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Our North, Our Future



Newsletter | 8 August 2022

From the General Manager | Linda Lee

Garma

Last weekend, Northern Australia hosted Australia's leading cultural exchange event, Garma, at Gulkula, Arnhem Land (40 kilometres from the township of Nhulunbuy). After a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19, there was great celebration of the cultural, artistic and ceremonial traditions of the Yolŋu people. Over the course of four days, guests were immersed in rich cultural experiences, and learnt about the heritage of their Yolŋu hosts.

It was fantastic to see the national and international coverage of this event, highlighting the traditional miny'tji (art), ancient story-telling, manikay (song) and bunggul (dance). A major highlight included the Prime Minister's address regarding a referendum on a Voice to Parliament for First Nations people.

PM Albanese 'Voice to Parliament' Speech at Garma Festival (30 July 2022)

[watch speech here](#)

[read speech here](#)

Biosecurity

Northern Australia's vast, 10,000 kilometre coastline is at the frontline for many high-risk animal and plant pests and diseases.

With the significant threat posed by Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) to the Australian agriculture industry, it is important for us to remain vigilant.

Please continue to report any biosecurity threats via the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry [here](#).

As always, there is lots of activity happening across the north. Below you'll find updates across many exciting areas including project announcements, awards, resource tools, as well as some upcoming festivals that celebrate how great it is to visit, live, work and invest in Northern Australia.

Linda Lee
General Manager, Office of Northern Australia



Awards

2022 Australian Biosecurity Awards

Nominations for the 2022 Australian Biosecurity Awards are now open. These awards provide important recognition for biosecurity champions across industry, government and the public, who have made a significant contribution towards safeguarding our nation from pests and diseases.

Nominations close 22 August 2022. Click [here](#) to nominate someone!

National Awards for Local Government

The National Awards for Local Government are an annual celebration of the best local government achievements. The awards highlight innovative and resourceful solutions implemented by local governments that make a difference to their communities.

The awards celebrate excellence in service delivery and showcase community initiatives that directly respond to community needs by overcoming barriers through new contemporary and creative solutions.

You can [submit your nominations](#) online.

Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF)

In the last month, the NAIF has progressed with some exciting projects. These include the export hub at Darwin International Airport, the Darwin shiplift project, and the official opening of a state-of-the-art accommodation building in Townsville. It is always great to see these announcements on projects that are helping to drive public benefit, and economic and social growth in Northern Australia.

For more information on these announcements, view NAIF's website in the link below.

NAIF Media Releases

Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia (CRCNA)

Similarly, our colleagues at the CRCNA have been busy. Their latest health research investment in partnership with James Cook University is harnessing data to create an open-access, interactive map that empowers north Queensland communities to have a say in health service planning. The [Sugar Plus vision and roadmap](#) was developed in partnership by sugar industry organisations with support from the CRCNA and the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and it highlights the important role the sugarcane industry will have in supporting the long-term economic development of Northern Australia.

CRCNA News Updates

Shinju Matsuri Festival

Shinju Matsuri, Broome's Festival of the Pearl, is on from 20 August to 4 September.

It has been an iconic event since 1970 and celebrates Broome's unique and diverse culture and history, with a 16-day program of events that's set to excite all your senses.

Shinju Matsuri Festival celebrates four diverse cultures which have come together in Broome over the past century for pearls: First Nations, Japanese, Malaysian and Chinese and peoples.

Some of the highlights from the packed program include Chinatown Feast, Floating Lantern Matsuri, Jetty Gala and a Sunset Long Table Dinner on the famous Cable Beach!

Find more information on the festival [here](#).

Mark it in your diary

The Office of Northern Australia is proud to promote conferences, events and key dates that progress the development of Northern Australia. If you would like your event listed please let us know by sending an email to northernaustralia@infrastructure.gov.au

Decarbonising the Resources Sector Summit**15-17 August 2022 | Perth, WA**

The Decarbonising the Resources Sector Summit will examine pathways to decarbonisation and how Mining, Oil and Gas companies can prosper in a low carbon world using innovative solutions and emerging cost-effective technologies.

[Find out more](#)

NT Resources week**24 August 2022 | Darwin, NT**

Northern Australia's largest resources and construction industry based event.

[Find out more](#)

International Business, Environment and Climate Conference**31 August 2022 | Cairns, QLD**

This is the inaugural event addressing the theme of sustainable business and investment on the road to net zero. The event is attended by global leaders providing an in-depth analysis of the complexities of environmental, social and governance reporting and how to drive sustainable business growth.

[Find out more](#)

October Business Month**October 2022 | Across the NT**

October Business Month provides Territory businesses access to a program of inspirational and educational events designed to inspire and grow Territory business.

[Find out more](#)

NT Major Projects Conference**18 October 2022 | Darwin, NT**

This event is one of the largest infrastructure and construction events held in the NT focussing on the NT Government's strategy for turbo charging major projects, creating new jobs and growing the NT economy. Their goal is to achieve a \$40 billion economy by 2030 with significant capital investment in strategic economic infrastructure.

[Find out more](#)

TropAg Conference**31 October 2022 | Brisbane, QLD**

TropAg will 'Shape the Science of Tomorrow', by featuring leading Australian and international scientific voices who are actively engaged in advancing research and raising awareness of the many challenges in the diverse field of agriculture and food production and is hosted by the University of Queensland.

[Find out more](#)

National Indigenous Empowerment Summit**2-4 November 2022 | Darwin, NT**

Harnessing the potential of the Indigenous community for continued prosperity and growth.

[Find out more](#)

Kimberley Economic Development Conference**9-11 November 2022 | Broome, WA**

Theme "Kimberley Rising", hosted by the Broome Chamber of Commerce. The Forum provides an opportunity for business leaders across the Kimberley to come together, for information on industry trends and major developments, and discuss the future of the region and ways to expand agriculture, aquaculture, construction, mining, tourism and logistics.

[Find out more](#)

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Office of Northern Australia

In the spirit of reconciliation, the Office of Northern Australia acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Office of Northern Australia

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