents such as agendas and notices, supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys. During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Gogolanyngor PBC in relation to PBC membership applications.

GOONIYANDI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	Central Kimberley
Determinations:	Goonyandi Combined #2 (2013), Yarrangi Riwi Yoowarni Goonyandi People (2016)
PBC established:	2013
Ranger team:	Goonyandi Rangers
Representative Council Member/s:	N/A

GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided governance support to Goonyandi Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Goonyandi PBC) with basic support funding from the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA).

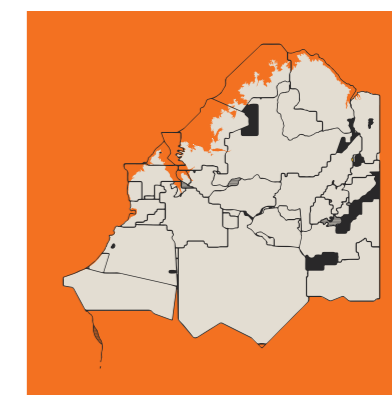
important for Goonyandi men and women to maintain and sustain the cultural and environmental viability of these aquatic habitats.

The KLC supports the Goonyandi Rangers through the administration of grant funding, fire management support, the provision of training and development opportunities and through access to specialist ecology services.

COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

The Goonyandi Rangers are based in Fitzroy Crossing and work across more than 11,000km² of Goonyandi native title land. The wetlands, springs, larger water bodies and riparian vegetation communities found on Goonyandi country are culturally important sites, where Goonyandi people hunt, fish and preserve cultural connections. As pressures increase from regional development including agriculture, mining and tourist activities, it is increasingly

GOORRING ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	East Kimberley
Determination:	Goorring (2018)
PBC established:	2020
Ranger team:	N/A
Representative Council Member/s:	N/A

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

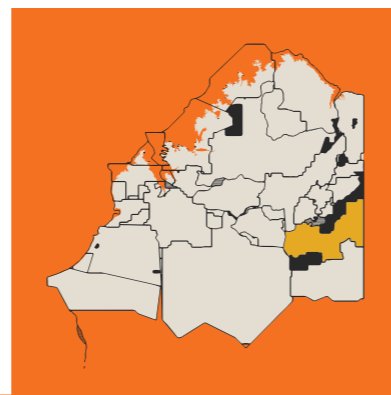
The KLC did not provide governance or legal support to Goorring Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Goorring PBC) during financial year 2022–23, but may do so on request in future.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

The KLC did not provide anthropological support to Goorring PBC during financial year 2022–23, but may do so on request in future.



JARU ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	East Kimberley
Determinations:	Jaru (2018), Jaru People #2 (2022)
PBC established:	2021
Ranger team:	N/A
Representative Council Member/s:	John Hamilton, Anne Rivers

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Jaru Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Jaru PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted on Jaru country. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and other agreements on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book. The KLC also provides project support for all directors' and members' meetings, including

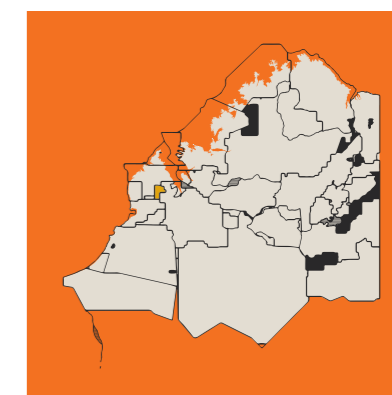
working with directors to prepare meeting documents such as agendas and notices, supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Jaru PBC in relation to various future acts matters, responding to heritage impact assessment notices, the development of a native title determination guide, the transfer of native title materials, and providing guidance in relation to the scope of a social impact assessment.

JOOMBARN-BURU ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	West Kimberley
Determination:	Joombarn-buru (2021)
PBC established:	2021
Ranger team:	N/A
Representative Council Member/s:	Wayne Bergmann

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to the Joombarn-buru Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Joombarn-buru PBC) in relation to future acts and corporation governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and consultation and monitoring agreements on behalf of the PBC.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

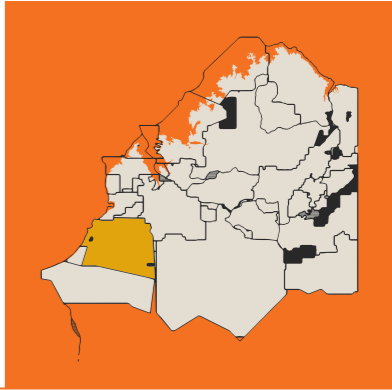
On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC did not provide anthropological support to Joombarn-buru PBC.





KARAJARRI TRADITIONAL LANDS ASSOCIATION (ABORIGINAL CORPORATION) RNTBC



Location:	West Kimberley
Determinations:	Karajarri People (Area A) (2002), Karajarri People (Area B) (2004)
PBC established:	1998
Ranger team:	Karajarri Rangers
Representative Council Member/s:	Gordon Marshall

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Karajarri Traditional Lands Association (Aboriginal Corporation) RNTBC (KTLA) in relation to certain future acts and corporate governance on an as needed basis.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Areas and other agreements on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

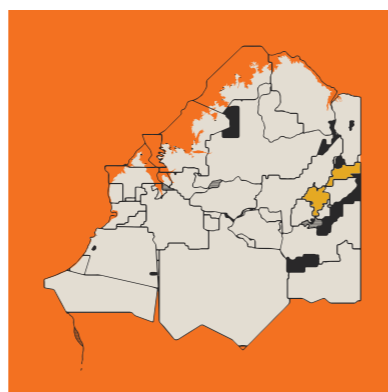
On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to KTLA in relation to native title issues.

COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

The KLC supports KTLA with country management activities through the provision of fire management support (early dry season prescribed burning).

MALARNGOWEM ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	East Kimberley
Determinations:	Malarngowem (2019), Malarngowem Part B (2020)
PBC established:	2021
Ranger team:	Kija Rangers
Representative Council Member/s:	Russell Gregory, Vicki Butters

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Malarngowem Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Malarngowem PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted on Malarngowem country. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and other agreements on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book. The KLC also provides project support for each directors' and members' meeting, including

working with directors to prepare meeting documents such as agendas and notices, supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC assisted Malarngowem PBC hold seven directors' meetings and one members' meeting.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Malarngowem PBC in relation to the transfer of native title materials, the creation of a determination guide, various future acts matters, heritage impact

notices, family tree requests from native title holders and a native title compensation claim.

COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

The Kija Rangers are based in Warmun in the East Kimberley, 200km south of Kununurra. The rangers work across approximately 35,000km² of which the Malarngowem native title area represents roughly 7,500km².

The KLC manages the Kija Ranger Program which consists of both a men's and women's ranger team, including coordinators, funded through the Commonwealth Government's Indigenous Ranger Program (IRP) and the WA Government's Aboriginal Ranger Program (ARP).

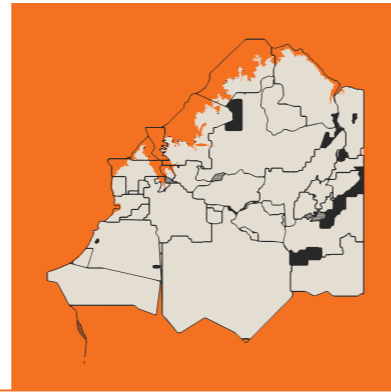
The rangers protect important remnant rainforest ecosystems, and rare and threatened species including the endangered Gouldian finch, bilby, Kimberley crevice skink, and critical-weight-range mammals such as the golden-

backed tree rat, northern brown bandicoot, and scaly-tailed possum. Kija country also contains potential habitat for the night parrot and black-footed rock-wallaby.

The KLC supports the Kija Rangers through the administration of grant funding, fire management support, the provision of training and development opportunities and access to specialist ecology services.



MAYALA INNINALANG ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	West Kimberley
Determination:	Mayala (2018), Mayala #2 (2019)
PBC established:	2019
Ranger team:	Mayala Marine Park Rangers
Representative Council Member/s:	Dwesmond Wiggan-Dann

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to the Mayala Inninalang Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Mayala PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and other agreements on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book. The KLC also provides project support for each directors' and members' meeting, including

working with directors to prepare meeting documents such as agendas and notices, supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC did not provide anthropological support to Mayala PBC.

COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

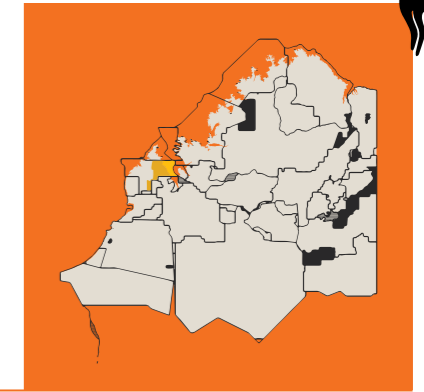
In the five years since the recognition of native title, Mayala PBC has negotiated, co-designed and established the Mayala Marine Park (State waters) and increased their presence and role in management of the Kimberley

Marine Park (Commonwealth waters). The Mayala Marine Park Rangers are actively managing sea country and are managed by the WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

The KLC provides support for country management activities on Mayala country by administering the Healthy Country Advisory Committee, which oversees country and sea management. The KLC has worked with Mayala PBC to secure grants to look after Mayala country, facilitated the engagement of casual rangers to conduct biodiversity surveys, facilitated back to country trips and supported Mayala PBC to build relationships with Parks Australia to manage Commonwealth waters.

The KLC is currently working with Mayala PBC to plan for an IPA across the whole of Mayala country which is expected to be dedicated in 2024. Once the IPA is established, Mayala PBC hopes to establish a ranger team that can focus on islands to complement the sea country work.

NIMANBURR ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	West Kimberley
Determinations:	Bindunbur (2018), Bindunbur Part B (2019)
PBC established:	2018
Ranger team:	N/A
Representative Council Member/s:	Trevor Cox, Scott Cox

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Nimanburr Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Nimanburr PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and consultation and monitoring agreements on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book. The KLC also provides project support for each directors' and members' meeting, including

working with directors to prepare meeting documents such as agendas and notices, supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC did not provide anthropological support to Nimanburr PBC.

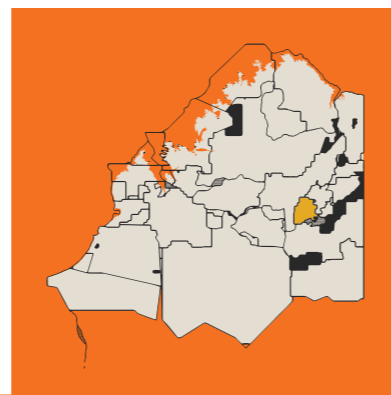
CARBON SUPPORT

The KLC provides carbon support to Nimanburr PBC in relation to Carbon Credit (ACCU) scheme projects registered on Nimanburr country.

COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

The KLC supports Nimanburr PBC with country management activities through the provision of fire management support (early dry season prescribed burning) on Nimanburr country.

NGARRAWANJI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	East Kimberley
Determinations:	Ngarrawanji Part A (2019), Ngarrawanji Part B (2020)
PBC established:	2021
Ranger team:	N/A
Representative Council Member/s:	Greg Tait

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Ngarrawanji Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Ngarrawanji PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and other agreements on behalf of the PBC.

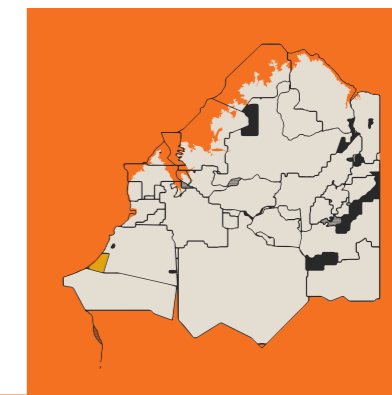
Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book. The KLC also provides project support for each directors' and members' meeting, including working with directors to prepare

meeting documents such as agendas and notices, supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys. During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Ngarrawanji PBC in relation to various future act matters, PBC membership applications and the development of a native title determination guide.

NYANGUMARTA KARAJARRI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	West Kimberley
Determinations:	Yawinya (Nyangumarta Karajarri Overlap) (2012)
PBC established:	2016
Ranger team:	Karajarri Rangers & Nyangumarta Warrarn Rangers
Representative Council Member/s:	Rowena Wright

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Nyangumarta Karajarri Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Nyangumarta Karajarri PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book. During financial year 2022–2023, the KLC assisted Nyangumarta Karajarri PBC to amend its rule

book to ensure compliance with changes to the CATSI Act and PBC Regulations.

The KLC also provides project support for each directors' and members' meeting, including working with directors to prepare meeting documents such as agendas and notices, supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

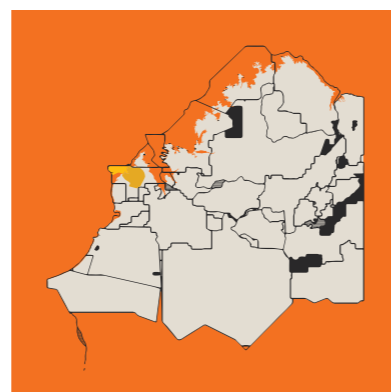
ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys. During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Nyangumarta Karajarri PBC in relation to future acts matters.

COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

The KLC supports Nyangumarta Karajarri PBC with country management activities through the provision of fire management support (early dry season prescribed burning).

NYUL NYUL PBC ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	West Kimberley
Determination:	Bindunbur (2018)
PBC established:	2018
Ranger team:	Nyul Nyul Rangers
Representative Council Member/s:	David Aloysious Frances, Marcella Augustine

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Nyul Nyul PBC Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Nyul Nyul PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and other agreements on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book. The KLC also provides project support for each directors' and members' meeting, including

working with directors to prepare meeting documents such as agendas and notices, supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Nyul Nyul PBC in relation to family tree requests from native title holders.

CARBON SUPPORT

The KLC provides carbon support to Nyul Nyul PBC in relation to ACCU Scheme projects registered on Nyul Nyul non-exclusive

possession native title land (Country Downs Station). This includes information about the right of Nyul Nyul as an eligible interest holder to provide (or withhold) consent for the project to generate Australian Carbon Credit Units. KLC has also provided education about the potential for a future savanna fire management carbon projects on Nyul Nyul country.

COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

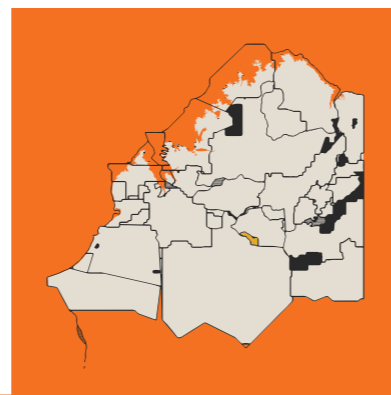
The Nyul Nyul Rangers are based in Beagle Bay on the Dampier Peninsula in the West Kimberley region. They look after approximately 350,000 hectares of land and sea country that includes delicate coastal habitats, monsoon vine thickets, important cultural sites and inland wetlands and springs.

The KLC manages the Nyul Nyul Ranger Program, which consists of both a men's and women's ranger team who undertake land and sea management activities across the Nyul Nyul native title area. The KLC receives Commonwealth and State Government funding to support the Nyul Nyul Ranger teams.

The KLC provided support to Nyul Nyul PBC in relation to the development of an IPA on Nyul Nyul country, which is expected to be declared in 2024.



TIYATIYA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	Central Kimberley
Determination:	Kurungal (2015)
PBC established:	2016
Ranger team:	N/A
Representative Council Member/s:	Glenn Bonney

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Tiyatiya Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Tiyatiya PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book. The KLC provides project support for each directors' and members' meeting, including

working with directors to prepare meeting documents such as agendas and notices, supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

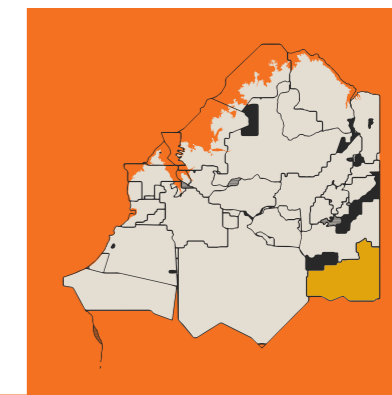
On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC did not provide anthropological support to Tiyatiya PBC.

COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

The KLC supports Tiyatiya PBC through the provision of fire management support (early dry season prescribed burning) on Kurungal country.

TJURABALAN NATIVE TITLE LAND ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	East Kimberley
Determination:	Tjurabalan (2001)
PBC established:	2002
Ranger team:	Paruku Rangers
Representative Council Member/s:	Donovan Jenkins, Isabel Palmer

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provided Tjurabalan Native Title Land Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Tjurabalan PBC) with legal and governance support from July to September 2022 in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts included making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiated Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and consultation and monitoring agreements on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance included advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

The KLC provided anthropological support to Tjurabalan PBC during financial year 2022–23 in relation to various future acts matters up until September 2022.

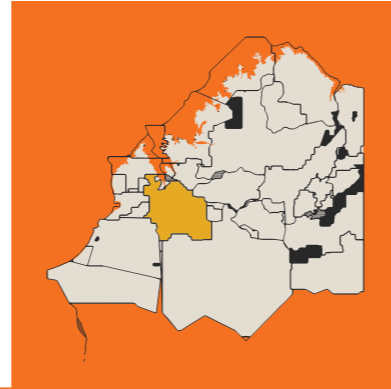
COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

The Paruku Rangers work across the Paruku IPA which includes a collection of wetlands known as Paruku (Lake Gregory). Paruku is of immense cultural significance to the Tjurabalan people and lies in the heart of the Paruku IPA which was declared in 2001.

The KLC manages the Paruku Ranger Program, which includes both a men's and women's team who undertake country management activities, including managing the impacts of tourism along the Canning Stock Route.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC supported the Paruku Rangers to review and update their Healthy Country Plan based on extensive consultation with Tjurabalan people.

WALALAKOO ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	West Kimberley
Determinations:	Nyikina (2014), Mangala (2015), Boorroola Moorrool Moorrool Part A (2020)
PBC established:	2014
Ranger team:	Nyikina Mangala Rangers
Representative Council Member/s:	Robert Watson, Rosita Shaw

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Walalakoo Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Walalakoo PBC) in relation to certain future acts and corporate governance on an as needed basis.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and other agreements on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

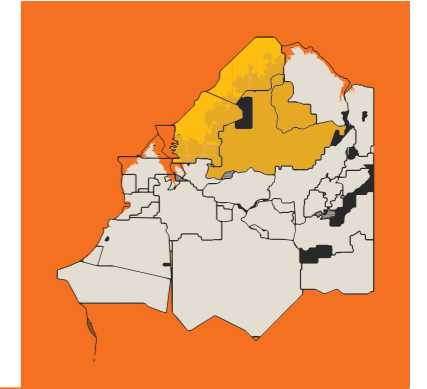
On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Walalakoo PBC in relation to various future acts matters, the transfer of native title materials and a number of family tree requests from native title holders.

COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

The KLC supports Walalakoo PBC with country management activities through the provision of fire management support (early dry season prescribed burning).

WANJINA-WUNGGURR (NATIVE TITLE) ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	North Kimberley
Determinations:	Wanjina-Wungurr Wilinggin (2004), Dambimangari (2011), Uunguu Part A (2011) and Uunguu Part B (2012)
PBC established:	2009
Ranger team:	Wungurr Rangers and Nyaliga Rangers work on Wilinggin country Dambimangari Rangers work on Dambimangari country Uunguu Rangers work on Wunambal Gaambera country
Representative Council Member/s:	Raymond Sahanna

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Wanjina-Wungurr (Native Title) Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Wanjina-Wungurr PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book.

The KLC also provides project support for each directors' and members' meeting, including working with directors to prepare meeting documents such as agendas and notices, supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Wanjina-Wungurr PBC in relation to future acts matters and family tree requests from native title holders.

CARBON SUPPORT

The KLC provides carbon project management services for the Dambimangari Fire Project, Ngallagunda Fire Project Wilinggin Fire Project, Wunambal Gaambera Uunguu Fire Project registered under the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative—Emissions Abatement through Savanna Fire Management) Methodology Determination 2015*. This includes:

- Maintaining project records
- Applying for Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs) generated by the project
- Analysis of emissions from fires in the project area
- ACCU sales support
- Training and education on carbon projects for Balangarra staff
- Advice on policy developments affecting the project

The KLC is also supporting development of additional projects within WWPBC Native Title areas.

WARRWA PEOPLE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	West Kimberley
Determinations:	Warrwa Mawadjala Gadjidgar (2020), Warrwa Combined Part A (2020)
PBC established:	2020
Ranger team:	N/A
Representative Council Member/s:	N/A

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

The KLC provided Warrwa People Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Warrwa PBC) with legal and governance support from July to September 2022 in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

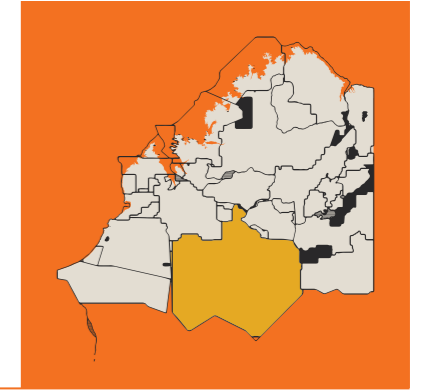
Legal services in relation to future acts included making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiated Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance included advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book.

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided limited anthropological support in relation to future acts matters up to September 2022.

YANUNIJARRA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC



Location:	Central Kimberley
Determination:	Ngurrara Part A (2007), Ngurrara - Area B (2012), Ngurrara 2 - Area C (2012), Yi-Martuwarra Ngurrara Part A (2018), Ngurrara D1 (2019), Ngurrara D2 (2020)
PBC established:	2010
Ranger team:	Ngurrara Rangers
Representative Council Member/s:	Percy Brown

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to Yanunijarra Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Yanunijarra PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and other agreements on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for

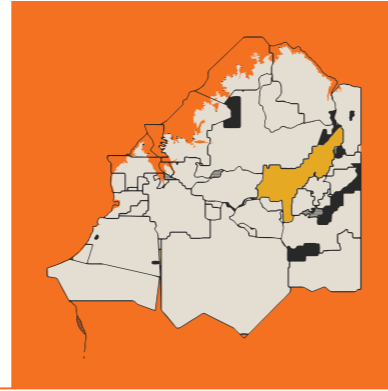
individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Yanunijarra PBC in relation to various future acts matters, family tree requests from native title holders, the transfer of native title materials, the development of native title determination guides and native title matters.

COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

The KLC supports Yanunijarra PBC with country management activities through the provision of fire management support (early dry season prescribed burning).

YURRIYANGEM TAAM ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



Location:	East Kimberley
Determination:	Yurriyangem Taam (2019)
PBC established:	2021
Ranger team:	Kija Rangers
Representative Council Member/s:	Jean Malay & Le'Laine Shovellor

LEGAL & GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

The KLC provides legal services to the Yurriyangem Taam Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Yurriyangem Taam PBC) in relation to future acts and corporate governance.

Legal services in relation to future acts include making submissions on behalf of the PBC objecting to and/or requesting further consultation and appropriate heritage surveys before any interests are granted. The KLC also negotiates Heritage Protection Agreements (HPAs) and other agreements on behalf of the PBC.

Legal services in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliance include advice on compliance with the CATSI Act and the Native Title Act, liaising with ORIC, maintaining corporation records, lodging annual reports and advising on changes to the rule book. The KLC also provides project support for each directors' and members' meeting, including working with directors to prepare

meeting documents such as agendas and notices, supporting directors and members to attend meetings, minute taking support and technical support.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPPORT

On request, the KLC may provide anthropological support to PBCs, including family trees for individual native title holders, transfer of native title materials determination guides, PBC membership information, native title compensation claims, future acts and heritage surveys.

During the financial year 2022–23, the KLC provided anthropological support to Yurriyangem Taam PBC in relation to the transfer of native title materials, the development of native title determination guides, various future act matters, requests for family trees from native title holders, and the proposed Fitzroy River national park.

CARBON SUPPORT

The KLC is supporting Yurriyangem Taam to develop a savanna fire management project on parts of its Native Title area. This includes:

- Conducting feasibility studies
- Presenting at community meetings
- Facilitating discussions between Yurriyangem Taam and other project stakeholders

COUNTRY MANAGEMENT

The Kija Rangers are based in Warmun in the East Kimberley, 200km south of Kununurra. The rangers work across approximately 35,000km² of which the Yurriyangem Taam native title area represents roughly 23,000km².

The KLC manages the Kija Ranger Program, which consists of both a men's and women's ranger team, including coordinators, funded through the Commonwealth Government's Indigenous Ranger Program (IRP) and the WA Government's Aboriginal Ranger Program (ARP).



Yurriyangem Taam Determination, 2019

The project protects important remnant rainforest ecosystems, and rare and threatened species including the endangered Gouldian finch, bilby, Kimberley crevice skink, and critical-weight-range mammals such as the golden-backed tree rat, northern brown bandicoot, and scaly-tailed possum. Kija country also contains potential habitat for the night parrot and black-footed rock-wallaby.

The KLC supports the Kija Rangers through the administration of grant funding, fire management support, the provision of training and development opportunities, administration, contract management and business support and through access to ecology support.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation Contents For the year ended 30 June 2023

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General information

The financial statements cover Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation as an individual entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation's functional and presentation currency.

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation is a not-for-profit incorporated association, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is:

11 Gregory Street, Broome WA 6725

A description of the nature of the Corporation's operations and its principal activities are included in the Directors' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 6th September 2023.

**Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Directors' report
For the year ended 30 June 2023**

The Directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the Corporation for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Directors

The following persons were Directors of the Corporation during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

KLC Board of Directors

Name	Surname	# of Board meetings attended	Notes
Wayne	Bergmann	3	Reappointed 23 August 2022 and ceased on 2 May 2023
Trisha	Birch	2	Resigned in July (31 st) 2022 prior to RC PBC Nominations
Glenn	Bonney	4	Ceased 23 August 2022
Percy	Brown	3	Ceased 23 August 2022
Trevor	Cox	2	Reappointed 23 August
Valarie	Wiggan	4	Ceased 23 August 2022
Russel (Wossey)	Davey	0	Valarie Wiggan nominated as alternate Director in place of Russel Davey as of 29/8/21
Elizabeth (Betty)	Dixon	4	Ceased 23 August 2022
Shirley	Drill	2	Ceased 23 August 2022
Miranda	Gore	1	Resigned in July (31 st) 2021 prior to RC PBC Nominations
Kamus	Green	2	Ceased 23 August 2022
John	Hamilton	4	Ceased 23 August 2022
Thomas	King (Dooley)	3	Ceased 29 July 2022
Nathan	Lennard	1	Ceased 23 August 2022
Jean	Malay	3	Reappointed 23 August 2022
Clement	Maraltadj	1	Ceased 23 August 2022
Dean	Matthews	0	Ceased 23 August 2022
Anna	Poelina	3	Ceased 23 August 2022
Raymond	Paul	2	Ceased 23 August 2022
Joan	Simon	3	Ceased 23 August 2022
Edith	Skeen	1	Edith nominated Marianne as alternate Director. Effective as of 7/12/2021
Marianne	Skeen	2	Appointed as alternate Director 7/12/2021 in place of Edith Skeen. Reappointed 23 August 2022
Greg	Tait	2	Ceased 23 August 2022
Robert	Watson	4	Reappointed 23 August 2022
Dwesmond	Wiggan-Dann	2	Ceased 23 August 2022
Rowena	Wright	0	Ceased 23 August 2022
Nolan	Hunter	4	Ceased 23 August 2022

**Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Directors' report
For the year ended 30 June 2023**

Cultural Advisors Attendance

Name	Surname	# of Board meetings attended	Notes
Irene	Davey	4	Reappointed 23 August 2022
Frank	Davey	0	Deceased – February 2022
Annette	Kogolo	2	Ceased 23 August 2022
Anthony	Watson	4	Chairman – Reappointed 23 August 2022

Principal activities

The Corporation's principal activities during the year were the provision of native title representative services and environmental land management support services.

Review of operations

Operations resulted in a net surplus of \$1,821,281 compared to net surplus of \$1,927,094 in the last financial year.

Significant changes in state of affairs

The KLC membership approved changes to its Rule Book in May of this year at a special general meeting which included a new Board structure and Regional Council. The new Board and Regional Council were elected in August 2022 at the Annual General Meeting. The Representative Council is inclusive of two representatives of each Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) and Traditional Owner Native Title claim group from the Kimberley region. The Representative Council will meet twice a year and be responsible for bringing regional issues to the table and giving guidance on what is important to PBCs and Kimberley Aboriginal people. The KLC membership appointed the new KLC Board comprising of seven directors nominated by the representative council, four cultural advisors nominated by the membership and the KLC CEO. Of the twelve board directors appointed, eight were appointed for a four-year term and four were appointed for a two-year term. The new structure provides greater continuity and representation for the organisation to amplify the interests of its membership and effectively manage the important responsibilities of the corporation.

After balance sheet date events

The directors are not aware of any matters or circumstances that have arisen since the end of the year that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect:

- (i) The corporation's operations in future financial years; or
- (ii) The results of those operations in future financial years; or
- (iii) The corporation's state of affairs in future financial years.

Future developments

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the corporation, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the corporation in the future financial years.

Information on directors

All other directors hold office as Traditional Owners, being elected by their respective clan groups.

Indemnifying officers or auditor

No indemnities have been given during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the corporation. The corporation has paid premiums to insure all the directors and officers against liabilities for costs and expenses incurred by them in defending legal proceedings arising from their conduct while acting in the capacity of director or officer of corporation, other than conduct involving a wilful breach of duty in relation to the corporation. The premiums for all directors and officers amounted to \$10,685.45

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Directors' report
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Auditor's independence declaration

The auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 June 2023 has been received and can be found at page 4.

On behalf of the Directors



6th September 2023

DIRECTORS:

ROBERT CAMPBELL RCA, CA
VIRAL PATEL RCA, CA
ALASTAIR ABBOTT RCA, CA
CHASSEY DAVIDS RCA, CA

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR:

SANTO CASILLI FCPA PFIIA

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

To the Board of Directors of Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act)* and the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (CATSI Act)*, in relation to our audit of the financial report of Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation for the year ended 30 June 2023, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

- a. the auditor independence requirements of section 60-40 of the *ACNC Act* in relation to the audit; and
- b. the auditor independence requirements of the *CATSI Act* in relation to the audit; and
- c. any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Australian Audit



Chassey Cedric Davids, CA AMIIA BCom
Registered Company Auditor number 490152
Director
Australian Audit
Perth, Western Australia

Dated: 6th September 2023

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income
For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue			
Revenue	3	22,848,070	21,642,795
Other Revenue	4	2,966,355	1,832,974
Total revenue		<u>25,814,425</u>	<u>23,475,769</u>
Expenses			
Depreciation	5	(724,618)	(546,844)
Employee benefits expense		(13,217,697)	(12,581,946)
Supplier expenses		(9,682,891)	(7,956,338)
Rental expenses		(360,953)	(460,370)
Finance costs		(6,985)	(3,177)
Total expenses		<u>(23,993,144)</u>	<u>(21,548,675)</u>
Surplus for the year attributable to the members of Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation			
	18	1,821,281	1,927,094
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the members of Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation			
		<u>1,821,281</u>	<u>1,927,094</u>

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Statement of financial position
As at 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	23,315,901	21,656,259
Trade and other receivables	7	1,076,842	741,870
Other assets	9	141,746	507,591
Total current assets		<u>24,534,489</u>	<u>22,905,720</u>
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	10	9,433,560	9,039,509
Right-of-use assets	8	143,622	178,423
Total non-current assets		<u>9,577,182</u>	<u>9,217,932</u>
Total assets		<u>34,111,671</u>	<u>32,123,652</u>
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	11	2,920,558	2,625,446
Contract liabilities	12	72,276	98,168
Lease liabilities	14	83,518	98,827
Provisions	15	2,060,133	2,129,252
Total current liabilities		<u>5,136,485</u>	<u>4,951,693</u>
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	14	62,223	80,277
Total non-current liabilities		<u>62,223</u>	<u>80,277</u>
Total liabilities		<u>5,198,708</u>	<u>5,031,970</u>
Net assets		<u>28,912,963</u>	<u>27,091,682</u>
Equity			
Reserves	17	17,877,607	16,673,100
Retained surpluses	18	11,035,356	10,418,582
Total equity		<u>28,912,963</u>	<u>27,091,682</u>

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Statement of changes in equity
For the year ended 30 June 2023

	General Reserve \$	Restricted Reserves \$	Retained profits \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2021	7,500,000	7,749,076	9,915,512	25,164,588
Prior year adjustment	-	-	-	-
Balance at 1 July 2021	7,500,000	7,749,076	9,915,512	25,164,588
Surplus for the year	-	-	1,927,094	1,927,094
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	1,927,094	1,927,094
Transfer from retained surplus to restricted reserve	-	1,424,024	(1,424,024)	-
Balance at 30 June 2022	<u>7,500,000</u>	<u>9,173,100</u>	<u>10,418,582</u>	<u>27,091,682</u>
	General Reserve \$	Restricted Reserves \$	Retained profits \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2022	7,500,000	9,173,100	10,418,582	27,091,682
Surplus for the year	-	-	1,821,281	1,821,281
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	1,821,281	1,821,281
Transfer from retained surplus to restricted reserve	-	1,204,507	(1,204,507)	-
Balance at 30 June 2023	<u>7,500,000</u>	<u>10,377,607</u>	<u>11,035,356</u>	<u>28,912,963</u>

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes
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Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers (inclusive of GST)		24,941,533	21,471,369
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		(22,806,542)	(21,182,623)
Interest received		512,026	54,487
Other revenue		-	1,714,279
Rent received		-	64,208
Net cash from operating activities		<u>2,647,017</u>	<u>2,121,720</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment	10	(988,813)	(33,688)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		-	68,363
Net cash from/(used in) investing activities		<u>(988,813)</u>	<u>34,675</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of lease liabilities		1,438	(175,791)
Net cash from/(used in) financing activities		<u>1,438</u>	<u>(175,791)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		1,659,642	1,980,604
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		<u>21,656,259</u>	<u>19,675,655</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	6	<u><u>23,315,901</u></u>	<u><u>21,656,259</u></u>

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes
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Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 1. Significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out either in the respective notes or below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

The Corporation has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosure Requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB'), the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* and the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Regulation 2017*. The Corporation is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated. Accounting Policies The financial statements are for the Corporation being not-for-profit as an individual entity, incorporated under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* and domiciled in Australia.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

Historical cost convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for, where applicable, the revaluation of financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss, financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income, investment properties, certain classes of property, plant and equipment and derivative financial instruments.

Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Corporation's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in note 2.

Revenue recognition

The Corporation recognises revenue as follows:

Revenue from contracts with customers

Revenue is recognised at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the Corporation is expected to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. For each contract with a customer, the Corporation: identifies the contract with a customer; identifies the performance obligations in the contract; determines the transaction price which takes into account estimates of variable consideration and the time value of money; allocates the transaction price to the separate performance obligations on the basis of the relative stand-alone selling price of each distinct good or service to be delivered; and recognises revenue when or as each performance obligation is satisfied in a manner that depicts the transfer to the customer of the goods or services promised.

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

Variable consideration within the transaction price, if any, reflects concessions provided to the customer such as discounts, rebates and refunds, any potential bonuses receivable from the customer and any other contingent events. Such estimates are determined using either the 'expected value' or 'most likely amount' method. The measurement of variable consideration is subject to a constraining principle whereby revenue will only be recognised to the extent that it is highly probable that a significant reversal in the amount of cumulative revenue recognised will not occur. The measurement constraint continues until the uncertainty associated with the variable consideration is subsequently resolved. Amounts received that are subject to the constraining principle are recognised as a refund liability.

Sale of goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised at the point in time when the customer obtains control of the goods, which is generally at the time of delivery.

Rendering of services

Revenue from a contract to provide services is recognised over time as the services are rendered based on either a fixed price or an hourly rate.

Grants

Grant revenue is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income when the entity obtains control of the grant, and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the entity and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

When grant revenue is received whereby the entity incurs an obligation to deliver economic value directly back to the contributor, this is considered a reciprocal transaction and the grant revenue is recognised in the state of financial position as a liability until the service has been delivered to the contributor, otherwise the grant is recognised as income on receipt.

Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received.

Interest

Interest revenue is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method. This is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and allocating the interest income over the relevant period using the effective interest rate, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to the net carrying amount of the financial asset.

Other revenue

Other revenue is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

Interests in subsidiaries

The interest in KLC-owned subsidiary, Kimberley Sustainable Development Pty Ltd ("KSDPL") and the Kimberley Sustainable Development Trust ("KSDT"), are not consolidated into these financial statements. The Corporation holds one share representing 100% ownership in the company Kimberley Sustainable Development Pty Ltd.

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

This company's principal activity is to act as trustee for the Kimberley Sustainable Development Charitable Trust. It does not operate in any other capacity. The Trust is a charitable trust established, broadly, to assist persons of aboriginal descent who are Traditional owners with a traditional, social economic and spiritual affiliation with the Kimberley region of Western Australia or their descendants. Kimberley Sustainable Development Pty Ltd, as trustee of the Trust, is governed by the constitution of the company registered on 24 September 2002 (Constitution). The Constitution expressly provides that 'the directors must manage the business of the company'. That power and duty is unfettered and properly so as directors cannot delegate to others their powers of management. Clauses 8(a)(i) and 17 of the Trust Deed do allow the Trustee to amend the Trust Deed to remove the approval of the Kimberley Land Council executive committee for the appointment of other directors or advisors. The current directors of the trustee company are Anthony Edward Watson and Kevin John Murphy. Kimberley Land Council does not have the power to replace the existing directors, only to approve (or veto) the appointment of other directors. Kimberley Land Council has no right to income or capital of this trust fund. After assessment of whether Kimberley Land Council has control, management have deemed there is no control. As a result, no value has been assigned to this interest and does not show in the financial statements of the Kimberley Land Council.

Principles of consolidation

As disclosed above, the financial statements do not incorporate the assets and liabilities of all subsidiaries of KLC as at 30 June 2023.

Income tax

As the Corporation is a tax exempt institution in terms of subsection 50-10 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax.

Current and non-current classification

Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non-current classification.

An asset is classified as current when: it is either expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the Corporation's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting period; or the asset is cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is classified as current when: it is either expected to be settled in the Corporation's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period; or there is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non-current.

Impairment of financial assets

The Corporation recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses on financial assets which are either measured at amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income. The measurement of the loss allowance depends upon the Corporation's assessment at the end of each reporting period as to whether the financial instrument's credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, based on reasonable and supportable information that is available, without undue cost or effort to obtain.

Where there has not been a significant increase in exposure to credit risk since initial recognition, a 12-month expected credit loss allowance is estimated. This represents a portion of the asset's lifetime expected credit losses that is attributable to a default event that is possible within the next 12 months. Where a financial asset has become credit impaired or where it is determined that credit risk has increased significantly, the loss allowance is based on the asset's lifetime expected credit losses. The amount of expected credit loss recognised is measured on the basis of the probability weighted present value of anticipated cash shortfalls over the life of the instrument discounted at the original effective interest rate.

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

For financial assets mandatorily measured at fair value through other comprehensive income, the loss allowance is recognised in other comprehensive income with a corresponding expense through profit or loss. In all other cases, the loss allowance reduces the asset's carrying value with a corresponding expense through profit or loss.

Impairment of non-financial assets

Non-financial assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

Recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value-in-use. The value-in-use is the present value of the estimated future cash flows relating to the asset using a pre-tax discount rate specific to the asset or cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. Assets that do not have independent cash flows are grouped together to form a cash-generating unit.

Goods and Services Tax ('GST') and other similar taxes

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the tax authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of the acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority is included in other receivables or other payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the tax authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority.

Note 2. Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management continually evaluates its judgements and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenue and expenses. Management bases its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events, management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting judgements and estimates will seldom equal the related actual results. The judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities (refer to the respective notes) within the next financial year are discussed below.

Allowance for expected credit losses

The allowance for expected credit losses assessment requires a degree of estimation and judgement. It is based on the lifetime expected credit loss, grouped based on days overdue, and makes assumptions to allocate an overall expected credit loss rate for each group. These assumptions include recent sales experience and historical collection rates.

Estimation of useful lives of assets

The Corporation determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 2. Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions (continued)

Lease term

The lease term is a significant component in the measurement of both the right-of-use asset and lease liability. Judgement is exercised in determining whether there is reasonable certainty that an option to extend the lease or purchase the underlying asset will be exercised, or an option to terminate the lease will not be exercised, when ascertaining the periods to be included in the lease term. In determining the lease term, all facts and circumstances that create an economical incentive to exercise an extension option, or not to exercise a termination option, are considered at the lease commencement date. Factors considered may include the importance of the asset to the Corporation's operations; comparison of terms and conditions to prevailing market rates; incurrence of significant penalties; existence of significant leasehold improvements; and the costs and disruption to replace the asset. The Corporation reassesses whether it is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, or not exercise a termination option, if there is a significant event or significant change in circumstances.

Employee benefits provision

As discussed in note 1, the liability for employee benefits expected to be settled more than 12 months from the reporting date are recognised and measured at the present value of the estimated future cash flows to be made in respect of all employees at the reporting date. In determining the present value of the liability, estimates of attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation have been taken into account.

Lease make good provision

A provision has been made for the present value of anticipated costs for future restoration of leased premises. The provision includes future cost estimates associated with closure of the premises. The calculation of this provision requires assumptions such as application of closure dates and cost estimates. The provision recognised for each site is periodically reviewed and updated based on the facts and circumstances available at the time. Changes to the estimated future costs for sites are recognised in the statement of financial position by adjusting the asset and the provision. Reductions in the provision that exceed the carrying amount of the asset will be recognised in profit or loss.

Warranty provision

In determining the level of provision required for warranties the Corporation has made judgements in respect of the expected performance of the products, the number of customers who will actually claim under the warranty and how often, and the costs of fulfilling the conditions of the warranty. The provision is based on estimates made from historical warranty data associated with similar products and services.

Business combinations

As discussed in note 1, business combinations are initially accounted for on a provisional basis. The fair value of assets acquired, liabilities and contingent liabilities assumed are initially estimated by the Corporation taking into consideration all available information at the reporting date. Fair value adjustments on the finalisation of the business combination accounting is retrospective, where applicable, to the period the combination occurred and may have an impact on the assets and liabilities, depreciation and amortisation reported.

Note 3. Revenue

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Revenue from Grants	<u>22,848,070</u>	<u>21,642,795</u>

Note 4. Other Revenue

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Other Revenue	<u>2,966,355</u>	<u>1,832,974</u>

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 5. Depreciation

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Depreciation on Property plant & equipment	594,764	428,786
Depreciation on Lease assets	129,854	118,058
	<u>724,618</u>	<u>546,844</u>

Note 6. Cash and cash equivalents

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Current assets		
Cash at bank	<u>23,315,901</u>	<u>21,656,259</u>

Accounting policy for cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Note 7. Trade and other receivables

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Current assets		
Trade receivables	1,076,842	761,870
Less: Allowance for expected credit losses	-	(20,000)
	<u>1,076,842</u>	<u>741,870</u>

Accounting policy for trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any allowance for expected credit losses. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

The Corporation has applied the simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses, which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on days overdue.

Note 8. Right-of-use assets

The Corporation's lease portfolio currently includes motor vehicles and others. These leases run for a period of 2-5 years.

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Non-current assets		
Right of Use Assets - Leased	<u>143,622</u>	<u>178,423</u>

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 8. Right-of-use assets (continued)

Accounting policy for right-of-use assets

A right-of-use asset is recognised at the commencement date of a lease. The right-of-use asset is measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability, adjusted for, as applicable, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date net of any lease incentives received, any initial direct costs incurred, and, except where included in the cost of inventories, an estimate of costs expected to be incurred for dismantling and removing the underlying asset, and restoring the site or asset.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the asset, whichever is the shorter. Where the Corporation expects to obtain ownership of the leased asset at the end of the lease term, the depreciation is over its estimated useful life. Right-of-use assets are subject to impairment or adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities.

The Corporation has elected not to recognise a right-of-use asset and corresponding lease liability for short-term leases with terms of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets. Lease payments on these assets are expensed to profit or loss as incurred.

Note 9. Other assets

	2023	2022	
	\$	\$	
Current assets			
Prepayments	141,721	507,591	
Investment	25	-	
	141,746	507,591	

Aboriginal Clean Energy Partnership Pty Ltd was registered on the 6th September 2022. Kimberley Land Council has a \$25 investment for 25 % of the \$100 of shares held. The company has a no assets, liabilities and results as at 30 June 2023.

Note 10. Property, plant and equipment

	2023	2022	
	\$	\$	
Non-current assets			
Land and buildings - at independent valuation	11,089,874	10,164,814	
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(2,139,509)	(1,738,742)	
	8,950,365	8,426,072	
Plant and equipment - at cost	883,181	1,883,263	
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(714,384)	(1,641,095)	
	168,797	242,168	
Motor vehicles - at cost	1,501,694	1,544,532	
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(1,316,418)	(1,302,385)	
	185,276	242,147	
Work in progress	129,122	129,122	
	9,433,560	9,039,509	

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 10. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

The following assets have encumbrances as detailed below:

18 Heytsebury Street Derby:

A caveat originally imposed by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) which restricts the use of property to accommodation of staff essential to the efficient running of the Corporation in its role as the designated Land Council of the Kimberley.

40 Loch Street Derby:

A caveat originally imposed by ATSIC which restricts the use of the property for the purpose of administration and operations of the corporation.

Dampier Terrace Broome:

Has a developmental memorial to prevent development outside of the Shire of Broome's heritage policy.

11 Gregory Street Broome:

Has restrictions by Lottery Commission protecting its equitable mortgage in the Land and their approval must be sought for any sale of the property during the term of the building grant agreement.

Work in progress:

As at 30 June 2023 work in progress consists of capital expenditure for the purpose of the establishment of a remote ranger base for Land and Sea operations.

Movements in carrying amounts

Movements in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Land	Buildings	Total Land & Buildings	Plant and Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Work In Progress	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2022							
Balance at the beginning of the year	2,610,000	5,943,857	8,553,858	280,290	367,957	232,502	9,434,607
Additions at cost	-	-	-	137,070	-	30,779	167,849
Transfer	-	-	-	-	-	(134,158)	(134,158)
Adjustments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation expense	-	(127,786)	(127,786)	(175,191)	(125,808)	-	(428,786)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	2,610,000	5,816,071	8,426,072	242,169	242,149	129,123	9,039,512

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 10. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

	Land	Buildings	Total Land & Buildings	Plant and Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Work In Progress	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2023							
Balance at the beginning of the year	2,610,000	5,816,071	8,426,072	242,169	242,149	129,123	9,039,512
Additions at cost	-	925,060	925,060	-	63,753	-	988,813
Adjustments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation expense	-	(400,768)	(400,768)	(73,372)	(120,625)	-	(594,765)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	<u>2,610,000</u>	<u>6,340,363</u>	<u>8,950,364</u>	<u>168,797</u>	<u>185,277</u>	<u>129,123</u>	<u>9,433,560</u>

Valuations of land and buildings

The basis of the valuation of land and buildings is fair value. The land and buildings were last revalued in April and May 2021 based on independent assessments by a member of the Australian Property Institute having recent experience in the location and category of land and buildings being valued. The Directors do not believe that there has been a material movement in fair value since the revaluation date. Valuations are based on current prices for similar properties in the same location and condition.

Accounting policy for property, plant and equipment

Land and buildings are shown at fair value, based on periodic, at least every 3 years, valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation and impairment for buildings. The valuations are undertaken more frequently if there is a material change in the fair value relative to the carrying amount. Any accumulated depreciation at the date of revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset. Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation of land and buildings are credited in other comprehensive income through to the revaluation surplus reserve in equity. Any revaluation decrements are initially taken in other comprehensive income through to the revaluation surplus reserve to the extent of any previous revaluation surplus of the same asset. Thereafter the decrements are taken to profit or loss.

Plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment (excluding land) over their expected useful lives as follows:

Buildings	40 years
Leasehold improvements	3-10 years
Plant and equipment	3-7 years

The residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the assets, whichever is shorter.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when there is no future economic benefit to the Corporation. Gains and losses between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds are taken to profit or loss.

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 11. Trade and other payables

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Current liabilities		
Trade payables	223,650	262,369
Other current payables	2,294,666	2,004,073
Accrued salaries and wages	402,242	359,004
	<u>2,920,558</u>	<u>2,625,446</u>

Accounting policy for trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Corporation prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. Due to their short-term nature they are measured at amortised cost and are not discounted. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Note 12. Contract liabilities

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Current liabilities		
Unexpended grant funds	<u>72,276</u>	<u>98,168</u>

Accounting policy for contract liabilities

Contract liabilities represent the Corporation's obligation to transfer goods or services to a customer and are recognised when a customer pays consideration, or when the Corporation recognises a receivable to reflect its unconditional right to consideration (whichever is earlier) before the Corporation has transferred the goods or services to the customer.

Note 13. Borrowings

The corporation had no borrowings in financial year 2022 and 2023.

The corporation has an unused commercial facility with its bankers for \$1,800,000 expiring in June 2023.

Note 14. Lease liabilities

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Current liabilities		
Lease liability	<u>83,518</u>	<u>98,827</u>
Non-current liabilities		
Lease liability	<u>62,223</u>	<u>80,277</u>
	<u>145,741</u>	<u>179,104</u>

The measurement principles of AASB 16 are only applied from 1 July 2019. At the date of initial application, the right-of-use assets equals to the lease liabilities and there was no adjustment to the retained earnings.

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 14. Lease liabilities (continued)

Accounting policy for lease liabilities

A lease liability is recognised at the commencement date of a lease. The lease liability is initially recognised at the present value of the lease payments to be made over the term of the lease, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, the Corporation's incremental borrowing rate. Lease payments comprise of fixed payments less any lease incentives receivable, variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, amounts expected to be paid under residual value guarantees, exercise price of a purchase option when the exercise of the option is reasonably certain to occur, and any anticipated termination penalties. The variable lease payments that do not depend on an index or a rate are expensed in the period in which they are incurred.

Lease liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The carrying amounts are remeasured if there is a change in the following: future lease payments arising from a change in an index or a rate used; residual guarantee; lease term; certainty of a purchase option and termination penalties. When a lease liability is remeasured, an adjustment is made to the corresponding right-of-use asset, or to profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset is fully written down.

Note 15. Provisions

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Current liabilities		
Annual leave	912,035	888,607
Long service leave	1,052,610	1,121,638
Other leave Toil	95,488	119,007
	<u>2,060,133</u>	<u>2,129,252</u>

	Annual Leave	Long Service Leave	Other Leave Toil	Total
Opening balance as at 1 July 2022	888,607	1,121,638	119,007	2,129,252
Additional	1,067,891	69,074	304,924	1,441,889
Used	(1,044,463)	(138,102)	(328,443)	(1,511,008)
Closing balance as at 30 June 2023	<u>912,035</u>	<u>1,052,610</u>	<u>95,488</u>	<u>2,060,133</u>

Accounting policy for provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Corporation has a present (legal or constructive) obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable the Corporation will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. If the time value of money is material, provisions are discounted using a current pre-tax rate specific to the liability. The increase in the provision resulting from the passage of time is recognised as a finance cost.

Accounting policy for employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and long service leave expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 15. Provisions (continued)

Other long-term employee benefits

The liability for annual leave and long service leave not expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Note 16. Capital and leasing commitments

Operating lease commitments

No operating lease commitments existed at year end which were contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements.

Capital expenditure commitments

There were no significant capital expenditure commitments incurred for the year ended.

Note 17. Reserves

	2023 \$	2022 \$
General reserve	7,500,000	7,500,000
Restricted reserves	10,377,607	9,173,100
	<u>17,877,607</u>	<u>16,673,100</u>

The restricted reserve records the transfer from retained earnings of unspent grant funding committed and set aside for future service delivery of respective Grant programs.

The general reserve records the transfer from retained earnings of funding set aside for member community benefits.

Note 18. Retained surpluses

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Retained surpluses at the beginning of the financial year	10,418,582	9,915,512
Surplus for the year	1,821,281	1,927,094
Transfer to other reserves	(1,204,507)	(1,424,024)
Retained surpluses at the end of the financial year	<u>11,035,356</u>	<u>10,418,582</u>

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 19. Key management personnel disclosures

Compensation

The aggregate compensation made to Directors and other members of key management personnel of the Corporation is set out below:

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Short-term employee benefits	775,086	793,971
Post-employee benefits	56,413	62,241
Other long-term benefits	21,013	19,949
Total key management personnel compensation	<u>852,512</u>	<u>876,161</u>

Note 20. Related party transactions

The Corporation holds one share representing 100% ownership in the company Kimberley Sustainable Development Pty Ltd. This company's principal activity is to act as trustee for the Kimberley Sustainable Development Charitable Trust. It does not operate in any other capacity. There is no right to income or capital of this trust fund. As a result, no value has been assigned to this interest and does not show in the financial statements of the Kimberley Land Council apart from the below transactions.

Related Party Entity - 2022	Service Type	Services		
		Services Received (Paid to)	Performed (Received from)	Services performed (Income due)
Director	Remuneration via University of NSW	50,000	-	-
West Kimberley Futures Empowered Communities Ltd	Administration	-	72,727	-
Kimberley Sustainable Development Charitable Trust	Employment costs	-	311,537	117,112
Total		<u>50,000</u>	<u>384,264</u>	<u>117,112</u>

Related Party Entity - 2023	Service Type	Services		
		Services Received (Paid to)	performed (Received from)	Services performed (Income due)
Kimberley Sustainable Development Charitable Trust	Employment costs	-	(340,086)	(65,493)

Parent entity

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation is the parent entity.

Key management personnel

Disclosures relating to key management personnel are set out in note 20.

Receivable from and payable to related parties

There were no trade receivables from or trade payables to related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

Loans to/from related parties

There were no loans to or from related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 21. Related party transactions (continued)

Terms and conditions

All transactions were made on normal commercial terms and conditions and at market rates.

Note 21. Events after the reporting period

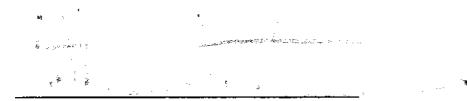
Kimberley Land Council received a letter from the Shire of Debry/West Kimberley in Aug 2023 for the derelict building at 38 Loch Street, Derby to be demolished as the Shire has determined the building is dangerous and unfit for human habitation and needed to be secured from trespassers or demolished. At the time of signing the report Kimberley Land Council were contacting builders to obtain demolition costs.

**Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
Directors' declaration
For the year ended 30 June 2023**

In the Directors' opinion:

- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006, the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Regulations 2017 and associated regulations;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the Corporation's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Corporation will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the Directors



6th September 2023

DIRECTORS:

ROBERT CAMPBELL RCA, CA
VIRAL PATEL RCA, CA
ALASTAIR ABBOTT RCA, CA
CHASSEY DAVIDS RCA, CA

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR:

SANTO CASILLI FCPA PFIIA

**AUSTRALIAN
AUDIT** 

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (the Corporation), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the statement by the Board of Directors.

In our opinion the accompanying financial report has been prepared in accordance with requirements of the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (CATSI Act) and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act), including:

- a. giving a true and fair view of the Corporation's financial position as at 30 June 2023, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended; and
- b. complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosure Requirements, and Division 60 the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Corporation in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act) and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosure, the CATSI Act and the ACNC Act. The responsibility of Management also includes such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intend to liquidate the Corporation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Corporation's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Corporation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Corporation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.



We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In our opinion Kimberley Land Council Aboriginal Corporation has complied with section 60-30(3)(b), (c) and (d) of the ACNC Act:

- a. by providing us with all information, explanation, and assistance necessary for the conduct of the audit; and
- b. by keeping financial records sufficient to enable a financial report to be prepared and audited; and
- c. by keeping other records required by Part 3-2 of the ACNC Act, including those records required by section 50-5 that correctly record its operations, so as to enable any recognised assessment activity to be carried out in relation to the Corporation.

It is also our opinion, that the Corporation has complied with the CATSI Act, including:

- a. in the course of the audit we have been given all information, explanation and assistance necessary to conduct the audit; and
- b. the corporation has kept financial records sufficient to enable the financial report to be prepared and audited; and
- c. the corporation has kept other records and registers as required by CATSI Act.

Australian Audit

Chassey Cedric Davids, CA AMIIA BCom

Registered Company Auditor number 490152

Director

Australian Audit

Perth, Western Australia

Dated: 6th September 2023



KIMBERLEY LAND COUNCIL

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ICN: 21

