



ISSUE 1 – MARCH 2020

RECENT SUCCESES

194 community members attended the 29 meetings across the Cape.

CYLC received positive feedback in the relation to the work being done and received valuable direction as to how the claim should be progressed.



CAPE YORK UNITED #1 CLAIM NEWSLETTER

WHAT HAS HAPPENED SO FAR IN 2020?

In **February 2020** the CYLC team conducted 29 meetings across the Cape, including large community meetings, meetings with families and meetings with Indigenous organisations including PBCs.

We received positive feedback on the new engagement and communication strategy which has involved a greater focus on community engagement and stronger partnerships with our CYLC board members and members of the Applicant in the claim.

On **10 March 2020** a Case Management Hearing was conducted in Cairns. Her Honour Justice Mortimer said “its good news to hear that there’s some progress on negotiations. A negotiated outcome is always better than a litigated outcome”.

What have Traditional Owners said in February?

It’s a new season. For the last while we have been in the one situation – now it feels like the season of change

Reflect back to those old people who started CYLC with money out of their own pockets, walking, planting their own flag – those old people. If we didn’t have them we wouldn’t be here today. One voice, one unity, stand together, no argument!

This is a positive outcome - we need to move forward

We need to get elders from both sides to discuss – we need to sit round the table



WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT IN 2020?

The Court had set down dates for an Early Preservation Witness Hearing that was to be held in Cairns from Monday 6 to Thursday 9 April 2020. Justice Mortimer had planned to hear evidence from 4 elders from Cape York.

The CYLC team had planned to be up on Cape York in April and May for the next round of consultation meetings with Traditional Owners.

CORONAVIRUS OR COVID-19 WILL NOW IMPACT ON THE PRESERVATION OF EVIDENCE HEARING AND OUR CONSULTATIONS IN APRIL AND MAY. TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS CYLC HAS CANCELLED ALL TRAVEL TO AND FROM CAPE YORK UNTIL THE END OF MAY 2020. WE WILL BE WORKING ON OTHER MEANS TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SERVICES, INCLUDING BY TELECONFERENCE TO VIDEOCONFERENCE.

If you have any questions please call the Principal Legal Officer, Kirstin Malyon or Jayd Copelin on freecall **1800 623 548**.

Our Mission is to:

“Consult with, and according to their directions, effectively represent, the Aboriginal peoples of Cape York to regain rights to land and sea so we can preserve our culture and make our own decisions to achieve a better future”

Contact Us

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