

The Pilbara ACC Strategic Plan

Our Regional Strengths are:

People --People of the Pilbara are an untapped resource. There is a commitment from the people to add value to the region in a localised manner. Their ingenuity, adaptability, energy and enthusiasm if harnessed will enhance the Pilbara. The cultural diversity of the region is also a strength. There is a strong traditional Aboriginal culture which adds richness to the lives of the people of the Pilbara. The potential for tourism is still unrealised.

Outcome

That the region is thriving and prosperous with the creation of opportunities and partnerships to benefit the Pilbara Community.

Environment -The Pilbara is a unique area. The competitive advantage that exists in regard to our natural resources is obvious. The natural resources in relation to mining and industry as well as the uniqueness of the landscape and space to attract tourism provides the edge of growth and development.

Ministerial and Regional Priorities

- PACC is a key facilitator of change and development in the Pilbara Region.
- PACC is the link between Government, business and the community.
- PACC will act as a catalyst and coordination point for regional development.

Vision

To promote and encourage regional, social and environmental enterprise with business, government and the community.

Goal 1 -Be Relevant

- Promote the role and Services of the PACC to Business, Government and the Community.
- Improving local community facilities, services or living amenity.

Employment - The region is in a period of economic growth in a range of areas including the resources industry, pastoral and fishing which will flow down to small business and tourism. Maximum opportunity needs to be made.

National Focus -At the moment, the Pilbara is an area of national focus. The region generates a large proportion of the National Export income. The time is right to capitalise on this national spotlight.

Goal 3--To React

- Identify, support and endorse those projects seeking assistance that best reflect the PACC vision.
- Increasing local and/or Indigenous employment opportunities.
- Providing or improving tourism infrastructure and servicing.

Mission

We aspire to have the Pilbara Community respect value and trust our Regional Development capabilities so much that they actively seek us out.

Goal 2 - Be Real

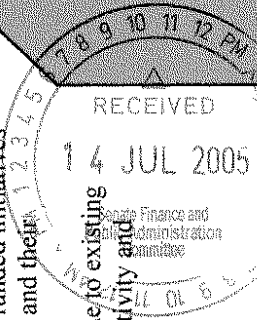
- Form ongoing alliances to create Regional Partnership initiatives.
- Fostering or developing economic diversity within the Pilbara region.

Infrastructure- The Pilbara has an extensive road system that is constantly being extended and improved. Access to key parts of the region is available via sealed roads and national highways. Major regional centres have airports, with Karratha and Port Hedland boasting capacity for International air traffic. There are four major ports for Panamax capacity in the region. Adventure Tourism is now an established industry in the Pilbara, particularly to Cossack, and the Karjimi and Millstream National Parks.

Service Provision -- the number of Community organisations that exist within the region and the strengthening of local government authority alliances provides a vehicle for negotiating at a state and Australian level.

Goal 4--To Promote

- Effectively promote Australian Government funded initiatives to the region and their outcome.
- Adding Value to existing economic activity and industry.



OUR REGION

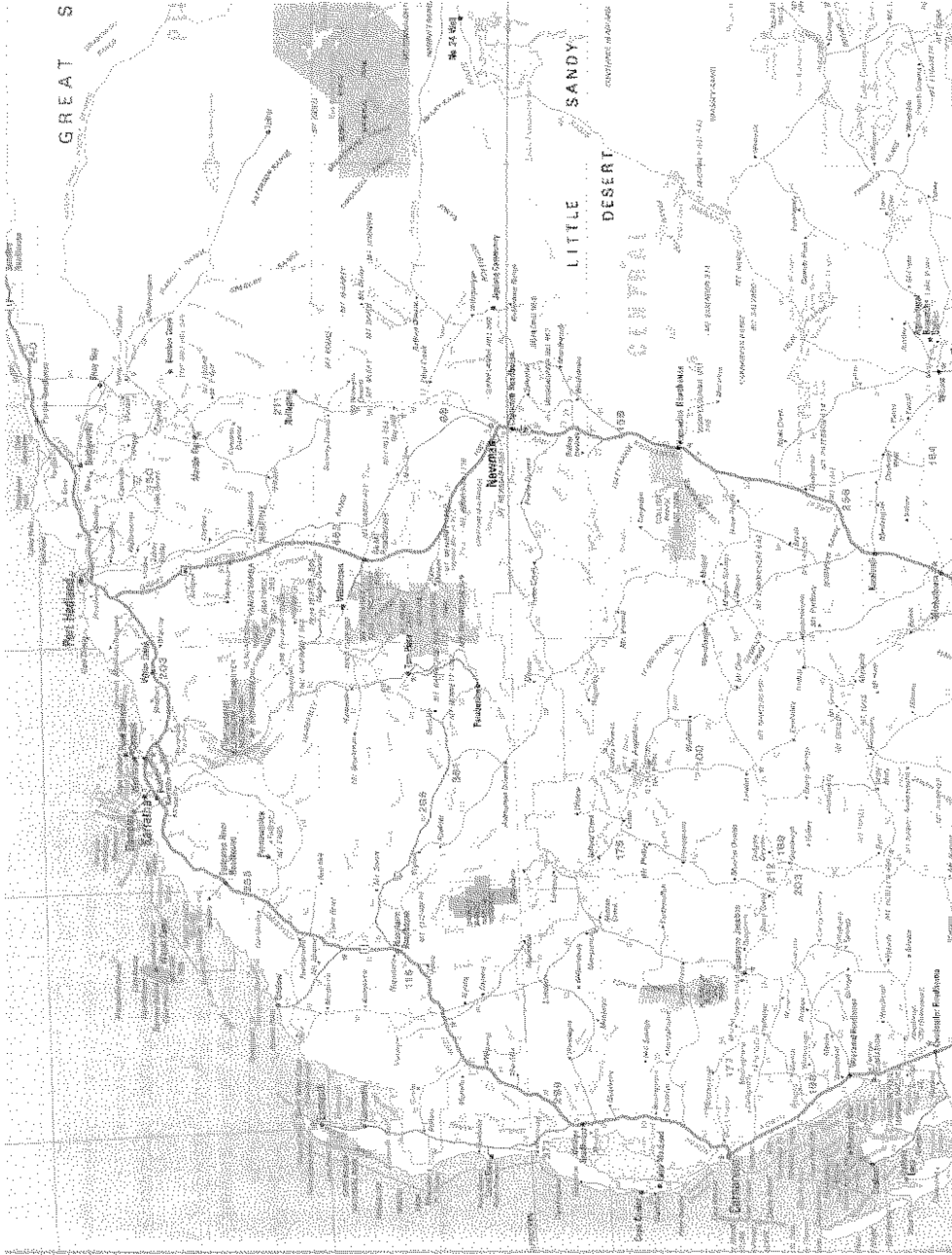
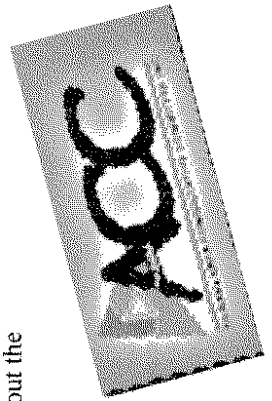
Situated in the north West of Western Australia, the Pilbara is a mineral rich region of spectacular scenery thought to be around 2.8 billion years old. Often described as the engine room of the nation due to the immense reserves of natural resources of Iron Ore, Mineral Gas, Oil, Gold, Nickel and Copper. The Pilbara is also blessed with stunning natural beauty boasting striking landscapes and a rich and diverse cultural heritage.

Extending from the Indian Ocean to the Northern Territory border, the Pilbara covers more than 500,000 square kilometres and equates to one sixth of the continental land mass. The region comprises four local government authorities—the Shires of Ashburton, East Pilbara and Roebourne, and the Town of Port Hedland.

More than 39,000 people (39,676 estimated population by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for 2000/2001) live in the Pilbara enjoying the relaxed community lifestyle, the magnificent climate and unique environment it provides. While most residents live in the region's towns, many choose the rugged life of the pastoral stations.

The region can be separated into three distinct geographical formations, a vast coastal plain, breath taking inland ranges and an arid desert region extending into Australia's dry centre. The Pilbara is a semi arid region characterised by high temperatures, low and variable rainfall and high evaporation. Temperature ranges are generally greater in inland districts away from the moderating effects of onshore winds common to the coastal districts.

Between October and April the temperature throughout the Pilbara reaches or exceeds 38 degrees Celsius almost everyday. During the winter months the average temperature falls to a very pleasant 25 degrees Celsius, and can be below zero at night in the desert regions. Some of the Pilbara's most popular natural attractions are the Karijini and Millstream/Chichester National Parks and the Dampier Archipelago. The region is also well known for its heritage assets and especially for Aboriginal Rock Art of which there are spectacular examples throughout the Pilbara.



CHARTER - The Pilbara Area Consultative Committee is one of 56 ACC across Australia which is funded by the Australian Government to work in partnership with business, government and the community to build community capacity and to find local solutions to local problems.

Funded through the Department of Transport and Regional Service PACC is an incorporated, non-profit, Community based association with honorary representatives from all regions of the Pilbara, as well as other special interest groups. The Chair is appointed by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services. The committee meets four times a year and is administered by a small staff.

Pilbara Area Consultative Committee Strategic Regional Plan 2004 2007

Contact us: Welcome Lotteries House, 7 Morse Court, Karratha, WA 6714

Ph: 08 9144 0651 Fax: 08 9144 0652

Email: pacc@pilbara.net



Pilbara ACC 2005 Meeting Calendar

January

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November

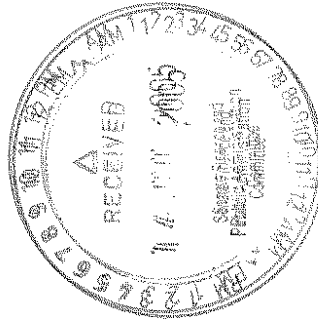
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Schedule of Events

- 18/01/05—EGM (Karratha)
- 15/02/05—QGM (Port Hedland)
- 15/03/05—EGM (Newman)
- 19/04/05—EGM (Port Hedland)
- 17/05/05—QGM (Onslow)
- 21/06/05—EGM (Karratha)
- 19/07/05—EGM (Newman)
- 16/08/05—AGM (Karratha)
- 20/09/05—EGM (Port Hedland)
- 18/10/05—EGM (Newman)
- 15/11/05—QGM (Tom Price)
- 20/12/05—EGM (Karratha)



Pilbara Area Consultative Committee

Suite 5/7 Morse Court
Welcome Lotteries House
Karratha WA

PO Box 1404
KARRATHA WA 6714

Ph: (08) 9144 0651
Fx: (08) 9144 0652

All meetings start at 1pm
QGM & AGM— Full Board required
EGM— Executive Board Members only.

On 1 July 2003 the Australian Government launched a new programme to make it easier for communities to apply for Government funding for their regional development ideas.

The new programme integrates the Government's key regional development funding programmes, including the Regional Assistance Program (RAP), into the streamlined Regional Partnerships Program.

The Regional Partnerships Programme is based on a partnership approach, which enables local communities to develop their own priorities and then apply for government support to help make them a reality.

PILBARA AREA CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

WHAT DO ACC'S DO?

ACC's have three core responsibilities under their Charter:

- 1) to be a key facilitator of change and development in their region.
- 2) To be the link between Government, business and the community.
- 3) To facilitate whole of government responses to opportunities in their communities.



PILBARA AREA CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

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PILBARA AREA CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

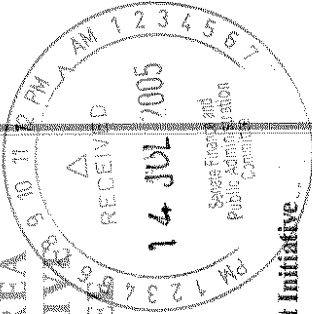


An Australian Government Initiative

WHAT ARE ACC'S?

The Pilbara Area Consultative Committee (PACC) is one of 56 Area Consultative Committees across Australia which are funded by the Australian Government to work in partnership with business, government and the community to build community capacity and to find local solutions to local problems.

Funded through the Department of Transport and Regional Services, PACC is an incorporated, non-profit, community based association with honorary representatives from all regions of the Pilbara, as well as other special interest groups. The Chair is appointed by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services. The committee meets four times a year and is administered by a small staff.



REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

How can ACC's help you with your Regional Partnerships application?

ACC's have a key role in the facilitation of project applications under the *Regional Partnerships* programme.

ACC's role includes:

- Facilitation of *Regional Partnerships* applications
- Provision of independent advice to Government on *Regional Partnerships* applications
- Ensuring projects are sustainable and consistent with regional priorities

"To provide advice, assist to identify partners and ensure that all relevant areas of the application are completed in sufficient detail."

Who can apply for Regional Partnerships Funding?

Entities registered under State or Commonwealth legislation can apply for Regional Partnerships funding, including

- Non-profit organisations
- Local government
- Community councils
- Co-operatives
- Associations
- Registered charities
- Private sector

Note: Exceptions are listed in the guidelines available from PACC or at www.regionalpartnerships.gov.au.

What type of projects will be Considered for funding?

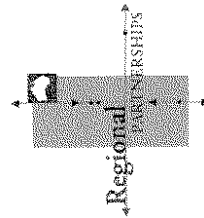
The new program focuses on four areas:

1. Strengthening growth and opportunities by investing in projects that reinforce and provide greater opportunities for economic and social participation for the community.
2. Improving access to services by investing in projects that, in a cost-effective and sustainable way, support communities to access services. It will give priority to those communities in regional Australia with a population of less than 5000.
3. Supporting planning by investing in projects that assist communities to identify and explore opportunities and to develop strategies for action.
4. Assisting structural adjustment for communities by investing in projects that assist specifically identified communities and regions to adjust to major economic, social and environmental changes.

How to Apply

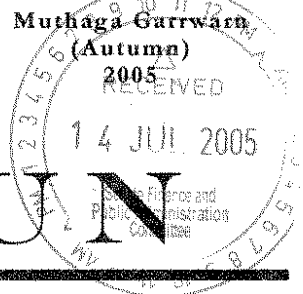
Regional Partnerships guidelines and application form can be obtained through www.regionalpartnerships.gov.au.

Intending applicants should contact the PACC on 08 9144 0651 or by email at pacc@pacc.pilbara.net.



Sample Assessment Criteria

1. **Positive Outcomes**
 - Meets a demonstrated need or community demand; and/or
 - Fills a market gap; and/or
 - Adds value to existing resources, products or business; and/or
 - Creates new economic/employment opportunities, including job creation; and/or
 - Provides infrastructure that enhances economic/social opportunities; and/or
 - Increases uptake or innovation, best practice or new technologies.
2. **Evidence of Partnerships and Support**
 - Outcomes are consistent with project rationale.
 - Outcomes are measurable.
 - Value for money.
 - Co-funding for a minimum of 50%.
 - Cash contribution from industry bodies/stakeholders in the region/state/local government.
 - In-kind contribution-office space, mentoring, volunteer or CDEP labour.
3. **Project Viability**
 - Evidence that project outcomes will be sustainable beyond the funding period.
 - Budget accurate, reasonable and consistent with plan, outcomes and output.
 - No need for future Commonwealth funding to ensure sustainable outcomes.
4. **Applicant Viability**
 - May Include:
 - Previous successful project management experience.
 - Funding history.



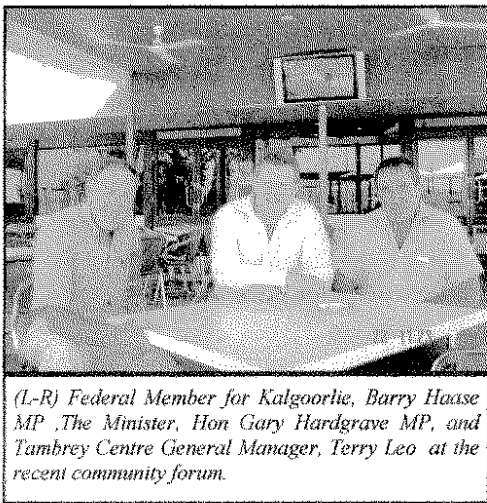
PILBARA SUN

HOT TOPICS

Minister for Vocational and Technical Education visits Karratha



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



(L-R) Federal Member for Kalgoorlie, Barry Haase MP, The Minister, Hon Gary Hardgrave MP, and Tambrey Centre General Manager, Terry Leo at the recent community forum.

The Hon Gary Hardgrave, Minister for Vocational and Technical Education was a recent visitor to Karratha where he addressed a community meeting at the Tambrey Centre to discuss the announcement by the Australian Government that it intends establishing 24 Technical Colleges across Australia by 2008.

The colleges will be developed in consultation with local employers and business, employer and industry associations, local government organisations, education and training providers and community groups. Another great example of regional partnerships at work. One of these colleges is to be established to service the Pilbara region.

These aim of the colleges is to combine undertaking an apprenticeship in a traditional trade with completing academic subjects required to obtain a Year 12 Certificate.

We will keep you up to date with the progress of the establishment of the college in the coming months.

Annual ACC Chairs' and Executive Officers' Conference - Canberra 15 & 16 March 2005

Our chairperson, Tony Ford, was unable to attend this year's Chairs' and EOs' conference which gave Committee Member, Steve Shilkin the opportunity to represent the Pilbara ACC on Tony's behalf. Steve will be presenting a full report on the conference for the May QGM but in the meantime he has provided us with a snapshot of the proceedings and his general impressions of the conference.

All ACCs reported that the outstanding issue identified for the nation as a whole is the burgeoning skills shortage and to this end a workshop was held on "Skilled Labour" which had standing room only whilst the other two workshops on Transport and Health (also important issues across the nation) were not as well attended.

Steve attended the Transport workshop on the basis that the Pilbara is undergoing a phase of rapid expansion and therefore an increase in infrastructure requirements and transport plays an integral part of any expansion that will take place. In particular there is a great need to address increased air traffic requirements for Newman and the greater surrounding mineral developments. More will be reported on this workshop at a later date. Thank you to Steve for taking the time to represent PACC in Canberra.

- Aquacarotene - gets a boost*
- Pt Samson Caravan Park*
- Out & About - On the Road*
- ACC Profiles*



PILBARA AREA CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE INC

Pilbara Area Consultative Committee 2004/05

- Tony Ford**
Chairperson
(Port Hedland)
- Allen Cooper**
Secretary
(Newman)
- Rhys Edwards**
Treasurer
(Karratha)
- Gloria Jacob**
Executive Member
(Port Hedland)
- Phoebe Gilbert**
(Port Hedland)
- Kathy Barrett-Lennard**
(Karratha)
- Fiona Grierson**
(Port Hedland)
- Louis Warren**
(Port Hedland)
- Alan Scott**
(Karratha)
- Mark Simpson**
(Dampier)
- Gary Slee**
(Karratha)
- Mark Bolton**
(Karratha)
- Dave Barton**
(Mundabullangana Station)
- Mark Hewitt**
(Port Hedland)
- Steve Shilkin**
(Parrgurr)

Regional Partnerships Projects

AquaCarotene Limited—Business Development

AquaCarotene Limited is Australia's only independent producer of natural betaCarotene, a naturally occurring substance commonly found in red, orange, and green fruit and vegetables. It is the micro-algae *Dunaliella Salina* from which AquaCarotene derives its source of Natural betaCarotene. The company conducts all the processes incorporated in the growth, harvesting and natural refinement of the product. The *Dunaliella Salina* is harvested in Karratha and is then refined and processed at the downstream processing facility located in Perth. BetaCarotene has a wide range of applications that can be classified into the following categories:-

- A natural food colouring agent;
- Significant use within the vitamin and health product industries (for example as an antioxidant)
- In cosmetic and skin care products as a colourant
- A colourant and nutritional supplement for pet foods
- Dietary food and nutritional supplement for livestock, shrimp, fish and prawn farms.



Through the *Regional Partnerships Program* AquaCarotene Limited have been successful in securing a grant of \$170,000 to assist with the expansion of their business within the Pilbara region. Whilst the factory in Perth was set up to process the material, at the farm facility in Karratha there was a need to purchase some items of equipment, and maintenance and refurbishment of plant required, to enable continuous production to start. The company has established biomass growth ponds, trial ponds, seawater area (see picture right), plant and equipment in Karratha.

As a direct result of the Australian Government's *Regional Partnerships Program*, AquaCarotene Limited, in its initial stages, will be providing permanent employment for 9 people and has the potential to bring over \$1 million a year into our community.

Cove Caravan Park—Pt Samson—Tourist Development



Point Samson is situated on one of two headlands (Cape Lambert and Point Samson) which form the tip of a coastal peninsula some 25 kilometres north of the town of Roebourne and the North-West Highway. It is situated in close proximity to the towns of Karratha and Port Hedland and to the historic townsite of Cossack and 30 kilometres to the popular Cleaverville Beach.

The town of Pt Samson has a permanent population of 200 and it supports a small fishing industry and is a popular beach resort. Pt Samson's marine life has earned the town a reputation as an excellent place for recreational fishing, snorkelling and diving.

This area is extremely popular with tourists but with only one small existing caravan park and a couple of B&Bs and the Pt Samson Lodge providing hotel accommodation there is a lack of quality, affordable tourist accommodation in the immediate area. Charles Van Herk (pictured above left hard at work at the site) and his wife Irene, decided to construct the Cove Caravan Park. Once the facility is completed it will comprise 83 caravan bays, 12 with ensuite facilities, Office/Administration/Shop facility, public amenities block, laundry BBQ area, children's' playground, storage facilities and a Manager's residence. Through the Australian Government's *Regional Partnership Program*, Charles and Irene were successful in their application for a grant of \$275,000 to develop their project. Not only will the caravan park provide for the increase in tourist activity but will provide both direct and indirect employment throughout the construction phase and beyond.

2005 Dept of Local Government and Regional Development Regional Achievers Award & Kleenheat Gas Community of the Year Award

The purpose of the above Award is to encourage, recognise, acknowledge and reward the valuable contribution individuals and groups are making throughout regional and rural Western Australia. The Dept of Local Government and Regional Development is offering 5 individual regional achievers awards. Each winner will receive a trophy and \$1,000 AwardSaver Account from the Commonwealth Bank to assist their commitment to their field of endeavour. Kleenheat Gas will recognise a specific community project, group, organisation, city, town or local government initiative. The winning community or group will receive a perpetual trophy and \$2,000 AwardSaver Account from the Commonwealth Bank. If you know an individual or a group who are making a difference in our community, why not consider nominating them for an Award. Please contact our office on 08 9144 0651 for more details. **Please note nominations close on Friday 10 June 2005.**

OUT & ABOUT Cameron Reports on Canberra Conference 2005



EO Cameron Stimpkins (right) meets with Paul Goodwin, CEO of Grow, Sydney's ACC during his recent trip East for the Annual Conference of Chairs and EOs. Cameron also visited his colleagues in Melbourne for a frank exchange of ideas and "war stories".

Returning from the chilly realms of Canberra can be a welcome relief to those of us who live in the regions. Whilst March in the Pilbara will still see the mercury topping 40 degrees, in Canberra it was down to single figures overnight. However, it was far from a cool reception we received in the nation's capital. Our local member, Mr Barry Haase MHR, welcomed both Steve Shilkin and myself into the corridors of Parliament House and took us on a personal guided tour of the building.

It is a surreal experience being there, and walking beside so many well-known politicians.

A key meeting with Mr Haase was regarding the Newman Airport improvements project. Recognising that the *Regional Partnerships Programme* doesn't fund airports, we felt strongly enough to take it to Canberra and discuss with our local member. He was able to call on staff from the Deputy Prime Minister's office that listened to our concerns and promised to look into the project further. Whilst there were no guarantees of funding promised, having these people review the project is a great start to possible Australian Government support. Let's hope they can find a way forward.

As always, Mr Haase was accommodating, and many thanks go to him and his staff for helping us in our time in Canberra.

Whilst there, we also called on Western Australian Senator The Hon Chris Ellison and Don Randall MHR, Member for Canning. These meetings proved to be beneficial and we thank these people for allowing us the time to meet and discuss issues pertaining to WA and the Pilbara in particular.

Of course, we didn't travel to Canberra just to meet with politicians. We had to get down to business at the ACC conference for Chairs and Executive Officers.

At the conference the Parliamentary Secretary for Transport and Regional Services, the Hon John Cobb MHR, outlined his directions (re-focusing on outcomes) for the Regional Partnerships Programme. The key directions of his 'message' were:

1. Regional Partnership is a discretionary fund; the Parliamentary Secretary retains discretion over approvals for funding applications.
2. His emphasis, when considering applications in relation to Regional Partnership guidelines and criteria will be "Jobs, Jobs, Jobs!! To address disadvantage."
3. Jobs must be sustainable. Projects like feasibility studies, business planning etc does not normally result in direct jobs. Implementation of those plans may do so. But such applications will be closely scrutinized.
4. Generally, Regional Partnership should be considered to be an 'enabler' of those plans.
5. Regional Partnership applications will be closely scrutinized for "cost" shifting- by any of the three levels of government: local, state or other Australian Government departments.
6. Local council/ groups should be able to fund most studies in most cases. When considered by the Minister, he would need to identify clear goals and outcomes from such initiatives.

Also discussed was that comparisons of similar applications from different regions may or may not get approval – each proposal will be considered individually; within the context of ACC Strategic Regional Plans, within the context of each ACC's prioritisation of those projects, within the context of the Departmental recommendations, and within the context of any other advice which the Parliamentary Secretary may seek to obtain.

NEW FOCUS OF ACCs *ACCs are more than a process for program delivery*

- ACCs urged to revisit the ACC Charter to consider a broader outlook, a broader role for themselves.
- The Chairperson of the ACC is the public face of the ACC's.
- RP is about 'Partnerships' - the Australian Government expects all partners to share the risk in the initiatives.
- Cash contributions must reflect that shared risk.
- In kind must be real costs eg- earth works are real in-kind, contribution of land by local government to a project is not.
- Health, skills shortage and transport are new opportunities for focus by ACC's.



COMMITTEE & STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

PILBARA AREA CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE INC

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FEEDBACK

We would love to hear your comments, suggestions and feedback about this Newsletter, our website or any other part of our organisation you wish to comment on. Please email all suggestions to: admin@pacc.pilbara.net

If you would like to subscribe to the PILBARA SUN drop us a line: pacc.fao@pacc.pilbara.net

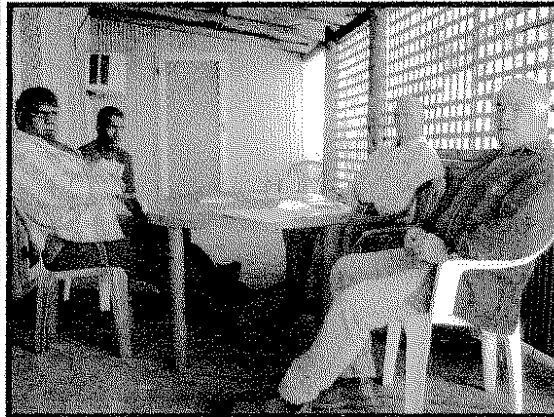
What's on

17 May—QGM
(Newman)

21 June—EGM
(Karratha)

19 July—EGM
(Newman)

23 August—AGM
(Karratha)



Steve Shilkin (front right) pictured with Slim Williams (front left) and Clifton Girgirba (rear left) of Pargurr and PACC EO, Cameron Simpkins (rear right) during a visit to the Pargurr Community in June 2004.

Steve Shilkin (Member)

From Rock Bands to Red Rocks—Steve Shilkin has a background as diverse as the Pilbara itself!

For those of you around in the 70's (and let's face it—it's probably all of us!) you may recall the band Mother Goose, with such fabulous hits as Baked Beans! Steve's brother Neil played keyboard for the band and Steve was their manager. He says he has many fond memories of touring with the band and generally had a great time being on the road.

He later went on to become the Marketing Manager for the Advance Australian Challenge for the 1983 Americas Cup, This included The Bond WA syndicate, The Syd Fischer NSW Syndicate and a Victorian Syndicate which mounted a challenge for the Americas Cup in Newport, Rhode Island . Steve says it was a very exciting project to be involved with and he gained a valuable insight into the Corporate world.

Steve has been involved as a management consultant with a number of indigenous groups whilst living in the Pilbara but at the moment he has no direct involvement with any particular group. There are many changes happening in the areas of indigenous affairs throughout Australia and Steve is taking a keen interest to see what the outcomes will be as a result of changes to the system.

As well as being a Board Member for the Pilbara ACC, Steve is currently a management consultant and a property developer in the process of building 10 houses in Newman.

With regards to his diverse working background, Steve says that he'll do whatever he can, as long as people pay him and it's interesting. When we interviewed Steve for this article he said his life has never been boring and it is the fear of boredom that drives him more than the desire to make money". Steve's diverse background means that he brings a wealth of experience to the PACC and his input at our meetings is always positive and well thought out.

Liz Behjat (Administration Officer)

Our latest recruit to the PACC office is a newcomer to the Pilbara who has quickly settled in to the unique lifestyle that we enjoy in this remote part of Western Australia. Liz moved to Karratha with her husband Reza, a Customs Officer, and 7 year old son Ali, in January of this year.

The last 8 years have been spent travelling between Perth and Canberra as a Policy Adviser/Electorate Officer to several Federal Government Ministers and Members, so life in the Pilbara is very different but in her words "extremely enjoyable".

Liz will be taking over the roles of Administration and Finance which will give Esther more time to spend out on the road spreading the good word about the work of the PACC and following up on new and existing projects.

We hope that with Liz's background and knowledge of Australia's political system she will become a valuable member of the PACC team and will be able to contribute to a number of areas within our busy office.



Liz pictured at the Queen's Lookout on EII during a recent familiarisation tour of Pilbara Iron arranged through Board Member, Mark Simpson