

RDA National Forum

On the 16th and 17th August 2018, RDA delegates were welcomed to Canberra for the 2018 RDA National Forum. The theme of the Forum was 'Collaborating and networking to grow regional economies' and included sessions on the future trends of regions and how to leverage off this to grow regional economies.

Fiona White-Hartig, Chair of RDA Pilbara presented on the importance of working collaboratively and the way this is successfully being achieved with the Northern RDA Alliance.

There was around 170 attendees across the two days from 52 RDAs and staff from the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

The formal dinner was hosted by Minister for Regional Development, Territories and Local Government John McVeigh. The Minister said the event was a great opportunity for RDA committees to connect and share ideas of how to bring innovation and economic investment to regional Australia.



Regional Development Australia New Minister

On the 28th August 2018, Senator Bridget McKenzie was sworn in as the new Minister for Regional Services, Sport, Local Government and Decentralisation. Regional Development Australia will now come under the Senators portfolio.

Mobile Phone Black Spots Nominations—OPEN

The Federal Government is calling on mobile black spot nominations from local, territory and state governments as well as Federal Members of Parliament, to identify locations for the next round of the \$220 million Mobile Black Spot Program.

Round 4 of the program was announced in June this year with the Coalition investing \$25 million to eliminate mobile black spots in regional Australia.

Local communities are encouraged to get in touch with their Federal Member of Parliament or local council to nominate mobile black spot locations. For more information on the program visit: www.communications.gov.au/mbsp

West Pilbara Communities for Children

Department of Social Services (DSS) recently visited Karratha to experience the current programmes being delivered through the West Pilbara Communities for Children (WPC4C) Initiative. Over four full days Peter Ryan, Margaret Kerr and Hazel Freeborough attended the WPC4C Committee meeting, Community Partner meeting and programmes through out Karratha, Dampier and Roebourne such as Drumbeat, Safe Space, Parent-Child Mother Goose, Footy Fundamentals, Exploring Together, Friends for Life and Fun Friends.



Extensive conversation was had regarding the successful outcomes of these programmes and DSS commended RDA Pilbara for the ongoing good relationships between the Community Partners and RDA Pilbara as the Facilitating Partner.

Future visits will be scheduled to include Tom Price and Onslow.

