



Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation
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CEO REPORT 2014

Hi Members

The Wonnarua Nation had a good year in terms of progress in a number of areas. We have implemented our new company WMR Pty Ltd Wonnarua Mine Rehabilitation Pty Ltd which has 3 directors who are John Lester, Tony Hanrahan, Tracy Meekin and Sharon Edgar Jones. The advertised positions have been filled. Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation are 100% shareholders in WMR Pty Ltd they have been working at Ashton Coal planting trees, weed spraying and working with Singleton Council and our property St Clair Mission removing weeds along Glennies Creek and Valley Arm Bio Banking agreement.

The submitted Development Application to Singleton Shire Council to develop the Nursery at Camberwell Village 15 minutes from Singleton and 15 minutes from St Clair Mission has been approved and now waiting to sign the lease of the house and property.

There are a number of major mines already interested in engaging WMR Pty Ltd to plant trees on mine sites and buy native trees when the Nursery is set up, so progress is really happening in this area and we hope to have a successful business year in 2015.

More good news -

The 2 areas protected now are the corroboree ground and the former St Clair Mission Church.

This is a very significant achievement from the board and we will be looking at gazetting more Aboriginal places of significance in Wonnarua Country now, and in the future.

The other good news is RMS Roads and Maritime Services have funded our submission to develop the first stage of the proposed Wonnarua Cultural Park. We engaged a company called Klienfelder to prepare the DA to Singleton Council and install a building on our property and includes a shed. This has been a pain staking task and took 5 years to approve and many meetings, so thanks to all directors involved past and present and for members being patient. The DA is sitting on councils desk waiting for approval this year.

We have also been successful in another submission to RMS in naming the bridges and rest areas along the Hunter Expressway in Aboriginal names. This is another outstanding achievement by the board. The official opening of the highway was this year and some members and directors attended the opening Sharon Edgar Jones Jones did the welcome to country which was a highlight of the event also in attendance was Tracey Skene, Georgina Berry and CEO of Mindaribba Land Council Leanne Miller.

Keith Rogers and I worked on an application to Coal and Allied to in part fund an office, the CEO position and our Strategic Plan. We are happy to announce that this has been funded through a

partnering agreement with Coal & Allied and ADCF. This was a significant achievement in identifying ways to keep developing our goals.

The Centennial Coal Health and Education fund has delivered significant outcomes for our members this year (see graph attached). The board volunteer their own time in managing these funds and special thanks needs to go to them and Ineke Henskens who helps manage these funds for our members.

WNAC engaged Norm Laing and Kellyanne Stanford two Aboriginal people from Waratah Partners to look at giving us strategic direction with important issues and develop our next 3 year strategic plan a workshops was organised to look at how we can move forward on this issue.

The development of a Native Title strategy is an ongoing process and pleased to announce our next 3 year strategic plan has been completed and will go on our website.

WNAC, Madoo Land Fund and WEC held a workshop this year to develop a MOU to work together and look at other partnerships within our organisations. Two of the organisations have agreed to work together Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation and Madoo Land Fund. I am very confident this year we will work hard together to create social and economic benefits for our members.

Sharon Edgar Jones Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation Secretary has been looking at our language revitalisation and has been talking with different organisations and people about developing our own teaching manual/ CD/book so we can actually teach this in a more easily friendly way we will be able to update you more in the next coming months of this exciting project.

We have also engaged Studiobacher to develop our new website which will be more interactive and updated with more information to be added to the site so members can see more of what Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation have been doing and developing so I hope you like this new way of communication to members.

The Wonnarua Nation Board have met a number of times this year to develop important issues like Wonnarua language, We also applied to the government to fund a CD called Wonnarua Pathways and Connection and Book the Gringai of the Wonnarua People I am pleased to announce both the book and CD have been funded We will keep members updated with these outcomes as we progress.

In terms of culture and heritage issues we have worked hard this year with the mining companies especially Glencore and have developed 2 CD's and completed 2 ACHMP Aboriginal Culture Heritage Management Plans with our Elders. If these 2 mines are approved this year, then the recommendations in the ACHMP will be implemented and this is expected to further develop our goals for the Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation and local Aboriginal Community.

I would especially like to thank Norm Laing and Kellyanne Stanford for there contributions to Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation this year.

Finally Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation applied to the NSW Governments \$ 89 million dollar Resources for Region Fund which looks at how mining has affected the local community this round of funding included the Aboriginal Community and how it has affected us so we applied the

basis of land that we own or lease to develop infrastructure and hubs on the land we own so I will keep members updated of this progress.

I am pleased to announce the board have selected me as fulltime CEO so I will be putting 100% effort to deliver the strategic direction the board requires and make sure our members benefit from their decisions.

Yours Truly
Laurie Perry



CEO WNAC

