

**[Ida Mamarika in language]**

Thank you for the opportunity to come and speak today. I am a strong leader who represents my people. I was elected to be deputy chair of the ALC to represent my people and my clan. I give my full support to the ALC Chair and I would like to hand over to Cherelle to speak.

**[Cherelle Wurrawilya in English]**

Good morning Senators.

First, I'd like to begin by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet. I would also like to pay my respect to elders past and present. I am honoured to be here again as my fourth trip to this beautiful Ngunnawal and Ngambri country.

Today with me I have my colleagues, Colin Wakefield ALC Interim CEO, Ida Mamarika ALC Deputy Chair, S Bara and Mr Bara ALC Board Directors, and Shoshana Hill ALC Legal Manager.

In September the New ALC board elected me as the Chairperson; I will speak for my people. I will be strong in my decision making and lead ALC in the right way.

I will do everything in my power to stand strong for and with my people. I don't work for myself I work for my people.

The new board acted decisively, Mark Hewitt is gone, the new ALC are here in Canberra and back in Mikbamura, Angurugu and Milyakburra.

The New CEO recruitment is coming and will be done in the right way.

I want to share that we know the NACC are investigating and doing their job. I don't have the answers, or what the outcome will be. But the ALC will support NACC to do their job. And we will continue to do ours.

My managers are working closely with the NIAA to resolve the governance issues identified by ANAO.

We have had a tough year; cyclone Megan has had a big impact. We have faced many difficult times, redundancies, media pressure, and some big decisions.

But despite these challenges, we want to look forward now and not backwards. The new ALC Board looks forward to a fresh start, getting on with the important functions of the land council and delivering for the Anindilyakwa people.