PBC secures future consultation for Waanyi people with New Century

Alec Doomadgee, Waanyi PBC Chair

The Waanyi PBC Board has signed a formal consultation agreement with New Century which ensures our culture, our land and our economic future is protected for generations to come. This agreement forces New Century to consult with the Waanyi people through the PBC, before any work can happen on Waanyi land.

I’ve stopped New Century from doing anything on our land without consultation through the Waanyi PBC, because this is the group which protects the rights of our people, and no other entity or corporation speaks for the Waanyi people. This is why me and my board took on the New Century directors, and took them to task on who they have been dealing with.

This new agreement means nothing, except to say that New Century must now work with the Waanyi PBC moving forward. No money has exchanged hands with this agreement, it is purely to protect our people’s interests into the future by making sure we are consulted with before any work is done on our land.

No other group, entity or corporation speaks for the Waanyi people, and this reflected in the agreement.

We are making sure our rights are protected and our land is cared for. By forcing New Century into consultation with us, we are protecting the future of our people and our land.

It’s time for all Waanyi people to become warriors for their land, and their future. The PBC stands ready to lead this fight for all our mob. If they divide us we are weak, but together we are strong!

If you would like to get in touch, go to www.WaanyiPBC.org/contact
Meet the Board:
Claudette Albert

Claudette Albert is a staunch advocate and supporter of women’s issues in Doomadgee for all, which is complimented by her role as Supervisor at MyPathways women’s group.

Claudette was born in 1974, and grew up with her family attending school in Doomadgee. After moving to Normanton to pursue work opportunities, Claudette was enticed back when she saw the need for a strong female presence in the Doomadgee community – and now focuses on creating an inclusive organisation for all families in Doomadgee.

In Doomadgee, Claudette’s role sees her building relationships and helping families through her position at MyPathways. As the only woman on the PBC Board, Claudette believes representing all women in the community is her main priority, and not just Waanyi women. Communicating the issues that matter to the women of the community, as well as hearing their issues and reporting back to the board are a critical part of her role.

Condolences

The Waanyi PBC sends its’ deepest condolences to Rodney Connolly, the Bidunggu community and the Johnny family, for their recent loss.

Our hearts were filled with sorrow upon hearing the news, and we extend our hand in love and support during this time of sorrow. We will support the families as best we can during this period.

Magazine Hill Consultation meetings

The Waanyi PBC will hold community meetings to decide the future work to be carried out at Magazine Hill, once an agreement has been reached with New Century for funding.

Currently no money has been allocated by New Century for this consultation, and as a result the Waanyi PBC has put a hold on future works. No work will start without an agreement which requires consultation. This is how the PBC is making sure our economic and cultural future is protected and improved.

Letters of invitation to meetings on the future work to be done at Magazine Hill will be sent out, once funds have been allocated to the PBC. The PBC board also welcomes everyone to attend these meetings, and will provide more information on when and where they will be held, once consultation negotiations have been completed.

“We will consult the right people, the Waanyi people, about the future of Magazine Hill. This isn’t a decision that only a few people get to make, that’s why we will hold meetings to get the best decision for all our people. It’s really important that everyone attends these meetings, so that we can speak with one united voice to those that might try and tear us apart. I hope that all our Mob can come together and start to build a future that we can all be a part of”

Joint Venture enters collaboration agreement with New Century

The Waanyi Regen Joint Venture (WRJV) will now carry out mine design, engineering and costing services as part of an upcoming formal feasibility study, after PBC Chair Alec Doomadgee signed a formal collaboration agreement.

This agreement is in addition to the ongoing care and maintenance work which the WRJV is currently undertaking.

“The Century Mine has operated on Waanyi land for 17 years and the Joint Venture is already actively engaged on the Mine through ongoing care & maintenance works.

This agreement presents us as Traditional Owners the opportunity to realise benefits from continued mine activities on our Land including healing country, economic development, employment opportunities, and looking after environment and cultural heritage values.”