

NJERNDABORIGINAL CORPORATION | CHRISTMAS 2023 EDITION

NJERNDANEWS

Season's Greetings!

WISHING OUR
ELDERS, MEMBERS
AND THE BROADER
COMMUNITY A
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A SAFE AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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Njernda
Aboriginal Corporation

MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM CEO



What a year it's been!

2023 has seen many changes both within Njernda and also across the Country. It has seen the departure of Tracey Dillon as the CEO and my appointment as Interim CEO, whilst the recruitment of a permanent CEO is being undertaken as this edition goes to print. The defeat of the Referendum on the Voice to Parliament has impacted across everyone.

I would like to thank the staff and community for the welcome and support that has been provided since my arrival as Interim CEO - it has been greatly appreciated. Njernda is undergoing change with the review currently being undertaken by KPMG a key focus, and while change isn't easy, an outcome where Njernda continues to grow as a strong organisation that supports the community is paramount. I encourage everyone to become involved in the continual growth of Njernda as an organisation that supports the community.

I am also excited as we go into 2024, as Njernda will be celebrating its 50th anniversary with a number of key events and activities to be undertaken throughout the year as part of the celebrations. It will be a time to recognise the work of the many people who have worked tirelessly over the years.

In closing, I would like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a safe festive season and look forward to the opportunities that 2024 brings and the celebration of 50 years.

ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS OUR WORK

After weeks of work, we are thrilled to have completed our Annual Report for the past financial year.

Featuring a fresh new design, the report highlights so much of the great work done by our teams over the 2022-2023 year.

There are also some fantastic pictures throughout the report, with a focus on the activities we hosted throughout the year, particularly those involving younger members of our community.

There is a message from our former CEO Tracey Dillon, plus reports from a range of services within Njernda, including our Health, Early Years and Corporate teams.

The Annual Report is an important document for detailing to the community how our organisation is serving its needs, while also showcasing the best of our work.

The annual report was being printed ahead of the AGM on Sunday 26 November.



GETTING READY FOR CHRISTMAS



We are ready for the festive season here at Njernda - are you?

Our teams have put together a fantastic range of events and initiatives to bring a little joy to our community over the Christmas and New Year period.

The feature event is the Christmas Fair, coming up at the Echuca Showgrounds on Saturday 9 December.

This promises to be a fantastic day out for the community, with heaps of great activities planned, including carnival rides and a petting zoo for young and old alike. There'll also be the Christmas Tree event for local children.

Our teams have also put a huge amount of work into developing family hampers and Elders' gift bags for distribution.

These are a great way to celebrate our people and provide something special to end the year.

Thank you to everyone involved in preparing these events and gifts. We can't wait to see you at the showgrounds for the fair!



WELCOME TO NEW TEAM MEMBERS

We have two new staff members here at Njernda to introduce.

Joanne McGrath (left) is currently doing some casual work at family services in our integrated program. "I enjoy working at Njernda, meeting new people, connecting with others, listening to their stories then identifying their strengths and supporting them," she says. "I am truly passionate about helping others where I possibly can in achieving their goals, getting them back on track, walking beside them to achieve these goals and seeing great outcomes for our families.

Chloe Priestly, pictured right, is a proud Yorta Yorta-Wemba Wemba woman and also working in Family Services. "I enjoy being able to support our Local community members, gives me a soul purpose and a sense of belonging," she says. "I would like to think that one day I can inspire community members, and our next generation, that no matter what you go through it doesn't define you or your outcome in life.



WALKING FOR WELLBEING



Jawun secondee Lisa introduced Wellbeing Walks (an idea adopted from another organisation), which gets as many people as possible away from their desks for a 10-minute walk.

Fresh air and sunshine, as well as a chance to talk to those from other areas of the office, is a good way to lift spirits and helps deal with stress. Once at the water, we each take a rock, channel negative energy or an irritant or worry into the rock, then cast it into the water. It doesn't take the problem away, but the buoyancy of the water makes it lighter and easier to carry. Four people attended on the first walk and an increase to six on the second. Looking forward to seeing numbers grow and we encourage other Njernda services to implement a similar concept.

Health
and
aged care

COVID CASES ON THE RISE



**Let's keep protecting
our community**

COVID-19 cases are on the rise once again in Victoria.

But there are some simple steps you can take to protect yourself and the people around you:

- Make sure your vaccination is up to date, and if you're not sure, talk to our medical clinic on 5481 0600
- Wear a mask indoors
- Let fresh air into your home or workplace
- Get tested if you are unwell - test kits are available at our medical clinic reception
- If you test positive, manage your symptoms at home

COVID-19 medicine is also available for people at risk of becoming seriously ill. Learn more at coronavirus.vic.gov.au

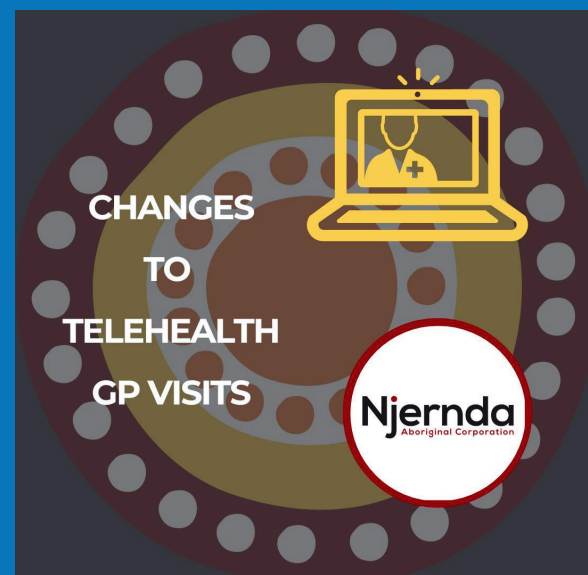
CHANGES TO TELEHEALTH APPOINTMENTS

Want to see one of our GPs using your phone or computer?

Limited telehealth appointments are available if you have tested positive to COVID-19, influenza or another infectious illness.

Please contact our medical centre on 5481 0600.

For all other appointments, our team will see you in person to give you the best possible care.



BRODY GROWS FOR MOVEMBER

Movember has become a fixture on the fundraising calendar, and we have one of our own growing for the cause.

The fundraiser is held each November and designed to support men’s health and mental health, plus treatment for prostate and testicular cancer.

“I’m raising funds and awareness this Movember for all the dads, brothers, sons and mates in our lives,” Brody says.

“I need your help. Please donate to support men’s health.”

To donate, visit Brody’s Movember page:
<https://movember.com/m/15120639?mc=1>
Congratulations Brody!



BOUNCING ALONG AT BASKETBALL



Our kids have been having a fantastic time over the past few weeks learning new skills at the Echuca basketball stadium.

The Friday evening sessions, organised by Djaran and the Yinya Mulana team, have brought together local kids to have fun, make friends and master this fantastic game.

We’ve also been presenting MVP participation awards each week - among the winners so far are Keanu, Bella and Isabella,

Great stuff kids, well done on getting involved!



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD



ICN 1274

NOTICE TO COMMUNITY

This to advise that the

Special General Meeting of the Members of Njernda Aboriginal Corporation

will be held

Saturday 2nd December 2023


commencing at 10:00am with the location to be confirmed

The meeting is being called for the following
proposed resolution:

Proposed resolution:

That under rule 6.2 Number of Directors of the Corporations
Rule Book, members request

- the minimum number of directors of the Corporation be 7
- the maximum number of directors of the Corporation be 9
(including up to 2 independent
specialist directors)



Yanda Dunguludja – Walk Strong

We can help you with free and confidential information about the law.

This includes legal matters in areas like criminal law, child protection (DFFH), family law, mental health, discrimination and fines.


Drop in to Njernda at 34 Annesley St, Echuca from 10 am to 1 pm, every four weeks.



Have a chat with a lawyer and the **Aboriginal Community Engagement Officer** from Victoria Legal Aid.

For more information or support, contact **Ashlee Moffatt**, **Aboriginal Community Engagement Officer**.

Tel: 0419 840 795

Email: ashlee.moffatt@vla.vic.gov.au

**Victoria Legal Aid**
www.legalaid.vic.gov.au



OUR PHONE NUMBERS ARE CHANGING...*

MEDICAL:	5481 0600
CORPORATE:	5481 0610
FAMILY SERVICES:	5481 0620
YOUTH/WELLBEING:	5481 0630
BERRIMBA:	5481 0640
YAKAPNA:	5481 0650
NYINI GYM:	5481 0669

TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR YOU TO GET IN TOUCH!






*From September 4

WORK WITH US

A career at Njernda can take you anywhere! And we love to support our Mob to step up into real jobs that make a huge difference.

Check our website and follow our social media channels to keep up with what's available.

We encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members, but unless stated, our jobs are available to all qualified applicants. If you're interested in any of our listed jobs, or want to know more about what it's like to work at Njernda, have a yarn with Auntie Trish or the HR Team. Get all the details of all our jobs and apply on our website, njernda.com.au



Talk to us!

As well as recruiting to available positions, our Njernda HR team is always looking to build our pool of talent. If you're looking for a flexible

Part-Time or Casual Role

or you have

qualifications

you think we can use at Njernda we would love to hear from you.

Have a yarn with us:
E: jobs@njernda.com.au
P: (03) 5480 6252

CONTACT US:

Njernda Aboriginal Corporation
51 - 55 Heygarth Street Echuca (Corporate Office)
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