

# BAWINANGA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

**ANNUAL REPORT  
2016-2017**



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Improving the lives of Aboriginal people living on their homelands in North Western Arnhem Land by caring for country, culture and languages through services that improve housing, health, education and access since 1979.

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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are advised that this document contains references to deceased people. Photographs as credited. No text or images may be reproduced without express prior written permission of Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation





*Presentation of Mamurrang to Peter and Jan Cooke 1981, photographer unknown, sourced from the Culture Office archive*

*Front cover image caption: Jack Wunuwun, Frank Gurmanamana, Mokey Malmal, (someone not visible) David An-guralha and Willy Djolpa at a BAC meeting in the Djomi Museum, 1983 photographer unknown - Maningrida Arts & Culture - Culture Office archive*

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## CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

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This year has been another year of rebuilding for Bawinanga. We are getting back on our feet, especially with our service delivery to our homelands. We have improved the Tucker Run operation, are more active in housing maintenance and municipal and essential service delivery including road and airstrip maintenance has been much better than recent years. The Art Centre and Bábbarra have also increased their support for artists on homelands, but there is still a lot to do. The Board would like to see improvement in our homelands in the areas of health and education, the Community Development Program's work on homelands and transport options for homeland residents.

This year the Board made a decision to start building houses again, something Bawinanga did successfully for a long time. We already have a team of tradesman delivering maintenance work so building and renovating houses fits very well within that program. We are starting slowly and have already won some contracts with the Northern Territory Government, which has allowed us to employ more local staff. We hope for more of this work next year so that we can deliver more training and jobs for local staff. We would like to see Bawinanga fixing all housing in Maningrida in the future as well.

We have plans to make our homelands stronger. Over the next few years we



want to see more employment on homelands. We will do this by moving Ranger jobs out to homelands, getting our CDP Supervisors based on homelands, working with the government and philanthropists to get full time teachers working with teacher's assistants on homelands and establishing small businesses on homelands. The art industry on our homelands has been going for a long time and supports a lot of people living on homelands. Our partnership with local fisherman is progressing well and in the future we hope these enterprises will help support families living on homelands. As well as the fishing we have opportunities for people interested in catching mud crabs, breeding and selling reptiles, catching and selling fresh and saltwater animals for aquarium sales and maybe some parts of the buffalo industry, but not mustering.

I would like to thank my fellow Board members for all their efforts over the last year; we are working closely together to provide direction for Bawinanga. I would also like to thank all the staff for their hard work during the year.

*Wesley Campion*

Wesley Campion  
**Chairperson**





*John Mawurndjul and Karl Dyason at Ngandarraya*

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## CEO MESSAGE

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Bawinanga has steadily moved forward during 2016/17, there have been many notable achievements including improved service delivery to homelands, numerous successful grant applications, streamlining corporate operations and the growth and expansion of other activities such as housing construction and enterprise development. The new websites launched this year have had over 11,000 visits to the four separate sites between the launch in March and end of June, raising the organisation's profile and promoting the hard work carried out by all. The additional exposure has also resulted in some very pleasing increases in sales for the Art Centre and Bábbarra. We have continued our fleet renewal program and the worst of our cars have now been replaced, although there are still some that don't look too flash. We have repaid \$1 million of a \$3.5 million loan to the Maningrida Progress Association and our cash balances remain strong.

The 2017 dry season saw significant improvements in our service delivery to homelands compared to recent years. Between the Rangers, the Tucker Run, the Art Centre, Bábbarra, housing maintenance teams, the road crew and Community Development Program (CDP) activities Bawinanga had an almost weekly presence in the majority of our homelands. We are

also working closely with other service providers including health and education to increase their capacity to deliver services to homelands. This has resulted in people returning to live on their homelands with confidence that they will receive ongoing support. We have almost weekly requests for new houses and other infrastructure on homelands which we hope to be able to accommodate when we are clear of debt.

Our other big achievements this year have been in the Arts and Cultural and Community Services Divisions. The Art Centre and the Bábbarra Women's Centre have undergone a significant transformation expanding their programs and raising their profile locally, nationally and globally. Bábbarra is a hive of activity and still cannot keep up with an ever increasing demand for their products. More importantly the establishment of a governance group has given the women working at the centre a sense of control over their destiny. Bábbarra's success in securing a grant from the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation has meant they have been able to fund the employment of a local Assistant Manager for three years. The Art Centre is well on the way to once again becoming one of the pre-eminent Indigenous art centres in Australia. Income returned to artists increased by \$375,000 over the previous year.

Through a combination of good management, outsourcing some compliance functions and engaging consultants Bawinanga has finally come to terms with the administrative complexities of the Community Development Program. Our activities, which were formerly primarily about picking up rubbish, are now much more engaging and include income generating activities such as fishing (soon to be an enterprise in it's own right) and lawn mowing services. Other activities now include furniture making, aluminium welding, soap and jewellery making, a nursery, small engine repairs and car recycling; while some of these are new many have had to be resuscitated. Bawinanga still has fundamental concerns over the punitive and racist nature of this program and is working with other organisations including The Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory to introduce changes that will halt the decline in income for people that are already living on or below the poverty line. Despite these concerns our members and directors believe the program should be run by Bawinanga in preference to an external or non Indigenous organisation.

Our Ranger program continues to go from strength to strength, this year saw the employment of interns who have worked closely with the Rangers through the Learning On Country Program, a successful partnership we have with the Maningrida College with funds provided by the Australian Government.

The scarcity and condition of public housing is perhaps one of the most significant issues facing our members, staff and other residents of Maningrida. Overcrowding and a lack of investment in maintenance results in living

conditions that most Australians would consider completely unacceptable, these conditions impact on all aspects of people's lives including health, education, employment, personal safety and food security. Bawinanga has been lobbying governments individually and through the Aboriginal Housing NT forum to get housing construction and maintenance back under the control of local Indigenous organisations so that the flow on benefits of these programs advances local people and not large alliances utilising a FIFO workforce. We have been successful in securing some initial construction contracts and established our own team to deliver on these, if governments can work together to deliver a steady stream of work over the next ten years we believe we can sustain our training and development program to develop skilled and able local tradespeople.

Our biggest challenge over the coming years is to ensure homelands are sustainable without ongoing funding from governments, it is clear that the Australian Government has no interest in funding homelands which leaves them largely at the whim of the NT Government. Bawinanga is approaching this by diversifying our self generated revenue streams, ensuring that we maintain the areas of our operations that are critical to the survival of homelands and building on the concept of Homeland Hubs where there is employment for a full time teacher, a teacher's aide, a CDP Supervisor, a ranger and a health worker as well as a small enterprise that can provide an additional income stream.

Bawinanga still has some other challenges ahead, including the finalisation of a modern employment agreement for an unusually diverse

organisation, introducing a functional records management system, improving our IT systems and ensuring our civil and mechanical services return to a profitable position. Considering the obstacles we overcame in the previous financial year I am confident that these and other challenges will be met and that Bawinanga will continue improving in all aspects of its operations.

I would like to sincerely thank staff for their dedication and hard work during the year, it is a pleasure to work with such an enthusiastic and committed team. In particular I would like to recognise some local staff who have worked with Bawinanga for many years including the recently retired Wesley Campion, Victor Rostron and Matthew Ryan but also people who are still working with Bawinanga: Oliver Ankin, Larry Warwee, Transon Ross, Leila Nimbadja, Vicky Brown, Felina Campion, Don Wilton, Jimmy Olsen, Leni Goya Airra and Milton Watson.

In closing I would like to acknowledge the passing of one of the founding members of Bawinanga, Mr P Danaja, a past CEO, Chairman and later in life Djomi Museum Director; he was a man with a vision who worked tirelessly for his people and community of Maningrida and will be sorely missed.



Karl Dyason  
**CEO**

# REGION LANGUAGE MAP



Map created by Brenda Thornley, based on earlier versions by Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation and Maningrida College

# GOVERNANCE

## THE RULES

Our Rule Book sets out the composition and responsibilities of our governing board of directors and other regulatory mechanisms to ensure adherence to relevant legislation, transparency and accountability. The Rule Book also sets out how our members can exercise their rights.

## OBJECTIVES

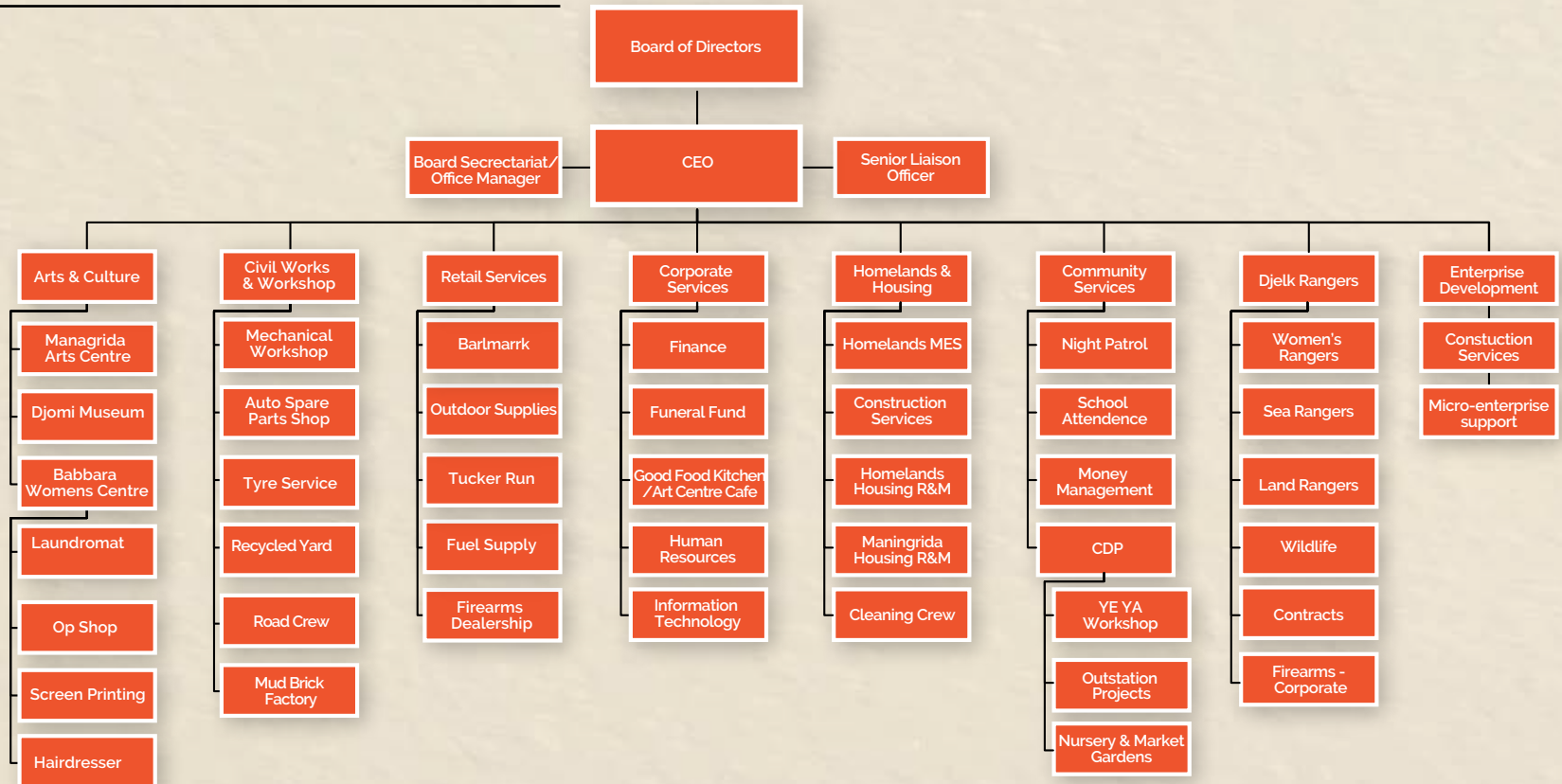
The corporation was established for the relief of poverty, destitution, helplessness and distress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The objectives of the corporation are to provide services to the communities and lands

- (a) to promote the maintenance of language, culture and traditional practice
- (b) to promote the sustainable use of traditional lands
- (c) to promote community development
- (d) to promote the welfare of residents
- (e) to provide or assist in the provision and maintenance of education, employment, housing, health, communications and other services
- (f) to foster business opportunities and to promote economic independence;
- (g) to operate and maintain a gift fund to be known as The Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation Gift Fund in accordance with the requirements of the income tax Assessment Act 1997; and
- (h) to promote, in all its endeavours, the common good and mutual benefit of its member through fair, equitable and representative action and enterprise.

## MEMBERS

A member must be at least 18 years of age; and an Aboriginal person who is normally and permanently resident in Maningrida or the lands and Maningrida outstation communities serviced by the corporation and/or an Aboriginal person who has traditional rights, affiliations or interests in Maningrida or the lands and Maningrida outstation communities serviced by the corporation.

# BAWINANGA ORGANISATION CHART





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# THE DIRECTORS

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**WESLEY CAMPION**

Commenced as Director 30 June 2014

**Position** Chairman  
**Language** Rembarrnga  
**Clan Group** Marlirri  
**Homeland** Korlobidahdah

**Other Roles**

- Maningrida Progress Association Committee Member
- NLC Regional Officer
- Barlmarrk Store Committee

**CINDY JINMARABYNANA**

Commenced as Director 25 May 2016

**Position** Director  
**Language** Anbarra-Burarra  
**Clan Group** Marrarrich/Anagawbama  
**Homeland** Ji-bena

**Other Roles**

- Maningrida College Councillor
- Maningrida College Language & Culture Coordinator

**VICTOR ROSTROM**

Commenced as Director 11 Dec 2009

**Position** Deputy Chairman  
**Language** Kuninjku & Kune  
**Clan Group** Marlirri  
**Homeland** Korlobidahdah

**Other Roles**

- Fishery Officer (NT Fisheries)
- Maningrida Progress Association Committee Member
- NLC Member
- Karrkad Kanjdji Trust Committee Member
- The West Arnhem Land Fire Abatement (WALFA) Committee Member

**DION COOPER**

Commenced as Director 23 November 2016

**Position** Director  
**Language** Burrara (Anbarra)  
**Clan Group** Wulajacha  
**Homeland** Gupanga-Larl-larl Gedjdjipa

**Other Roles**

- Djelk Head Sea Ranger

**DAVID JONES**

Commenced as Director 30 June 2014

**Position** Director  
**Language** Ndjébbana  
**Clan Group** Dukurrdji  
**Homeland** Manayangkarirra

**Other Roles**

- CDP Supervisor
- Maningrida Engagement Group

**MARCUS PASCOE**

Commenced as Director 25 November 2016

**Position** Director  
**Language** Burarra (Martay)  
**Clan Group** Warrawarra  
**Homeland** Gamurra Gu-yurra

**Other Roles**

- Maningrida Housing Reference Group
- Artist



**VALDA BOKMUKAGARRA****Commenced as Director 25 November 2015**

**Position** Director  
**Language** Djinang/Burarra  
**Clan Group** Marrangu  
**Homeland** Gartji / Galitjapan

**Other Roles**

- Maningrida Progress Association Committee Member
- Malabam Health Board
- Clinic Community Worker

**JULIUS KERNAN****Commenced as Director 25 November 2016**

**Position** Director  
**Language** Kunibidji  
**Clan Group** Managarraben  
**Homeland** Manayingkarirra

**OLIVER ANKIN****Commenced as Director 23 November 2016**

**Position** Director  
**Language** An-barra (Burrara)  
**Clan Group** An-Weljina  
**Homeland** Gupanga

**Other Roles**

- Liaison Officer, Barlmarrk Store
- Barlmarrk Store Committee Member

**WALTER GRIMSHAW****Commenced as Director 30 June 2014**

**Position** Non-Member  
**Director**  
**Language** English  
**Home Town** Sydney, NSW

**DEBORAH WURRKIDJ****Commenced as Director 15 March 2017**

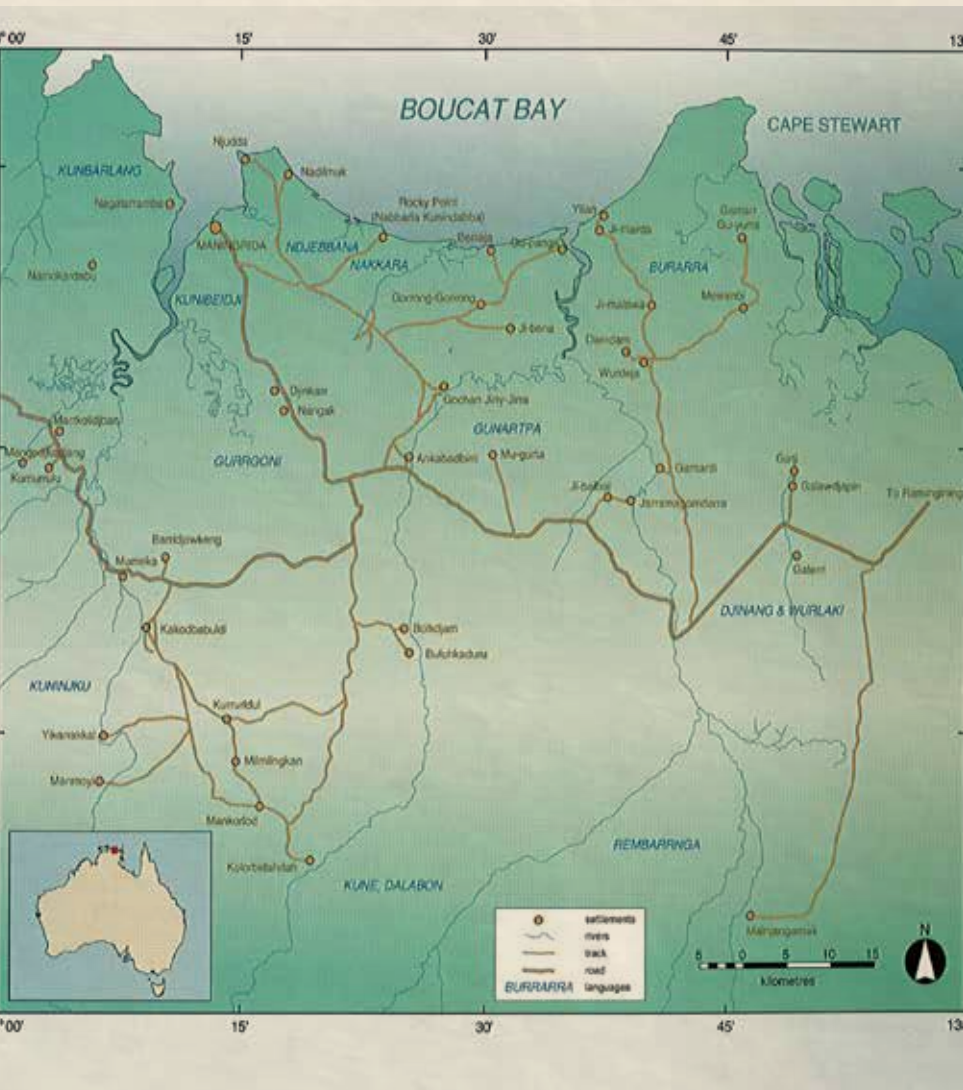
**Position** Director  
**Language** Kuninjku  
**Clan Group** Kurulk  
**Homeland** Mumeka

**Other Roles**

- Barbarra Women's Centre designer
- Maningrida Arts & Culture artist

**GRAHAM PATERSON****Commenced as Director 30 June 2014**

**Position** Non-Member Director  
**Language** English  
**Hometown** Adelaide, SA



# ABOUT BAWINANGA

**Bawinanga is a progressive Aboriginal corporation based in Maningrida. We represent the Aboriginal people of the homelands and 32 outstations surrounding Maningrida in West Arnhem Land, and we are a major service provider for Aboriginal people in the region.**

All of our work is carried out in the context of people's traditional lands, cultural practices and languages. In addition to our advocacy role, we deliver housing maintenance and municipal and essential services to homelands. We manage other programs and enterprises including the Djelk Rangers, Maningrida Arts and Culture, Bábarra Women's Centre, the Djómi Museum, Barlmarrk Supermarket, a Tucker Run to the homelands and mechanical workshops.

We also manage Maningrida's Community Development Program (CDP), Night Patrol, Money Management and the Remote School Attendance programs, and we maintain roads and airstrips in the region through our civil works program.

Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation grew out of the decision of land-owning Aboriginal people to exercise their rights to live on ancestral country in the regions surrounding Manayingkarirra / Manawukan / Maningrida (see language explanation at the end of the annual report.)

The organisation was established as an outstation resource agency in 1970. It was incorporated in 1979. Maningrida Arts and Crafts, which had been operating under the Maningrida Progress Association, became part of the corporation at this time.

Since its inception, Bawinanga has responded to the changing needs of its members and major shifts in government policy. We have consistently constructed and maintained housing on the homelands of our land-owning members.



## THE OUTSTATION/HOMELANDS MOVEMENT

In the early 1970s, the Labor Government introduced a policy of self-determination, but in Maningrida, the Balanda population, including public servants, was deeply divided: some supported self-determination and the outstation movement, others were fiercely opposed. Some local people opted to move back to their clan estates, and this was the impetus for the establishment of Bawinanga.

After the passing of the Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) Act in 1976, even more local people returned to their homelands. Bawinanga was formally incorporated in 1979 to strengthen its capacity to support its members –landowners and families of the clan estates surrounding Manayingkarirra / Manawukan – to live on their homelands, either seasonally or permanently, and in the context of their traditional land management practices, cultural responsibilities and languages.

The integral relationship that people hold with their country continues to define and govern the social, cultural, spiritual and territorial aspects of people's lives. Ceremony remains an integral part of life, society is organised according to kinship groups, people continue to speak their own languages, and they are caring for their country through sustainable living and land and sea management practices.

## HOUSING AND HOMELANDS

The region serviced by Bawinanga extends from Marrkolidjban in Kuninjku country to the west, to Berriba in Dangbon country in the south, and over to Yinangarduwa, or Cape Stewart, in the east. It includes the traditional lands of more than 100 clans, and 32 outstations, many of which are home to landowners and their families.

We maintain over 100 outstation buildings and associated infrastructure on homelands in the region, as well as township accommodation that is owned by Bawinanga for use by staff. We also fulfil Northern Territory Government contracts for municipal and essential services on homelands, and ensure solar power, diesel generators and water supplies on outstations are serviced and operational



*Senior artist, Owen Yalandja and his son Stephen Bonson at Barrihdjowkkeng late 1980s photographer unknown, from the Culture Office archive Noel Cooper, BAC Workshop, 1983 photographer unknown from the Culture Office archive*





*Opening of airstrip at Marrkolidjban, Simon Kyle-Little, David Bond, Peter Marratwanga and David Back (MPA pilot), 1982  
Peter Marratwanga's son Samuel Namundja can remember cutting down trees and clearing branches in preparation for the airstrip*

## FUNERALS

People have found ways to adapt their funeral rituals to fit in with current ways. It is still important that a person's spirit goes back to the country of their clan, and people are buried on their clan country when that is possible. If not, they are laid to rest close to where their family lives.

Bawinanga sets aside self-generated funds to support members who are responsible for the funeral of a family member. Because there is no morgue (at the time of writing this report) or cemetery in Maningrida, families are responsible for the high costs of chartering a plane to transport the deceased between Maningrida and funeral homes/morgues in Darwin or Katherine and for the cost of digging graves.

The widely documented and reported 'gap' in Aboriginal health and life expectancy is a daily reality for community members in Maningrida and homelands placing people in great hardship emotionally and financially, one family group lost seven members over a six month period from suicide to heart disease and chronic disease. Sadly, funeral business and ceremony takes up substantial economic resources not to mention the ongoing affect on people's health, including mental health and wellbeing.

## CORPORATE SERVICES

Bawinanga's Corporate Services team provides a complete range of financial, human resource, work health and safety, communication and information technology support for the organisation. Servicing over 200 staff in seven divisions with a turnover of over \$28 million and an operating area of 10,000sq km in one of the most remote areas in Australia.

This year in addition to our routine activities we have:

- Implemented a financial management system that meets the complex needs of Bawinanga. This has resulted in more accurate and timely financial reports and the ability for managers to report against budgets on a regular basis. While there was some pain involved in letting go of the manual, triplicate purchase order books the end result is more efficient.
- Replaced our outdated, unserviceable and extremely costly telephone system with a new Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) system. We can finally check messages, transfer calls across the organisation and pick up unanswered calls, all of this at a third of the cost of the previous system. We have had a wireless network system installed that has allowed for greater connectivity between our separate centres. We still have some issues to resolve but the final outcome will have been worth the effort.
- Introduced or updated a number of policies including Workplace Health and Safety, Asset recognition and disposal, Purchasing, Motor Vehicles and the Funeral Fund policy.
- Developed and delivered regular induction courses for all staff.

Our plans for the next financial year include getting greater control over records management, improving our Cultural Competence Training, finalising the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement and improving on our IT services.

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# ARTS & CULTURE

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**The Arts and Culture Division of Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation encompasses four significant cultural entities:**

- Maningrida Arts and Culture Centre (the art centre)
- Bábbarra Women's Centre (including Bábbarra Designs)
- Djómi Museum
- The Cultural Research Office (library and archive)

Together we promote, protect and celebrate the artistic and knowledge-based cultural assets of the people of the many clans of Western Arnhem Land.

Cultural strength, respect for customary rights, and connection to country are founding principles. Our priorities, activities, protocols and policies are directed by an Arts and Culture Subcommittee of senior artists from different clans, and Bawinanga board representatives.

We support bunggul (dance), manikay (song), doloppo bim (bark painting) and kun-madj (weaving) as expressions of djang, the life-giving creative power that resides in the enduring ancestral presence in sacred places on the country of the region's many clans.



*Kurulk Kare by Jennifer Wurrkidj, Babbarra Designs*



*Portrait of senior artist, Anniebelle Bindalbindal Marrngamarrnga, taken for the new Maningrida Arts & Culture website. Image Credit: Kate O'Hara, Maningrida Arts & Culture*





2017 Learning on Country graduation ceremony Credit: Natalie Carey Maningrida CEC



Djelk Rangers patrol over 200 km of coastline along the Djelk IPA Credit: Djelk Rangers

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## DJELK RANGERS

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The area of Western Arnhem Land in which the Djelk Rangers operate encompasses the traditional estates of more than 100 individual clan groups and the Djelk Indigenous Protected Area (IPA). Surrounding the coastal community of Maningrida as well as more than 30 family-based outstation communities, the area has an unbroken history of Indigenous use and management. Since the early 1990s, this continuous stewardship has also included the Djelk Rangers.

The Djelk Rangers are one of the pioneering Indigenous land management programs in Australia. A strategic community-based initiative, the Djelk Rangers were formed by traditional landowners in Western Arnhem Land in response to growing environmental concerns. While the Aboriginal lands in Western Arnhem Land are some of the most biodiverse and structurally intact landscapes in the country, they faced a similar suite of environmental challenges to the rest of northern Australia. These included changing fire regimes, the decline of native animal species and the spread of invasive weeds and feral animals.

For more than 20 years, the Djelk Rangers, traditional landowners and djungkay (managers) have worked together to keep their land and sea country in Western Arnhem Land healthy and their culture and communities strong. Along with their success at delivering positive land and sea management outcomes, across this time the Djelk Rangers have also gained widespread recognition for their application of Indigenous knowledge to understandings of contemporary land and sea management issues.



Romeo Lane conducting late dry season fire management activities Credit: Jonas Klein ALFA NT



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## CIVIL WORKS

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### MUD BRICK FACTORY

The Bawinanga Mud Brick Factory has produced compressed earth bricks and pavers for over 25 years. The bricks are a solid construction system, cost effective, produced from local materials and the plant employs local staff. Many of the houses and buildings in Maningrida and the surrounding homelands are built from the distinctive red bricks. The plant fell into disrepair some years and new machinery purchased at the time has turned out to be unsuitable. We have already found a suitable replacement and production is expected to recommence in 2018.

### ROADS AND AIRSTRIPS MAINTENANCE

Bawinanga is contracted by the Northern Territory Government to maintain the main road between the Blythe River on the Ramingining road and Cahill's Crossing as well as parts of the Cobourg Peninsula road. The Bawinanga road crew also grades roads to homelands and maintains airstrips on homelands to ensure people living on their clan estates can get around.

We have a base in Maningrida but during the dry season the road crew often works for long stretches out bush, repairing roads after flood damage, slashing the sides of roads and doing gravel sheeting and grading.

### SMALL AUTO SHOP / SPARE CAR PARTS

This area repairs 4WD vehicles, services and registration compliance checks. We also have a tyre service and sell a good range of spare auto parts, new and second-hand.

### HEAVY VEHICLE WORKSHOP

Repairs large plant and equipment and fixes tyres.

### FUEL (CARS AND PLANES)

You can buy diesel and unleaded Opal fuel for vehicles at any time of the day or night from Bawinanga's garage bowzers near Barlmarrk Supermarket. Aircraft can also refuel at a 24 hour bowser located at the Maningrida airstrip. The traditional owners and elders of Maningrida have asked that 'normal' petrol not be brought into the community.

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## RETAIL

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### TUCKER RUN

Bawinanga's Tucker Run is a mobile shopping service for people living on the homelands surrounding Maningrida. For some people, the Tucker Run is the only way they can regularly buy groceries.

During the dry season (usually April to December), we travel weekly to over 11 homelands. In the wet season we charter a plane to deliver essential supplies to homeland residents who are cut off from other suppliers by rivers or floodwaters.

We accept Basics Card and debit card payments. Staff from Bawinanga's Money Management team often come on the Tucker Run to help people on homelands with their shopping and offer outreach financial services.

### BARLMARRK SUPERMARKET

Barlmarrk Supermarket is a major commercial enterprise of Bawinanga.

We sell a wide range of fresh fruit, vegetables and groceries, meat and locally caught fish. We also sell clothing, toys, fish hooks, DVDs, and electrical goods such as washing machines, other household items and small appliances, mobile phones and SIM cards, auto products, basic hardware goods and much more.

Fresh seafood is supplied from Nardilmuk outstation by local fishermen who are supported by Bawinanga, and other products are shipped in by barge from Darwin once a week.

### OUTDOOR SUPPLY STORE

We sell a good range of outdoor supplies, including camping gear, fishing equipment, marine accessories, firearms, ammunition, garden and hardware supplies, paint and tools.

### GOOD FOOD KITCHEN

Good Food Kitchen is operated on behalf of Bawinanga to provide healthy takeaway alternatives to people in Maningrida. It sells fresh takeaway food, cool drinks, and a small range of fruit, vegetables and groceries.

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# COMMUNITY SERVICES

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The Community Services Division is a mix of fee for service and grant funded government programs.

## THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (CDP)

The Community Development Program (CDP) was introduced in July 2015 to implement reforms to the remote jobs and communities program (RJCP) which largely replaced the Community Development Employment Program (CDEP) in 2013. At the core of the CDP is a Work For the Dole framework that requires most participants to undertake five hours each day, five days a week of work-like activity or training.

Bawinanga has had their CDP contract extended to line up with the rest of Australia and is receiving positive feedback from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

The program has a caseload of approximately 1000 clients of which about 700 are expected to be in daily activities. The staff developed and ran a total of 23 activities throughout the year. Four of these were specifically tailored activities developed to meet the needs of a participant and the host.

This year CDP has had a significant focus on getting participants off welfare and into ongoing sustainable employment. CDP has successfully placed 28 participants in permanent jobs between July and December 2016 and 67 participants into permanent jobs between January and June 2017. With the recruitment of a Job Placement Officer permanently based in the CDP office, CDP is able to provide and support the employment needs of Maningrida Employers.

CDP has developed many great partnerships in the latter part of this year including:

- **West Arnhem Regional Council** – this has led to six participants moving to full time employment since April 2017
- **Malabam** – CDP participants will assist with Building the new Maningrida Morgue and Clinic Gardens



*CDP participants Elton Watson and Roderick Brown planting vegetables in the Maningrida food garden. Photograph Simon Rodgers*

## MONEY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Money Management Service (MMS) Financial Counselling is an Australian Government Program funded by the Department of Social Services.

Our service has had a busy year with over 1,200 sessions helping more than 630 clients to put into practice their new financial skills. In addition, the Financial Capability Workers (FCWs) have helped over 700 clients improve their financial relationships with their financial institutions, Centrelink, employers, the Australian Taxation Office, superannuation companies, insurance companies and debt collection agencies.

Excellent relationships with Centrelink (DHS), the North Australian Aboriginal Justice Association (NAAJA), the North Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Service (NAAFLS), the Financial Ombudsman and the Community Development Program (CDP) enable our clients to receive specialist support and advice. DriveSafe Remote NT and MMS collaborate to help clients get their NT driver licences.

Helping our customers with personal identification is another aspect of what we do at MMS. With the help of Justices of the Peace, like Karen Murray and Susan Rainbow, we were able to ensure that many more community members now have sufficient ID to secure NT Driver Licences, Working with Children cards and Evidence of Age cards.

At tax time our service is essential for our clients who appreciate our assistance in preparing their tax using the link to the ATO MyTax through MyGov.

MMS will continue to work hard helping our clients to take charge of their financial futures, with ongoing funding that will see our great service continue for another two financial years.

## NIGHT PATROL

Night Patrol (a Prime Minister and Cabinet funded Program) continued throughout the year to successfully assist many children to get home or be in a safe location with a parent or carer so that they were able to attend and participate in school the next day.

The team have continued to maintain working relationships with other agencies and services in the community including the Police, Great Youth Services, Malabam, Department of Families, Maningrida College and the Remote School Attendance team with a shared aim of connecting troubled youth to relevant services.

Night Patrol plays an important role within Maningrida's community safety action plan, participates on the Volatile Substance Abuse committee, and has helped in a range of crowd control events including Maningrida Grand Final and ongoing Youth Centre events.

Night Patrol team members continue to quietly get on with the job every night from 7pm to midnight and have assisted in defusing many potential volatile situations by using their significant conflict management, culturally appropriate non co-coercive intervention strategies.



Community Services team completing mental health first aid training  
Photograph Simon Rodgers



## REMOTE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE STRATEGY (RSAS)

Maningrida's Remote School Attendance Strategy (RSAS) funded by the Australian Government and Managed by Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet is an integral part of this community.

Its been a great year overall and "School Every Day - Its Not Ok to Stay Away" is our popular motto. Attending school and getting an education is the right of every child.

Our daily tasks of ensuring students are transported safely to and from school is only a very small part of what we do. Our primary role is to follow up with students who are NOT making it to school for a variety of reasons (anywhere between 50-70 non attending students every day). We work closely with families, Maningrida College and other agencies to maximise successful attendance and to assist with addressing barriers that families and students may be having.

Maningrida's RSAS team has seven members on staff, one SAS ( School Attendance Supervisor) and six SAO ( School Attendance Officers). Their important task is to directly support families in sending their kids to school every day by providing incentives for high or improved attendance. RSAS is promoted around community and this year we have started up our own RSAS Facebook page. This is a great initiative in connecting with Minister Scullion, Prime Minister and Cabinet and other RSAS teams in other communities.

We have been fortunate in securing some extra funding from Malabam's Stronger Communities for Children funding which has provided wonderful support to lots of Maningrida families. This includes funding our popular Pancake Fridays for breakfast at the school, followed by our canteen voucher awards at assembly for students with high attendance for the week.

Average attendance at school sits within the 47-52% range with an average of 200 students attending school 100% of the time. These numbers are a generalised guide and are based on an enrolment number of approximately 560 students. The numbers fluctuate depending on ceremony, wet and dry season and many other reasons students may not be attending school.

We join together with Council, the school, Malabam, CDP and the youth centre once a month when we have a very popular event at the pool for all students who have attended school for over 70% of the month. A BBQ is held and prizes are given to all who attend. We also organise back to school marches after the long holiday periods with CDP, the Malabam Youth centre, The West Arnhem Regional Council and community leaders to show unity in what we hope to achieve. → We have started school holiday activities such as fishing, picnic lunches and volley-ball at the youth centre with the aim of keeping kids engaged during the holidays.



RSAS team Caroline Prudence, Elvis Doolan, Wendy Doolan, Gavin Hayes, Jim Jambarr, Ali Darcy, and RSAS Manager Leona Musgrave - Photograph Simon Rodgers

# OUR WORK IN 2016 – 2017

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## GOAL 1

Attain financial independence from governments through innovation and enterprise

## GOAL 2

Achieve self-determination for BAC

## GOAL 3

Build safe, healthy and sustainable homelands through excellence in service delivery

## Goal 4

Protect, preserve and promote country, language and culture for future generations

## Goal 5

BAC managed and staffed by local people

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# FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE THROUGH INNOVATION AND ENTERPRISE

**“Doing things better and smarter”**

- Identify and pursue new funding sources and investment opportunities for BAC
- Support the creation of sustainable enterprises on Homelands and in Maningrida by providing appropriate support and training
- Ensure existing funding is used to maximum advantage

Key areas that will enable economic independence include: the work of Djelk Rangers, Bábbarra Designs textile studio, language and culture work, arts and cultural tourism, tenders, contract management, retail, enterprises such as Nardilmuk fishing, the sale of art and craft, licensing and consulting.

## GRANTS AND FUNDING

In 2016 – 2017 the corporation received over \$8 million of grant funding. We successfully applied for five one-off grants totaling just over \$1 million.

Bábbarra Women's Centre was successful in gaining the support of the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation \$462,727 over three years to cover the salaries of a manager and an assistant manager.

Bábbarra women have begun work to support the reestablishment of the women's centre and Bulukadaru and will continue to focus on supporting women's centres at Gochan Jiny Jirra, Ji-Mardi and Mankorlod.

Indigenous Responsive Program through NTG provided funds to Bábbarra and MAC for packing and freight, studio practice, SAM database training, policies and procedures and general admin training

## CARBON ABATEMENT

In partnership with Arnhem Land Fire Abatement Ltd (ALFA) and through the work of the Djelk Rangers Bawinanga received over \$500,000 in 2016 – 17.

## TENDERS

- Room to Breathe – housing refurbishment and construction will see significant income available to BAC over the next two-five years
- Weed survey for Maningrida solar array – Djelk Rangers (women)

## ARTS AND CULTURE

In order to maximize economic outcomes for 1,000 artists, designers, language and culture workers in the region, the Arts and Culture Division undertook a review and operational plan with Nexia funded by the Department of Trade, Business and Innovation Northern Territory Government. Business Growth program to cover a period of re establishment with emphasis on the art centre and Bábbarra Women's Centre.

In 2016-2017 art centre sales increased to \$822,684 from \$538,140 in 2015-2016 and we built our exhibition schedule with very little lead-time to 11 (two were booked as of May 2016), changing what had been a steady downward trajectory based over previous years' performance.

**“Growing the homelands' money story”**





*Mardayin at Mumeka, John Mawurndjul natural ochres on stringybark, 2016*

## MANINGRIDA ARTS AND CULTURE EXHIBITIONS

### GROUP SHOWS

- Stories are Forever, curated by Vivien Anderson Gallery, Merricks Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- Maningrida Arts & Culture, Paul Johnstone Gallery, Darwin, NT
- The Women's Show, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- Art Paris Art Fair 2016, Arts d'Australie - Stéphane Jacob Gallery, Grand Palais, Paris, FRANCE
- Bark + Ironwood, Charles Nodrum Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- Salon des Refuses, Charles Darwin University Art Gallery, Darwin, NT
- 33rd Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, NT

### NON-COMMERCIAL SHOWS

- ARTIST ROOM: LENA YARINKURA in Today Tomorrow Yesterday, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, NSW
- Who's afraid of colour?, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, VIC
- Everywhere, everwhen, Queensland Art Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, QLD
- Marking the Infinite: Contemporary Women Artists from Aboriginal Australia, Nevada Museum, USA (ongoing touring exhibition)

### AWARDS

- John Mawurndjul, winner of the 2016 Telstra NATSIAA Bark Painting Award.

### COMMISSIONS

- 25 Lorrkons (Hollow Logs) by senior and mid-career artists were commissioned by Dennis Scholl for a USA curated touring museum exhibition.

### ACQUISITIONS

- Lena Yarinkura - Museum of Contemporary Art
- Seymour Wulida - Kaplan and Levi Collection, USA
- Vera Cameron, Maureen Ali, Lorna Jin-gubarrangunya, Anthea Stewart, Indra Prudence, Freda Ali Wayartja, Doreen Olsen Jinggarrabarra, Bonny Burarn.garra - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Canberra, ACT

## EVENTS

- Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair, 2016
- NAISDA Dance College Awards, Carriageworks, Sydney, 2016

MARDAYIN AT MUMEKA, JOHN MAWURNDJU, NATURAL OCHRES ON STRINGYBARK (DETAIL) 2016 Bábbarra had a strong schedule of textile exhibitions in the 2016-17 period, which have resulted in increased sales and acquisitions of work by national galleries.

Some key exhibits include 'Beyond the Surface' in Cairns Regional Gallery, August 2016. This exhibition showcased work by eight Bábbarra artists, and sisters Deborah Wurrkij and Jennifer Wurrkij travelled to be part of the opening.

The 'Wiwa Bábbarra: Sacred Ground' at ANU School of Art and Design opened in Canberra in April 2017 by David Kaus Senior Curator, ATSI division, National Museum of Australia and Prof. Mick Dodson AM, Head National Centre for Indigenous Studies. This exhibit formed part of the 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 50th Anniversary of the 1967 Referendum', an exhibition which attracted a very large crowd and impressive sales for Bábbarra.

In early 2017 Susan Marawarr's intricate two screen design 'Ka-milemarnbun' was shortlisted for the Fremantle Print Award in Western Australia.

After being shortlisted for various awards in the inaugural NT Textile Awards, Bábbarra had three first prize winners in various hand printed textile categories with Helen Lanyinwanga, Jennifer Wurrkij and Raylene Bonson taking home awards.

Bábbarra attended the Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair (DAAF) for its 30th Anniversary, with five artists and manager attending the three-day event. At DAAF we hosted a profitable stall, ran lino printing workshops as well as took part in the first inaugural DAAF Fashion Parade. Total sales for this year's DAAF exceeded previous years, with a total intake of \$24,556 over the three day weekend.

After being shortlisted for various awards in the inaugural NT Textile Awards, Bábbarra had three first prize winners in various hand printed textile categories with Helen Lanyinwanga, Jennifer Wurrkij and Raylene Bonson taking home awards.



*Image taken during the weaving demonstration presented by senior artists, Doreen Jingarrabarra and Freda Ali Wayartja, sent to us by Outback Spirit Visitors, Sue and Graeme Harrison. They wrote, "We learnt so much by visiting communities in Arnhem Land and thoroughly enjoyed our time there. I have told of our meeting to many friends here in Melbourne and explained that the visit to your wonderful community was very special."*

## TOURISM

Arts and cultural tourism is a growth area with a new partnership with Outback Spirit Tours visiting by road every two days in the dry season and ongoing visits by Coral Expeditions by sea late in the dry season and build up (September – November) and in March.

## RETAIL

### BARLMARRK

During the year a restructure of our shop floor layout helped to drastically reduce our stock waste. We have also undertaken a review of our pricing structure and reduced mark-ups on a number of lines. The supermarket will require additional investment in infrastructure to be able to continue providing a top line service to our customers. Thursday night markets during the dry season have been a great success with regular attendance from the fishermen, the BAC Nursery, Bábbarra Women's Centre, the Art Centre and local bands along with a variety of visiting displays.

### TUCKER RUN

The Tucker Run had a great dry season last year with regular runs on Thursdays and Fridays, along with the occasional weekend visit to catch up on homelands missed during the week. The service provided essential support to a ceremony held at Manmoyi over two months, without weekly food deliveries it is hard to see how many people could have stayed there for so long. We had our first wet season Tucker Run for several years. We assisted residents to get Centrelink deductions, provided a free call number for the supermarket and delivered phone orders by charter on a weekly basis. Although the Tucker Run operates at a loss it is seen as an essential service by our Members and Directors and we hope to expand it in the coming year.

### FUEL

Fuel sales have continued strongly and we are looking at ways we can improve the service and pass on great prices to our customers. Fuel was another line that we reduced our mark-up on during the year.

### OUTDOOR

Declining sales in outdoor initiated a much needed change within the store, in the latter half of the year we have seen outdoor sales getting better and better. We have also moved to seven days trading (staff attendance depending) which has assisted in keeping sales steady and resulted in a slight increase every now and then.

## 'THE FISHERMEN' NARDILMUK FISHING ENTERPRISE

The Fishing Activity is currently supported by CDP, however the intention is to transition it to a small business enterprise operating on homelands environment. This will contribute to the sustainability of homelands into the future. The Fishermen are the first Aboriginal Coastal Fishing Licence holders in the Territory to sell commercial quantities of fish. As a CDP activity it is one of the most popular, it has also attracted positive media attention and won National Awards. As well as providing an independent income for fishermen their product is in huge demand both in Maningrida and surrounding communities. Planning is underway to expand this small business enterprise to include mud crabbing in the near future.



*Caption Fourteen local fishermen successfully completed their Certificate II in fishing operations in May 2017*



# SELF DETERMINATION

- **Develop and document internal governance mechanisms to ensure BAC makes decisions and operates in a culturally appropriate manner**
- **Strengthen corporate governance through adherence to relevant legislation, meeting the requirements of funding bodies and maintaining strong delegation and reporting mechanisms**
- **Promote the benefits of self determination in all aspects of Indigenous society including housing, health and education**
- **Use a Risk Management reporting framework to strengthen the Board's governance, accountability and performance**
- **Take action to protect and preserve Bawinanga's self-identity for the future**

*Self determination is an 'on going process of choice' to ensure that Indigenous communities are able to meet their social, cultural and economic needs..*

*The right to self determination is based on the simple acknowledgment that Indigenous peoples are Australia's first people, as was recognised by law in the historic Mabo judgement.*

*The loss of this right to live according to a set of common values and beliefs, and to have that right respected by others, is at the heart of the current disadvantage experienced by Indigenous Australians.*

*Without self determination it is not possible for Indigenous Australians to fully overcome the legacy of colonisation and dispossession.*

(Social justice and human rights for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, Australian Human Rights Commission, 2003)

[www.humanrights.gov.au/right-self-determination](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/right-self-determination)

## “Aboriginal members of Bawinanga saying what they want for themselves.”

The most important act of self-determination that the members of Bawinanga perform is their right and choice to reside on their clan estates. Bawinanga's key role is to support this choice.

In 2016 – 2017 Bawinanga focussed on building internal governance and accountability to members through establishing and supporting ways for members to self-determine priorities in key areas:

- Established an Arts and Cultural sub committee of senior cultural custodians and artists from Njebbana, Na-kara, Kuninjku, Burarra, Gun-nartpa, Kune, Rembarrnga, Djinang language groups, developed Terms of Reference and held regular meetings
- Established Djelk IPA Advisory Committee developed Terms of Reference and held meetings quarterly
- Established a Store Committee developed Terms of Reference and held meetings quarterly
- Established a Women's Governance Group through Bábbarra Women's Centre

And also:

- Ensured BAC complies with Indigenous Art Commercial Code of Conduct and Indigenous ICIP and Copyright
- Completed a review of the ORIC Healthy Corporations Checklist
- Reviewed internal Resale Royalty and copyright policies and procedures and passed on all payments to artists, designers and their beneficiaries
- Established a Housing Construction and Management team to obtain contracts to build public housing in Maningrida

In the corporate services area:

- Participated in forums and lobbied governments to progress Indigenous control over housing (AHNT)

- Met with government ministers and senior bureaucrats to develop strategies to improve community safety, increase local control over the Land Council's permit system and lobby for essential community infrastructure such as a morgue and a cemetery
- Developed and maintained a Risk Management Reporting Framework

Maningrida Arts and Culture and Bábbarra Women's Centre:

- Assisted in numerous history and heritage projects
- Kept the cultural research office materials protected and accessible to BAC members



*Bartmarrk's Tucker Run homelands service providing food security for people living on homelands*



*Mick Marrawa England talking about his country at Gochan Jiny-Jirra photograph by Kate O'Hara*



# SAFE, HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE HOMELANDS

- **Plan and invest in the maintenance and construction of infrastructure on homelands**
- **Develop strategic partnerships to support and improve service delivery to homelands**
- **Foster efficient, sustainable, safe and secure access to homelands**
- **Improve the lifestyle of people on Homelands by increasing the quality, quantity and type of service delivery**

Completed the Infrastructure and Equipment Register which is our bi-annual reporting tool to the Government that assists us in identifying the age of most items, their expected replacement date and value.

We are working with the Department of Housing and Community Services regarding a Renewable Energy Systems spreadsheet which identifies the status of the power systems on all the outstations. We are working closely to obtain the maximum amount of funding over the next few years as almost all of the outstations require upgrades to some major items from batteries to a whole new power system.

On completion of the 16/17 Municipal and Essential Services Special Purpose Grant (MESSPG) funding round we received \$320,000 towards rebuilding outstation access roads. We have acquitted funds to the value of \$237,924 as at December 2016.

We also received \$35,000 to repair a dangerous culvert on the road to Gochan Jiny- jirra.

The road crew received \$85,000 from the Department of Infrastructure to upgrade five river crossings near Maningrida to improve safety and accessibility.

**“Live, work, go to school and be happy and healthy on country.”**

Arts and Culture have increased assistance with harvesting with at least two trips per week to homelands to harvest milil (jungle vine), pandanus, bark, timber, ochres and natural dyes. On these trips the art centre also assisted with the delivery of groceries, medicine from the clinic, paperwork and liaised regarding the needs of outstation residents.

Homelands visited by the Arts and Culture team this year include: Yilan, Ji-marda, Gochan Jiny-jirra, Wurdeja, Kubumi, Yikarrakkal, Barridjowkkeng, Kumurlulu, Marrkolidjban, Kolorbidahdah, Buluhkaduru, Mumeka, Nangak, and significant sites on clan estates near Barridijowkeng and Ngandarrayo.

A small market garden has been established at Buluhkaduru – homelands support and Nursery Crew were engaged.

Market garden fencing has commenced at Kolorbidahdah in line with the market garden plan. Homelands support crew and the nursery crew were also engaged.

A small market garden is in initial stages at Bolkdjam.

The market garden has commenced at Ji-bena, continued planning is currently with the Nursery Co-ordinator.

The market garden at Kabalyarra has been stalled until water is connected, the current plants at Kabalyarra are being maintained by the Nursery team, fencing has commenced.

A restructure of CDP Homelands Supervision is currently being discussed so as to better support servicing the homelands region and the Homelands Coordinator has commenced. Homelands schedule in planning stage with the Homelands Support Supervisor



An overarching activity also provides CDP participants visiting homelands from Maningrida to assist with a substantial clean-up and provide ongoing maintenance of homelands during the dry.

CDP clean-ups include:

- Nardilmuk – including fencing
- Ji-bena
- Ji-malawa
- Yilan
- Bolkdjam
- Buluhkaduru
- Gochan Jiny-jirra (Cadell)
- Kolorbidahdah



# COUNTRY, LANGUAGE, CULTURE

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- **Enhance the conservation, monitoring and management of all natural heritage values**
- **Ensure the ongoing identification, protection and recording of cultural sites**
- **Protect intellectual property rights for all artefacts and artworks**
- **Create a cultural precinct and pursue the collection, return and preservation of all artefacts and information held in other jurisdictions**
- **Record, document and ensure appropriate access to historical and contemporary cultural information to safeguard for future generations**

The Djelk Rangers, Maningrida Arts and Culture, Bábbarra Women's Centre, Djomi Museum, Cultural Research Office and Wiwa Music worked to protect country, record language and support and derive economic outcomes from arts and cultural activities.

Djelk Rangers carried out fishing, biosecurity and customs patrols as per contractual requirements. Complete/ongoing – both ABF and NT Fisheries conducted on a continual basis.

Djelk will continue to conduct patrols under NT Fisheries framework. Unfortunately a similar contract with the Department of Immigration and Border Protection was not renewed for 2017 which will have an adverse impact on future operations of the Sea Rangers.

Djelk have been working closely with TO's on protection of seagull nesting habitat. Djelk are engaged with CSIRO on management of marine mammals in the IPA.

The North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance Ltd (NAISMA) has been working with Djelk in planning a community forum around Sea Country priorities and research initiatives.

All EDS prescribed burning has been completed in both project areas. Aerial prescribed burning will be completed in the final week of July 2017 before the August 1 cut off date. Senior Landowners have been employed as consultants during early dry season burning activities.

Arts and Culture staff worked with linguists to document language, ceremony and cultural information in video, recorded and written formats.

Maningrida College year 12 work experience students entered 40 hard copy stories from Kune, Rembarrnga, Kuninjku, Burarra and Djinang into the art centre SAM database.

Coordinating with Bachelor Institute and Bininj Kunwok who receive funding to work on Maningrida languages.

Working with artists on country to further document sites, which in turn assists in documenting artworks depicting those sites and associated djang, djangu, bapurru.

Culture Fund establishment and Terms of Reference to support japi, ceremonies such as Kunabibi, Rom, and Maradjirri.

The Arts and Culture area continued to progress planning with Architects Without Frontiers on planning for a new museum and women's centre building on the art centre site.

Substantial resources have been spent on the Djomi Museum to protect its priceless collection and ensure access to community members and visitors.

**For more information on Djelk Rangers and Arts and Culture work in 2016-2017 please see their respective annual reports available at:**

**[www.djelkrangers.com](http://www.djelkrangers.com)**

**[www.maningrida.com](http://www.maningrida.com)**

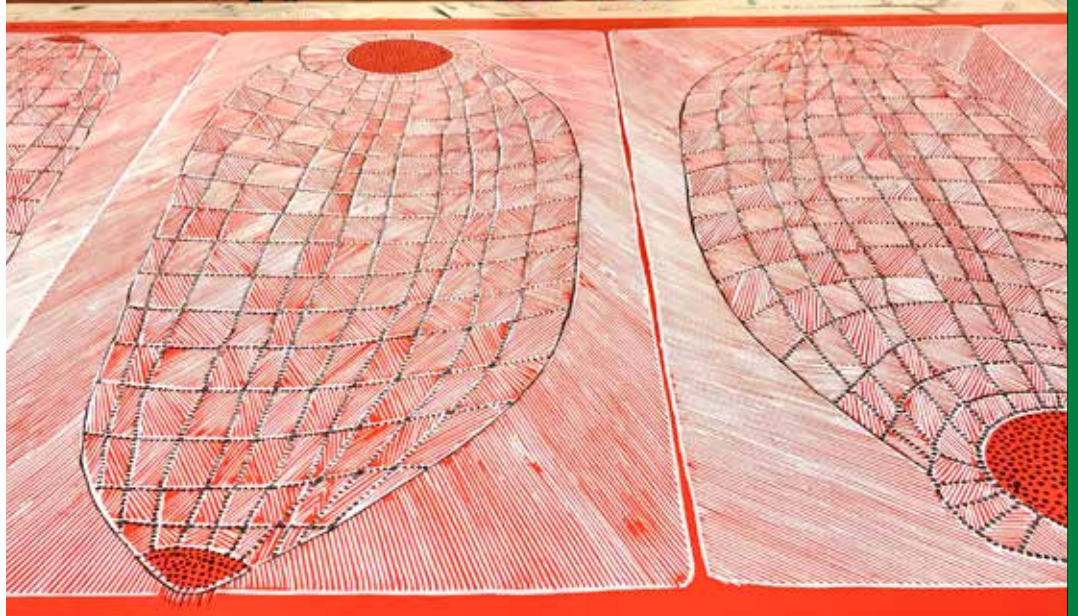




*Bábbarra Women's Centre at the Bábbarra billabong with Joy Gartlin (landowner for Bábbarra) in front. photo Ingrid Johanson*



*Dion Cooper and Stuart Ankin fishing at Nardilmuk*



*Susan Marawarr prints her new Mandjabu (fish trap) design after working on it for 6 years  
photo Ingrid Johanson*



# JOBS FOR PEOPLE FROM THE MANINGRIDA REGION AT BAWINANGA

- Implement a Cultural Competence training and development program for all staff
- Develop and implemented a Communication Strategy to ensure BAC staff share information and maximise opportunities to work together
- Ensure attraction, recruitment, retention and talent identification initiatives and strategies increase employment of local people
- Develop and implement a Workforce Development Program that increases the capacity of local staff to take on leadership roles in any organisation

Designed a staff induction package

All staff to undergo Cultural Competence Training within four weeks of commencing

Initiate a two way staff mentoring program

Learning on Country – the Djelk Ranger internship program

Djelk Rangers – Maningrida Junior School Engagement

Maningrida Senior school engagement Cert II CLM Ranger Camp

Arts and Culture – year 12 work experience students

Bábarra Women's Centre – year 12 work experience students

MAC training Bachelor Cert II and III in Business, Vocational Pathways and Tourism training as well as more IRP funding for training at Bábarra and MAC

CDP have had a significant focus on getting participants off welfare and into ongoing sustainable employment – 28 people in permanent jobs between July – December 2016 and 67 between Jan – June 2017.

**'Jama' across all areas from work experience and traineeships through to management and leadership positions.**

**The CDP range of Activities continued to improve during this year and includes the following CDP Activities:**

### **Nursery and Environmental Practices**

This activity includes recycling cans and bottles, landscaping and homelands gardens

### **Homelands and Homelands Support**

Designed to support CDP participants on homelands with yard maintenance, rubbish removal and the establishment of market gardens.

### **Maningrida Fishing Program**

Participants engage with licence holders in "real" fishing environment. Engage in Department of Primary Industries training and learn retail aspects of manufacturing and selling fish product.

### **Mowing Service Activity generating Income**

Participants will engage in mowing services as a small business. Contracts exist with Malala Aged care and private residences. As this business progresses it is hoped that a local person will take over and employ local people.

### **Barlmark Supermarket**

Job Seekers engage in Supermarket/Retail environment preparing for employment. This activity has led directly to paid employment for several people.

### **Lucas Mill**

Participants will engage in training using the Lucas Mill to Mill local timber that will be used in Furniture making activity and future housing development in Maningrida.

### **WARC Futures**

Bawinanga CDP - West Arnhem Regional Council partnership. Job Seekers will engage in Buddy program with Council workers for up to six months.

WARC will select future employees from this pool of participants as employment becomes available – This activity has led directly to paid employment for several people.

### **BRIGHT Futures**

Participants are engaged in activity components that relate to retail practices, LL&N, personal development and employability skills. Soap making and jewellery making are included in this activity.

### **Furniture Making**

Commenced late in the financial year and is expected in the next year to be making furniture for sale within the community. Our participants are engaged in making useful products that in the future will include beds, tables and chairs etc.

### **CERT II Construction**

This activity also includes White Card Construction Training. More than ten participants have gained employment through engaging in this activity. Almost 100 participants have obtained their Construction White Cards

Since June 2016 CDP engagement has increased significantly from approximately 28% to over 73% in June 2017. The range and diversity of activities including activities generating income has assisted in increasing participation levels. The ongoing development of future relative activities will sustain engagement and continue

During the year, Night Patrol team members have had several professional development opportunities including Mental Health First Aid, Cyber Bullying and Cer111 in Community safety and regular training sessions with NAAJA.



*Pictured from L-R Emmanuel Campion, Shaun Morris, Hayden Narragoidj, Cyril Wilson  
Preparing to concrete in a bush clothesline at Lot 621*



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# CALL FOR SUPPORT

## DGR STATUS

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### DONATE

Whether you can give a little or a lot, every donation to the Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation makes a significant difference to the lives of families on their homelands.

Back the voice and vision of our community leaders, past and present. Donations over \$2.00 are 100% tax-deductible. Contact us to make a donation.

Ph: 08 8979 6555 or email: [info@bawinanga.com](mailto:info@bawinanga.com)

### CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Bawinanga is committed to developing long-term mutually beneficial partnerships with organisations and individuals who share our values and ethos and are keen to help us achieve our goals.



*George Wayarrata and Noel Cooper, BAC Workshop, 1983  
photographer unknown from the Culture Office archive*





BAC office, 1983

Eileen Steebler (bookkeeper - first employed  
by BAC).  
Norman An-gorlagula.

Eileen Steebler and Norman An-gorlagula from the Culture Office archive

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# FINANCIAL REPORT

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## **BAWINANGA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION**

ABN: 58 572 395 053

ICN: 29

## **GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT For the Year Ended 30 June 2017**

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#### **Directors' Report**

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Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

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Statement of Cash Flows

#### **Directors' Declaration**

#### **Independent Auditor's Report**

A complete set of Financial Statements is available on the ORIC website [www.oric.gov.au](http://www.oric.gov.au)

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# DIRECTORS' REPORT

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The Directors submit the financial report of the Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation ("the Corporation") for the financial year ended 30 June 2017.

## OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW

The surplus from ordinary activities of the Corporation amounted to \$762,343 (2016: \$1,159,823).

## PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The Corporation was established for the relief of poverty, destitution, helplessness and distress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The objectives of the Corporation are:

- to promote the maintenance of language, culture and traditional practice;
- to promote the sustainable use of traditional lands;
- to promote community development;
- to provide or assist in the provision and maintenance of education, employment, housing, health, communications and other services;
- to foster business opportunities and to promote economic independence;
- to operate and maintain a gift fund to be known as 'The Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation Gift Fund' in accordance with the requirements of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997; and
- to promote, in all its endeavours, the common good and mutual benefit of its members through fair, equitable and representative action and enterprise.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the activities of the Corporation during the year.

## ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

There has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any matter or circumstance that has 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 future financial years.

## DIRECTORS

The Directors of the Corporation at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

Name	Position	Name	Position	Name	Position
Wayne Kala Kala	Director	Valda Bokmakarray	Secretary	Oliver Ankin	Director
Wesley Campion	Deputy Chairman, Chairmam	Shane Namanurki	Director	Dion Cooper	Director
David Jones	Director	Deborah Wurrkidj	Director, interim appointment	Julius Kernan	Director
Graham Paterson	Non-member Director	Cindy Jinmarbynama	Director	Helen Williams	Director
Victor Rostron	Chairman, Deputy Chairman	Matthew Ryan	Director, interim appointment	Kevin Jarwinygurr	Director
Walter Grimshaw	Non-member Director	Marcus Pascoe	Director		

## DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

The number of directors' meetings held and the number of meetings attended by each of the directors of the Corporation during the financial year are:

DIRECTOR	NUMBER OF MEETINGS ATTENDED	NUMBER OF MEETINGS HELD	DIRECTOR	NUMBER OF MEETINGS ATTENDED	NUMBER OF MEETINGS HELD
Wayne Kala Kala	11	5	Cindy Jinmarbynama	11	8
Wesley Campion	11	11	Matthew Ryan	11	2
David Jones	11	10	Marcus Pascoe	11	5
Graham Paterson	11	8	Oliver Ankin	11	7
Helen Williams	11	3	Dion Cooper	11	8
Victor Rostron	11	7	Julius Kernan	11	8
Walter Grimshaw	11	11	Shane Namanurki	11	-
Valda Bokmakarray	11	10	Kevin Jarwinygurr	11	-
Deborah Wurrkidj	11	4			

## AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

At no time during the financial year ended 30 June 2017 was an officer of the Corporation the auditor, a partner in the audit firm, or a director of the audit company that undertook the audit of the Corporation for that financial year.

The lead auditor's independence declaration forms part of the directors' report for the financial year ended 30 June 2017.

## PROCEEDINGS ON BEHALF OF THE CORPORATION

During the year, no person has made application for leave in respect of the Corporation under section 169-5 of the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (the Act).

During the year, no person has brought or intervened in proceedings on behalf of the Corporation with leave under section 169-5 of the Act.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors and is signed for and on behalf of the Board of Directors by:

**Director**  
**Date: 31 October 2017**

**Director**  
**Date: 31 October 2017**



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# AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

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The Directors  
Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation  
Lot 476  
Maningrida NT 0822

## Auditor's Independence Declaration

- (i) I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2017 there have been: no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the **Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006** and the **Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012** in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

## LOWRYS ACCOUNTANTS

Colin James, FCA  
**Registered Company Auditor**  
Date: 31 October 2017  
Darwin

**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>INCOME</b>			
Sale of goods	2A	13,363,145	14,735,367
Cost of goods sold	3A	6,896,663	7,718,031
Gross profit		<b>6,466,482</b>	<b>7,017,336</b>
User charges and fees	2B	102,180	48,843
Revenue from grants and contributions	2C	8,166,289	8,568,998
Interest	2D	146,795	112,294
Other revenue	2E	6,302,079	6,186,676
Total other revenue		14,717,343	14,916,811
<b>Total income</b>		<b>21,183,825</b>	<b>21,934,147</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Depreciation	3B	681,850	1,078,275
Employee benefits expense	3C	10,654,150	10,220,664
Materials and contracts	3D	2,559,422	2,526,402
Finance charges	3E	253,621	299,789
Other expenses	3F	6,272,439	6,649,194
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>20,421,482</b>	<b>20,774,324</b>
<b>SURPLUS FROM OPERATIONS</b>		762,343	1,159,823
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>			
Other Comprehensive Income			
<b>Total profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>762,343</b>	<b>1,159,823</b>

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## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2017

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	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	7,000,430	8,537,187
Accounts receivable and other debtors	5	2,141,528	661,676
Inventories	6	1,743,185	2,084,720
Other assets	7	617,798	89,538
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>11,502,941</b>	<b>11,373,121</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	8	5,082,164	2
Other assets	7	2	4,346,587
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>5,082,166</b>	<b>4,346,585</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>16,585,107</b>	<b>15,719,708</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable and other payables	9	1,153,768	1,847,143
Grant Liabilities	10	2,682,650	951,134
Borrowings	11	49,176	-
Provisions	12	435,078	436,960
<b>Total current Liabilities</b>		<b>4,320,672</b>	<b>3,235,237</b>

continued on following page



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2017 continued

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>Non-current Liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable and other payables	9	402,240	508,170
Borrowings	11	2,573,764	3,500,000
Provisions	12	71,456	21,669
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>3,047,460</b>	<b>4,029,839</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>7,368,132</b>	<b>7,265,076</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		9,216,975	8,454,632
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
Retained earnings		9,216,975	8,454,632
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>		<b>9,216,975</b>	<b>8,454,632</b>

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	RETAINED EARNINGS	TOTAL EQUITY
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>	\$	\$
<b>Balance at 1 July 2015</b>	7,546,158	7,546,158
Total comprehensive income for the year	1,159,823	1,159,823
Prior period adjustments	(251,349)	(251,349)
<b>Closing Balance at 30 June 2016</b>	<b>8,454,632</b>	<b>8,454,632</b>
<b>Balance at 1 July 2015</b>	8,454,632	8,454,632
Total comprehensive income for the year	762,343	762,343
<b>Closing Balance at 30 June 2017</b>	<b>9,216,975</b>	<b>9,216,975</b>

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Receipts from customers		17,759,292	21,839,688
Grants and contributions received		9,897,805	6,813,269
Interest received		146,795	112,294
Payments to suppliers and employees		(27,046,160)	(30,206,139)
<b>Net cash flows/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>757,732</b>	<b>(1,440,888)</b>
<b>Cash flows used in investing activities</b>			
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	<b>8</b>	(1,429,700)	(1,354,826)
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment		12,271	-
<b>Net Cash flows used in investing activities</b>		<b>(1,417,429)</b>	<b>(1,354,826)</b>
<b>Cash flows used in financing activities</b>			
Proceeds from finance facility		147,528	-
Loan repayments		(1,024,588)	(96,949)
<b>Net cash flows used in financing activities</b>		<b>(877,060)</b>	<b>(96,949)</b>
<b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		8,537,187	11,429,850
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7,000,430</b>	<b>8,537,187</b>

# OUR PARTNERS, SUPPORTERS AND MAJOR FUNDING BODIES

Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet

Ministry for the Arts - The Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support (IVAIS) program

Tim Fairfax Family Foundation

Department of Social Services

Department of Communication and the Arts

Northern Territory Government – Department of Trade, Business and Innovation

Office of Aboriginal Affairs

Department of Primary Industries

Northern Territory Government – Immediate Works

National Library of Australia - Community Heritage Grant

Northern Territory Government – History NT

Foundation for Regional and Remote Renewal (FRRR)

Northern Territory Government – Housing and Community Development

Department of Agriculture

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

Arnhem Land Fire Abatement (ALFA)

Malabam

Karrkad Kanjdji Trust

**Friends of the Djomi Museum**

Intract

Outback Spirit Tours



## Institutional partnerships

Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology

Sydney University



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## PLACE NAMES: MANAYINGKARÍRRA, MANAWUKAN AND MANINGRIDA

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Manayingkarirra, Manawukan and Maningrida are all names attributed to the country near the mouth of the Liverpool River in northern Arnhem Land, some 300 kilometres north-east of Darwin.

Kunibidji people, who are the traditional owners of this place, call it Manayingkarirra, the name of a little spring near the barge landing. The name comes from the Kunibidji phrase mane djang karirra, meaning 'the place where the ancestral totemic beings changed shape'. Manayingkarirra is said like this: man-ai-ying-ga-rida (where 'man' rhymes with 'fun', and 'ai' rhymes with 'my').

The neighbouring Kuninjku people call this place Manawukan, a name associated with a wetland area to the north-east of Maningrida. Manawukan is said like this: man-a-woo-gun (where 'gun' rhymes with 'fun').

Maningrida is a name that has come into use only in the recent past. It is an English-language version of Manayingkarirra. Maningrida is said like this: man-in-gri-da.

### BAWINANGA

The word 'bawinanga' is a made-up one that was suggested at the time of incorporation by non-Aboriginal staff based on their inexact hearing of the names of some of the main local Aboriginal language groups. It was constructed from elements of the names: Burarra (previously spelt incorrectly as Barrada), Kuninjku and perhaps Djinang or Rembarrnga.



*First plane landed at Marrkolidjban, David Back with BAC construction crew Charlie Yirawala, Jimmy Olsen and Tommy Dudanga 1982*

***That's it***

**Ganapiya** - Burarra

**Bonj** - Kun-barlang, Kuninjku, Rembarrnga

**Yalawa** - Njebbana

**Gerre** - Djinang / Wurlaki

**Wurlek** - Gurrgoni

BAWINANGA  
ABORIGINAL  
CORPORATION





