

Deadly Yarns is dedicated to sharing positive stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

## Supporting Larrakia students going back to school



Larrakia Elder and INPEX Larrakia Advisory Committee Chair Bill Risk, INPEX Senior Aboriginal Affairs Adviser Irene Stainton, Ricquel Cole-Briston and Larrakia Development Corporation Chair Mark Motlop.

In January 2017, the INPEX-operated Ichthys LNG Project committed to establishing and funding the Larrakia School Participation Program.

This program was developed as a recommendation of the INPEX Larrakia Advisory Committee to support the families of Larrakia school students in primary, middle or high school to meet the costs of going back to school and to help improve educational outcomes for students.

Administered by the Larrakia Development Corporation, the program was launched in February and has assisted with the purchase of school books, stationery, uniforms and other school-related expenses for the 2017 school year.

"This support for school resources has helped to take the financial burden off parents and encourages school students to feel confident that they are well prepared for the start of the school year," said Larrakia Elder and INPEX Larrakia Advisory Committee Chair Bill Risk.

Larrakia mother-of-three Ricquel Cole-Briston accessed the program and found it to be very beneficial.

"With two school-aged children there is always another new uniform or school book to buy," she said. "Every little bit helps."

The families of more than 90 Larrakia students attending 40 different schools have participated in the program, including Larrakia students living outside the Northern Territory.

## First Larrakia Scholarship recipients announced

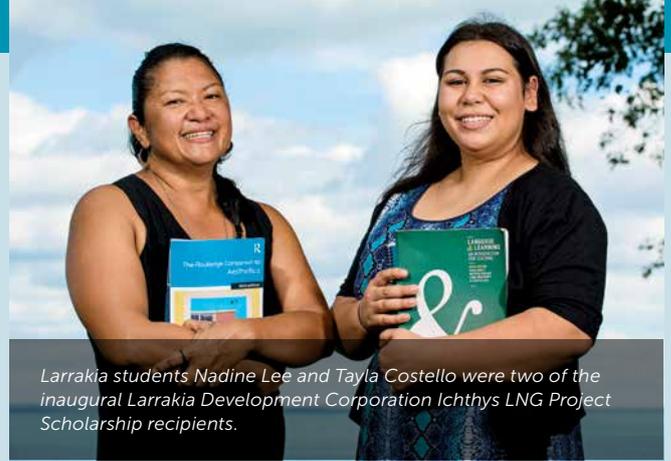
The inaugural recipients of the Larrakia Development Corporation Ichthys LNG Project Scholarship Program were announced in early March 2017.

The successful applicants received A\$ 5,000 towards the costs of attending university within Australia and will be studying a variety of disciplines including teaching, environment, law, business, visual arts and public health.

Larrakia Development Corporation CEO Nigel Browne remarked that the scholarships made available to Larrakia students will offer important financial support at a time in their lives when juggling finances is an ongoing challenge. "This commitment by the Ichthys LNG Project will help our people reach their full potential," Nigel said.

Two of the scholarship recipients, Nadine Lee and Tayla Costello (pictured), agreed that the funds will make a big difference as they undertake their studies.

"The scholarship helps take away the stress and worry about having the support to complete my Honours and ultimately become a curator," said Nadine, who is completing an Honours degree in Visual Arts.



Larrakia students Nadine Lee and Tayla Costello were two of the inaugural Larrakia Development Corporation Ichthys LNG Project Scholarship recipients.

Early Childhood undergraduate Tayla had similar concerns. "I live out of home, so the scholarship has really helped buying textbooks and adapting to university life," she said.

Earlier in the year the program was expanded from an initial three to six scholarship opportunities following a request to the Project from scholarship administrator, Larrakia Development Corporation, which had received a number of outstanding applications.

"INPEX and the Ichthys LNG Project were delighted by the interest in the program and were more than happy to allocate funds to enable the additional scholarships," said INPEX Director Corporate Coordination Hitoshi Okawa.

INPEX would like to acknowledge the Larrakia Development Corporation's generous in-kind support in the administration of the scholarship program.

## White collar graduates celebrate

The second group of JKC Australia Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander White Collar Traineeship Program participants celebrated their graduation at a special ceremony at Parliament House in Darwin on 27 May 2017.

The auspicious date was selected to coincide with the start of 2017 National Reconciliation Week and the 50th anniversary of the 1967 Australian Referendum on Aboriginal people.

The six graduates have completed their 12-month traineeships and been awarded nationally recognised VET qualifications in the fields of Conservation and Land Management, Work Health and Safety, Business Administration and Human Resources. Four were hosted at the Ichthys LNG Project Bladin Point construction site by subcontractors Monadelphous, Kentz, UGL/Kentz, Ventia, and AGC Meisei Joint Venture (AMJV). The final two trainees were hosted offsite by the Salvation Army and ConocoPhillips.

Managed by JKC and Apprenticeships Australia (now Programmed), the traineeship program's main goal is to



Five of the six graduates of the 2017 JKC Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander White Collar Traineeship Program celebrate their success.

generate "white collar" (non-craft) employment outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by first providing work-based training and then supporting the transition of each participant from traineeship to full-time employment or further study.

We are delighted to report that all six trainees have already secured full-time employment, with the four site-hosted graduates all transferring to direct hire relationships on the Project.

INPEX and the Project warmly congratulate all trainees on successful completion of the program (pictured from left: Marsina Fraser, Hassan Ahmat-Watkins, Katy Redpath, Jeremy Brown and Jamie Abbott. Absent: Daniel Burton).

# A foot in the Kimberley

With the Ichthys gas field located 220 kilometres offshore of the Kimberley coast, a number of activities including drilling and installation, hook-up and commissioning of the offshore facilities are being supported by communities in Broome and on the Dampier Peninsula.

## Supporting youth initiatives

The Ichthys LNG Project is pleased to contribute to a youth program in the Djarindjin community on the Dampier Peninsula.

The Djarindjin Aboriginal Corporation has recently reopened its youth drop-in centre and engaged a member of the community to coordinate and generate interest in a youth program. It is hoped that the program will help local young people to develop leadership skills and a voice in the community as well as encourage participation in activities to maintain their connection to culture and land.

In support of this initiative, the Ichthys LNG Project has put A\$ 24,000 towards the purchase of camping and fishing equipment, sports gear, arts and craft supplies.



The INPEX Aboriginal Affairs team and Djarindjin Aboriginal Corporation board members met recently in Broome.

The new equipment has been provided to support increased youth participation at the re-opened centre.

As part of regular community engagement, the INPEX Aboriginal Affairs team met recently with members of the Djarindjin Aboriginal Corporation board in Broome to get an update on how this initiative is progressing.

## Facilitating job readiness

INPEX Aboriginal Affairs team members visited the Nirrumbuk Aboriginal Corporation (NAC) in Broome in March 2017 to meet with CEO Joe Grande and Chairperson Rosie Sahanna to see how an Ichthys LNG Project donation is being put to use.

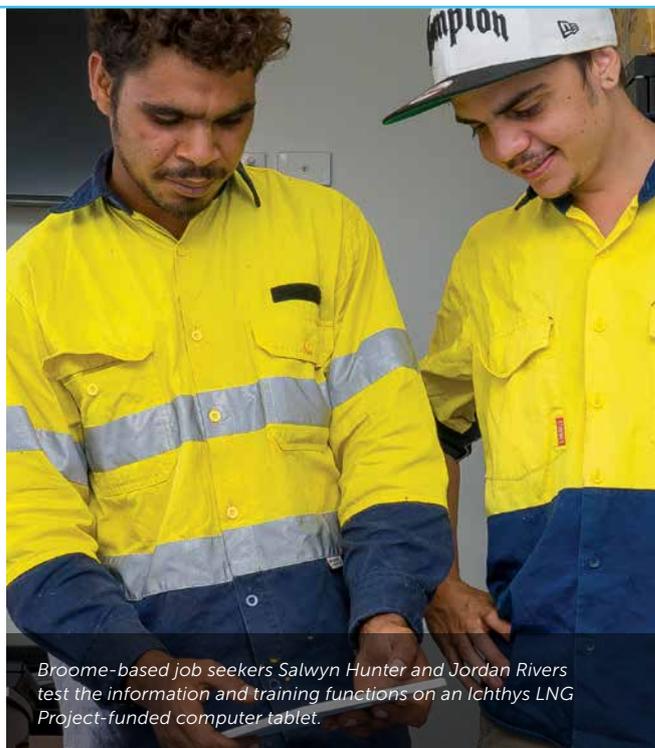
A number of computer tablets were recently donated to NAC's learning centre so young people have access to the information and training required to assist in making them 'job ready'.

"INPEX has had a long-standing relationship with Nirrumbuk as Broome is an important logistics hub for the Ichthys Project," said INPEX Senior Aboriginal Advisor Irene Stainton.

"Since 2010, the group has acted as a conduit of information from INPEX to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the region," Irene reported.

"This has been very helpful for explaining the Project and its progress, as well as receiving feedback from local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples."

Established in 1993, NAC is a not-for-profit organisation which is Aboriginal community controlled and managed



Broome-based job seekers Salwyn Hunter and Jordan Rivers test the information and training functions on an Ichthys LNG Project-funded computer tablet.

and driven by Aboriginal membership, derived from predominantly the Dampier Peninsular Region, North of Broome. Its primary objectives are to build capacity and foster self-sufficiency with a focus on health, housing, education and employment.

# Creating economic opportunities

## Leading employment outcomes

Kelvin Costello is in his sixth year with the Ichthys LNG Project as Cultural Affairs Supervisor at Project contractor JKC Australia and is delighted to be involved with the world-class Project.

*"I love working with a team of people who bring world-best practice, skills and experience to build a project that will have significant economic and quality of life benefits for Larrakia and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, as well as for the broader Territory economy, over the next 40 years," Kelvin said.*

*In his role Kelvin's primary responsibility is to oversee the engagement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and businesses in the Project's onshore construction phase.*

*"A real highlight of my job is seeing the significant employment and business participation by Larrakia and*



*Kelvin Costello on site at the Ichthys LNG Project onshore construction site at Bladin Point, Darwin*

*other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples," he said. "I value playing a part in that."*

*Kelvin was born in Katherine but is a Darwin-raised Larrakia man. Outside of work he enjoys spending time with his family and is an avid Rugby supporter (League and Union). He feels fortunate that his job allows him to work on an international project during the day, but still go home to his family each night.*

## DICE rolls a winner

Founded in 2007 as an electrical services company by proud Western Arrernte man, Raymond Pratt, DICE Australia has since expanded its business operations into the construction and renewable energy sectors.

*DICE has been involved in electrical and communications supply and installation on several Ichthys LNG Project contracts since the early days of construction at Bladin Point.*

*"Through these contracts, we have been able to grow our in-house experience of large-scale projects, and we have often had to grow our workforce to meet demand," Ray said.*

*Starting out as an electrician 20 years ago, Ray followed his dream of becoming a successful business owner. He discovered early on that his dream was not based on commercial success alone—he wanted DICE to be a vehicle for positive change by creating employment and business opportunities for all Australians, with a strong focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to support the economic prosperity of their communities more broadly.*



*DICE Australia founder and director Ray Pratt has built a leading electrical services company across multiple sectors.*

*"My proudest achievements include signing the completion papers of our first Aboriginal electrical apprentice, the two apprentices following in his footsteps, and delivering affordable quality power to remote communities," he said.*

*"We've recently completed a solar and wi-fi project in Queensland's Bidunggu community that has allowed members of the community to connect to the world and become part of a global village. It's extremely rewarding."*

# INPEX – A part of the community

INPEX and the Ichthys LNG Project are proud to support a number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander initiatives throughout the year. Read more about two of the community initiatives we are proud to support.

## Mentoring the next generation

In 2016, the first issue of *Deadly Yarns* highlighted the Ichthys LNG Project sponsorship of AMITY Community Services' strategic mentorship program, 'Gathering Stories of Hope and Inspiration'.

The program involves Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mentors who are successfully working in 'ordinary jobs' sharing their personal experiences—including the challenges and achievements—with youth at risk.

Last year, the first phase of the program focused on connecting mentors with young people through various fun activities and establishing the foundations for strong and positive relationships.

Renewed funding from the Project in 2017 has supported the second phase of the program, which



INPEX employee Michael Longbottom (centre) enjoying laser tag with participants of the AMITY mentoring program.

seeks to strengthen relationships and allow even more meaningful conversations on real-world issues.

In addition to program funding, INPEX employees have volunteered their time as mentors, including Operations Onshore Area Team Lead Michael Longbottom, who has participated since 2016 and really values his involvement in the program.

"Ever since I was a teenager I've been involved in programs," said Michael.

"It's always a good thing to give back and to give some kids a little bit of direction."

## Hanging out at The SHAK

A partnership with the Ichthys LNG Project has enabled Darwin's only youth centre to expand its operating hours and services and to recruit new mentors.

Operated by Australian Red Cross, 'The SHAK' in Casuarina provides a safe and creative space for young people to spend time outside school hours. More than 35 community groups use the facility to run youth education and training programs and initiatives with the aim of improving employment, health and wellbeing outcomes for young Territorians. 95 per cent of visitors to the SHAK are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth from around Darwin.

The A\$ 135,000 two-year partnership also provides funding for two trainee Aboriginal youth workers to engage and build strong connections with the young people using the centre.

"Having regular hands on experience whilst they are gaining their qualification means the youth workers can put what they are learning to the test, translating the theory directly into practice," said Australian Red Cross Youth Programs Team Leader Kris Gesling.

Recently qualified youth worker Gavin Greenoff said that completing his Certificate IV was a real confidence

booster and his experience at The SHAK has created a range of new opportunities.

"Undertaking the traineeship is giving me the knowledge to work with different kinds of people and to build up my skills more broadly," Gavin said.

"I get the chance to build really strong connections with the young people who come here, especially our regulars who come almost every day."

Gavin was inspired to pursue a career in youth work following his education at Clontarf Academy and participation in buddy programs. A sporting background has also proved to be useful in engaging with visitors to The SHAK.

"When they're shooting baskets, we'll go shoot with them," Gavin said.

"It's a great way to interact."



A background in basketball helps trainee youth worker Gavin Greenoff interact with visitors to The SHAK.

# Recognising Reconciliation Week

In addition to the White Collar Traineeship Program Graduation Ceremony (page 2), we held a number of events in our Perth and Darwin-based offices to mark National Reconciliation Week (27 May-3 June), the 50th anniversary of the 1967 Australian Referendum on Aboriginal people (27 May) and the 25th anniversary of the Mabo High Court decision (3 June), and to educate INPEX personnel on the importance of these events. Two of those events are featured below.

## DRUMBEAT reinforces the power of music

INPEX kicked off National Reconciliation Week at its Perth office on 29 May 2017 with a DRUMBEAT interactive performance provided by staff from the Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Service (AADS).

In 2015 INPEX supported AADS with funding for drums and staff training in Holyoake's DRUMBEAT facilitator program. Now run several times a week, DRUMBEAT sessions are designed to increase social connection through music and have been highly successful in engaging community members who use AADS programs.



INPEX personnel experienced the fun and energy of DRUMBEAT.

INPEX Perth office staff enjoyed participating in the session and appreciated the benefits of the DRUMBEAT program.

## Highlighting the importance of mentors

Over a damper morning tea on 31 May 2017, AMITY Community Services staff spoke to members of INPEX's Onshore Operations team at Bladin Point, Darwin, about their successful youth mentoring program (refer to story on page 5).

During the session, the audience was encouraged to interact using the sort of questions mentors and mentees would ask of each other, such as, "Who are you?", "Where are you from?" and "What is your purpose?". The aim of the exercise was to reinforce the importance of personal interaction and information sharing in the program which, over time, helps to build meaningful relationships between mentors and mentees.

INPEX Operations staff also appreciated a chance to talk about what "Reconciliation" means to them.



AMITY Community Services' staff acquainted INPEX Operations personnel with their youth mentoring program.

## FAST FACTS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) business and employment outcomes

### ATSI business engagement

**61**  
businesses engaged

**533**  
scopes of work awarded

**>A\$ 151**  
million in value

### Onshore ATSI workforce

Total cumulative workforce  
**>1250** people

Current workforce  
**349** people

Current trainees / apprentices  
**35** people