



Final 2023 Communique

This is our final Governance Table (GT) Communique for 2023. It's been a big year, and we wish all our Barkly communities a very happy holiday season. We'd like to honour and celebrate the incredible dedication, hard work, and achievements of the members of our Governance Table, Barkly Aboriginal Alliance, Working Groups, Administration Group and Community Grants Panel. We'd also like to thank our Independent Chair, Mr. Sean Gordon AM for his wise leadership and advice over the past 12 months and our hardworking Backbone team for all they have done to support our important work.

Thank you for joining us on this exciting journey. See you all in 2024!

GT ENDORSES A COMMUNITY WELL-BEING AND SAFETY PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

The GT endorsed a proposal to form a Community Well-being and Safety Partnership Group, at the Nov 9, 2023 GT meeting. The proposed purpose of the group is to enable the Barkly Community to be more involved in improving community safety and well-being, providing guidance for regional justice issues and processes, and to implement community and government priorities.

The group will address the Deal initiatives: N 25 Community Mediation; N 6 Justice Infrastructure Investments (including Elders at Court) and N 4 Construction of a new Youth Justice Accommodation Facility.

Several activities will occur in 2024. The group will work with the Community Justice Centre to develop a community mediation model that systematically considers intergenerational trauma.

With the support of the Backbone Team, a Deep Collaboration Workshop will be held in 2024, to support and strengthen Aboriginal leadership of BRD initiatives and vision. This workshop will involve Boards of Aboriginal-controlled Corporations and other Aboriginal Leadership Structures, such as the Barkly Aboriginal Alliance.

Foundational work to establish a Community Elders at Court Initiative across the Barkly will also be undertaken.

SEAN GORDON TO CONTINUE AS INDEPENDENT CHAIR IN 2024

Mr Sean Gordon AM was endorsed to continue in his role as Independent Chair of the Barkly Regional Deal Governance Table for a further 12-month term. The GT also agreed that Mr Gordon’s role would be expanded to incorporate a role in strengthening the Aboriginal leadership of the BRD in Tennant Creek and the Barkly. Their aim is to provide united Aboriginal Leadership so that the BRD vision of: ‘Strong Barkly communities determining our future and thriving in both worlds’ can become a reality.



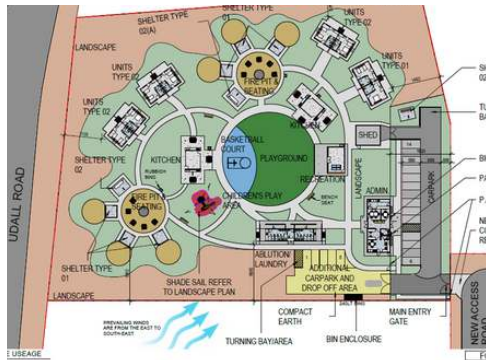
PROGRESS ON BRD PROJECTS: THE STUDENT BOARDING FACILITY AND THE VISITOR PARK

More than 130 community members from 7 different communities have had early input into key design and operational elements of the Student Boarding Facility.

The working group will meet with the architects in mid-December to be welcomed to the site and discuss the findings from these community consultations. Community views will be incorporated into the design and operational plans.



The design phase for the Tennant Creek Visitor Park is complete. The final design has been presented to Community Leaders and the Working Group endorse. Construction is due to commence in 2024. Plans are available to view at Barkly Backbone office.



THE OUTCOMES OF BRD INITIATIVES WILL BE MEASURED

The GT endorsed an evaluation initiative which will investigate the user’s experience of the recently opened Barkly Business Hub. The initiative will be led by the Measuring Change Working Group. It will be a collaboration between the Government Investment and Service System Reform work, the Barkly Business Hub, and will be supported by the Backbone Team.



THE BARKLY ALLIANCE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION ENDORSES ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE

Eleven members attended the December meeting of the Barkly Aboriginal Alliance. At that meeting the group endorsed the Terms of Reference for the Incorporated Body being formed by the Alliance. They met with the Government officials to discuss their future plans. The Alliance is represented on all working groups of the BRD, the Admin Group, the Community Grants Panel and has 4 seats at the GT.



THE NEXT MEETING
The next Governance Table meeting has been scheduled for March 7, 2024. The meeting will be held at Elliott and will include an open session for community members to raise issues and ask questions about the BRD initiatives.