



Media Statement

December 2, 2015

Modern headquarters for Dambimangari

The Dambimangari Aboriginal Corporation has established modern headquarters in Derby to help manage the group's comprehensive program of social, economic and cultural development.

The formal opening, by Kimberley MLA Josie Farrer today, marked the beginning of a new era for more than 1000 Traditional Owners of a picturesque and pristine section of the West Kimberley region of Western Australia.

The modern \$2 million office complex in Guildford Street, Derby, will provide up-to-date administration facilities, including a workshop, boat, vehicle and other storage capacity for the corporation's assets. It will also provide the Dambimangari community with information, meeting resources and social support services.

Chairman Warren Barunga said the corporation was embarking on an exciting and important program to enrich the lives of Dambimangari people.

"Our Elders and directors are working with the management team on projects which will help to protect our culture and identity," he said

"We are also providing practical help to the people who need it most – and we support education programs for young people in the community.

"Having modern, well equipped headquarters close to traditional country will help us meet these objectives.

"We have a very professional management and administrative group –now properly resourced to manage the challenges of supporting the community and building economic opportunities."

Chief Executive Officer Peter McCumstie said the new office complex would form part of the group strategy to generate business opportunities in the region.

He said the corporation had established good working relationships with iron ore miners in the West Kimberley. In future, the Board and management would consider a wider range of commercial projects.

“Dambimangari people- including one of our most famous community leaders, Donny Woolagoodja - have established a reputation for producing fine art, successful tourism ventures and a growing appreciation of the heritage values of this region.”

“Our new home reflects the approach we will be taking to building a successful future for the Dambimangari people.”

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