

Quarterly Report for RDA Pilbara 1st April to 30th June 2018

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Pilbara is committed to achieving regional growth, economic diversification, job creation and development across the Pilbara. The following demonstrates the work achieved by the RDA Pilbara committee and employees during the period of 1st April to 30th June 2018.

- **NBN and IT Update**

RDA Pilbara has successfully migrated to NBN and the office contact number has now been restored. Through this process it was also identified that the organisations information technology should also be upgraded, and we have had a smooth transition to Office 365 and are now operating through a cloud-based system. We also have a Facebook page so please visit and give us a like.

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RDA Pilbara Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RDAPilbara/>



- **Building Better Regions Fund**

The \$641.6 million Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) supports the Australian Government’s commitment to create jobs, drive economic growth and build stronger regional communities into the future.

Round Two of the Community Investments stream awarded funding to the following recipients in the Pilbara:

- Big Hart Inc: Digital O Project - Aboriginal Youth, Agency and Digital Inclusion - \$98,000
- Pilbara Regional Council: Going Digital – A Strategy to Activate Tourism in the Pilbara - \$20,000
- Pilbara Regional Council: The Pilbara Waste Diversion Strategy - \$20,000
- The Royal Life Saving Society of WA: Talent Pool - \$178,596

For a full list of successful Round Two applicants please visit:

<https://www.business.gov.au/Assistance/Building-Better-Regions-Fund/Building-Better-Regions-Fund-Community-Investments/CI-funding-offers-round-2>

The Department of Industry will provide feedback to unsuccessful applicants to help improve future applications by contacting them at bbrfeedback@industry.gov.au.

- **Hedland Sub Centre & First Aid Centre Grand Opening**

Diane Pentz, CEO of RDA Pilbara was delighted to be invited to the grand opening of the Hedland Sub Centre & First Aid Training Centre on 15th June 2018.



RDA Pilbara provided support to St Johns who successfully received funding in round three of the National Stronger Regions Fund. This Sub Centre and First Aid Training facility will cater for an increased need for ambulance services and provide access to improved first aid training and equipment.

- **WA Regional Development Australia Forum – Perth**

Representatives including executive staff and Committee Chairs from the nine RDA committees in WA held a one-day conference to discuss the new RDA Charter, operational contracts and regional economic development opportunities on the 21st June in Perth.

The group of 25 people heard from both State and Commonwealth Government officials including AusIndustry, Federal Treasury, Austrade, Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

Topics included cross regional and state-wide collaboration, regional growth and economic diversification, and considered a range of issues and initiatives including regional funding programmes and challenges, regional priorities and bipartisan approaches to achieving development in the regions.

The WA Forum was a timely gathering and helped the WA Committees clarify messages to present at the RDA National Forum to be held in Canberra in August.

- **Business Breakfast with Tom O’Toole – Beechworth Bakery**

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Pilbara, Town of Port Hedland and Port Hedland Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHCCI) held a successful business breakfast on Wednesday 27th June 2018 with guest speaker Tom O’Toole, author, inspirational speaker, business leader and founder of the famous Beechworth Bakery.



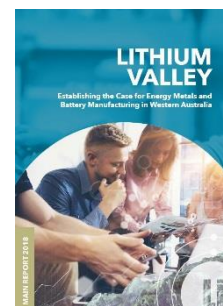
Tom gave an enthusiastic presentation to over 50 local business attendees about empowering staff, managers, co-workers, clients/customers and associates to drive success. “Happy Staff = Happy Customers” was just one of many key statements from Tom.

RDA Pilbara, Town of Port Hedland and PHCCI would like to thank Tom for travelling all the way to Port Hedland and presenting his very inspirational ideas and life story.

- **Project Collaboration - Lithium**

RDA Pilbara supported the developed of the report titled “Lithium Valley: Building the Case for Energy Metals and Battery Manufacturing for Western Australia. This project was a collaboration between RDA Perth, RDA South West, RDA Midwest Gascoyne, RDA Wheatbelt, RDA Kimberley, Curtin University and the Kwinana Industry Council.

The report provides the background and a series of recommendations to unlock the potential for ensuring security of supply for a world based on renewable energy, batteries and electric vehicles. It also shows how WA can become a centre for processing the minerals, making the batteries, using them and recycling them.



To view this report please visit RDA Pilbara’s website: www.rdapilbara.org.au.

- **West Pilbara Communities for Children Initiative**

The West Pilbara Communities for Children Initiative funded by Department of Social Services and facilitated through RDA Pilbara currently funds seven Community Partners to deliver programmes and children's activities across the West Pilbara. Contract for 2018/2019 financial year have now been finalised and below is a list of programmes being offered:



- PCYC: Drumbeat, Footy Fundamentals, Kids Safe Space and Kids Safe Space School Holiday Programme – Roebourne
- Yaandina: Exploring Together – Roebourne and Karratha
- EPIC: Fun Friends, Friends for Life, Drumbeat and Tuning into Kids - Karratha
- Pilbara Health Network: Circle of Security – Karratha and Wickham
- Karratha Community House: Drumbeat and Parent-Child Mother Goose – Karratha
- V Swans: Parent-Child Mother Goose – Onslow
- Aboriginal Biodiversity Conservation: Ranger for Life – Tom Price

For more information on these programmes please contact RDA Pilbara on (08) 9144 0651 or officemanager@rdapilbara.org.au.

- **Forums and Meetings**

RDA Pilbara continues to meet regularly with key leaders from Chamber of Minerals and Energy, Rio Tinto, Chevron, Woodside, Roy Hill, FMG, Pilbara Port Authority and BHP to provide support and information being exchanged.

Senator Dean Smith recently visited Karratha and took the time to meet with RDA Pilbara, Diane Pentz, CEO. Diane was delighted to have the opportunity to meet with the Senator and looks forward to ongoing conversations to support the Pilbara community.

RDA Pilbara attended, in May, the Northern Regional Development Australia Alliance meeting held in Canberra to discuss strategic outcomes and actions for economic diversification and job creation across the Northern Australia.

Further to this RDA Pilbara continues to attend various forums such as:

- Port Hedland Port Hedland Community Consultative Committee
- Dampier Port Authority Community Consultative Committee
- City of Karratha Tourism Advisory Group
- Woodside Community Liaison Group
- Pilbara Tourism Alliance

For more information relating to any of the above mentioned projects please contact Diane Pentz, Chief Executive Officer via email: ceo@rdapilbara.org.au or visit the RDA Pilbara website for regular news updates: www.rdapilbara.org.au.

