



# THE TIWI

NEWS for  
Traditional  
Owners



## NEWS from your LAND Council

### Chairman's Election

Photo by Heide Smith



TLC Executive Management Committee



After a quiet time in January everyone is back in the full swing for 2018!

With Easter and the Dry Season just around the corner, we will soon be saying goodbye to the rains. It's been a better than forecast Wet Season so far - seems all the rain has mostly fallen in one 2-3 week period in January though, cutting all our communities off from each other by road!

We would like to take this opportunity to commend everyone on the caution that's been used on our roads this Wet Season – the majority of people have been keeping off the roads during that last Monsoon burst.

Things are starting to kick into gear here at the Tiwi Land Council. The calendar is quickly filling up with lots of meetings, training and events coming up.

We held our election for Tiwi Land Council Chairman and Deputy Chairman on 14th February. Our Chairman Gibson Farmer Illortaminni won the election and will be TLC Chairman for his third term, and Leslie Tungatulum was elected Deputy Chairman. Congratulations to both Tiwi leaders.

In March we are holding a Vernon Islands handover ceremony – the Vernon's are now officially Tiwi (Mantiyupwi) land! In March TLC will be meeting with the 3 other NT Land Councils to catch up and discuss common issues.

We will report and inform you.

Mana. *Executive Management Committee*

### Good to know

New term for Tiwi Land Council's Chairman Gibson F. Illortaminni and Deputy Chairman Leslie Tungatulum



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Tiwi Land Council election February 2018, Bathurst Is.

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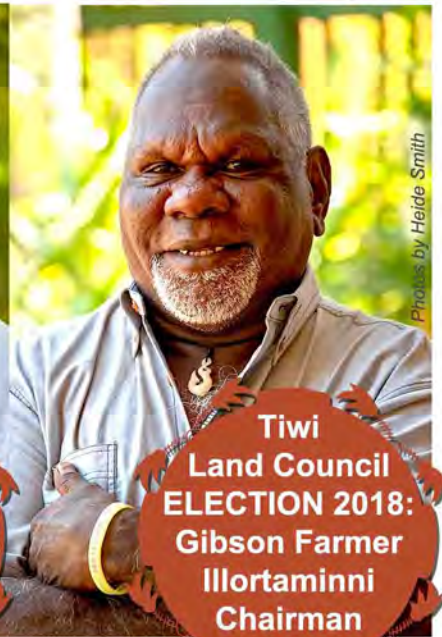
# Chairman's Election 2018



R to L: Stanley Tipiloura congratulates Gibson F. Illortaminni and Leslie Tungatulum



Tiwi Land Council  
ELECTION 2018:  
Leslie Tungatulum  
Deputy  
Chairman



Tiwi Land Council  
ELECTION 2018:  
Gibson Farmer  
Illortaminni  
Chairman

Photos by Heide Smith

## Closing the Gap Campaign



In February I was in Canberra, meeting up with the people who were involved in 2008 Closing the Gap Campaign.

10 years later nothing much has been done and there was now a rush to sign a joint statement.

All the Land Councils were invited to attend the meeting amongst them Chairman Sammy Bush-

Blanasi (Northern Land Council), Francis Jupurrurla Kelly (Central Land Council) and Tony Wurramarrba (Anindilyakwa Land Council).

We decided that we need more consultation with our people.

*Gibson F. Illortaminni, Chairman TLC*



L to R: Sammy Bush-Blanasi, Francis Jupurrurla Kelly, Tony Wurramarrba and Gibson Farmer Illortaminni Canberra, February 2018



# Deputy CEO Message



**Last year** to date has been more challenging in my role as Deputy, sadly we have lost more family members across Tiwi.

And to add our own CEO, Brian Clancy has been ill and has taken some much needed time off due to medical reasons. We wish him all the best and continue to support him whilst he looks at ways to recover. Hope to have him return to full duty in a few weeks time.

**2018** has hit the ground running, with bad monsoons across the Tiwi islands knocking out communication and leaving us stranded from the outside world.

The road access is still pretty bad and we hope future talks with the labour government can assist us with funding that could really benefit the Tiwi people with better roads.

Having better roads will assist our bus services and importantly assist our haul trucks to get our woodchips to Port Melville.

**Many discussions** are underway for 2018; talks with TIRC and other stakeholders about the roads, Morgue house, pontoons for ferry, Telstra telecommunications, Port Melville, Tiwi Partners, Tiwi Plantations and the list goes on.

As I continue with my duties, I would like to thank our Tiwi Land Council and Executives and staff who have shown much support in my role.

Happy to discuss any issues that may affect you or your clan groups where possible with relations to Tiwi land.

*Andrew Tipungwuti  
Deputy CEO  
Tiwi Land Council*

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Andrew Tipungwuti,  
Deputy CEO FLC

## Swedish Ambassador visited Tiwi Islands



Swedish Ambassador Pär Ahlberger

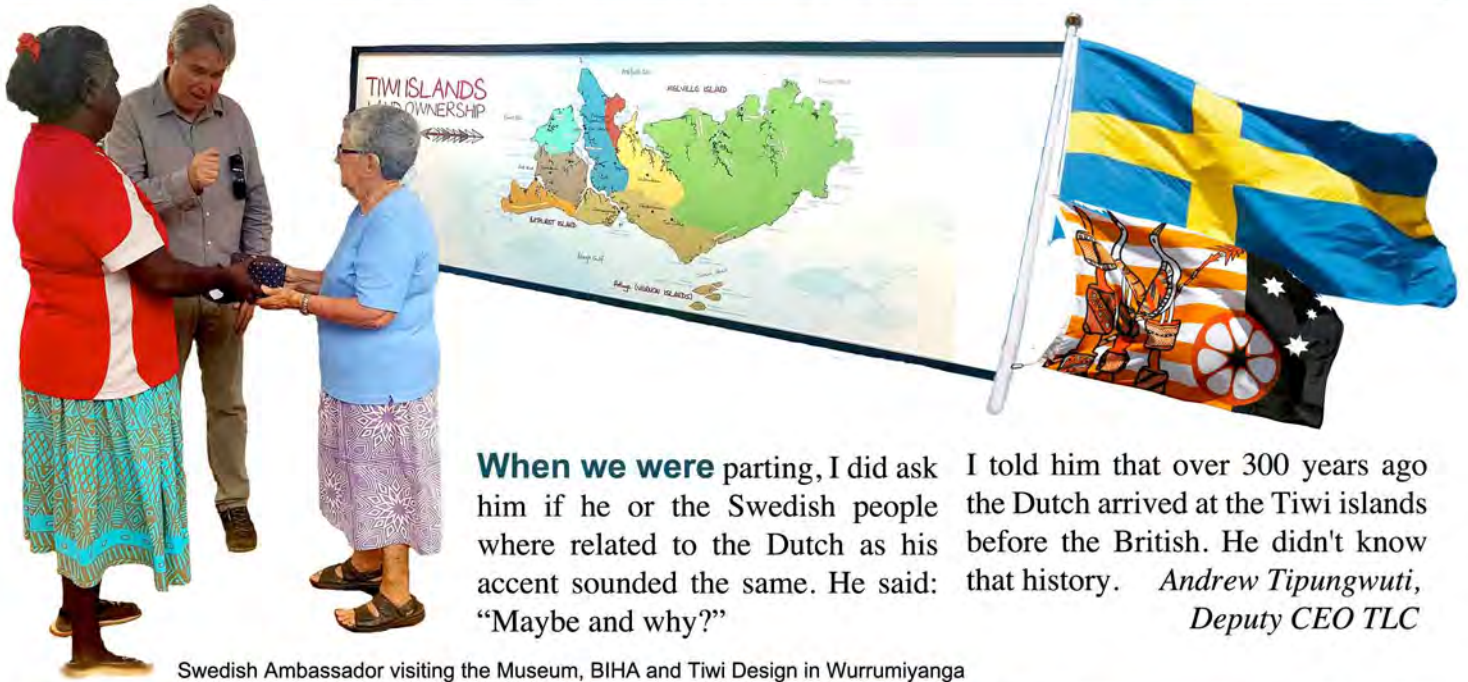
In February we welcomed Swedish Ambassador Pär Ahlberger to the Tiwi Islands.

He came to the Mantiyupwi Hotel in Wurrumiyanga where we were meeting and had a very nice conversation.

The Ambassador was very interested in why Tiwi landowners had signed a Township lease agreement with the Federal Government. The executive of Tiwi Land Council spoke to him proudly about jobs and training, and then I added that it is all about progress and ownership. He was quite fascinated by it all, to the fact on hearing that after the first 10 years landowner now collecting rent. The landowners themselves get the rents minus administration costs to invest where possible.

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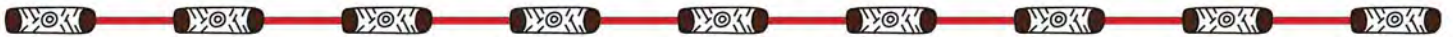
# Swedish Ambassador visited Tiwi Islands



**When we were** parting, I did ask him if he or the Swedish people where related to the Dutch as his accent sounded the same. He said: “Maybe and why?”

I told him that over 300 years ago the Dutch arrived at the Tiwi islands before the British. He didn't know that history. *Andrew Tipungwuti, Deputy CEO TLC*

Swedish Ambassador visiting the Museum, BIHA and Tiwi Design in Wurrumiyanga



# Female school leavers start training at Tiwi Enterprises



**Tiwi Enterprises** has been trying to employ a Xavier female graduate for a number of years without any success. However with assistance from Tess Fong (the principal of Xavier) we have been able to start two graduates on 1st February. The graduates, May Kantilla and Casimira Tipiloura, and we are developing a training program with TITEB to provide the formal training required as the graduates gain office experience.

**With the development** of community projects such as the proposed Visitors Welcome Centre with the pontoon development, which will occur in this year's dry season, other opportunities will open up for female members of the community. The Visitors Welcome Centre will contain a kiosk and a visitors information centre. We may even achieve a kiosk at the airport later this year. *Ray Allwright, Tiwi Enterprises*



# Xavier Catholic College Graduates Wurrumiyanga



Quality Catholic Tiwi Education

Here at Xavier Catholic College (XCC) we were celebrating our 2017 Graduate class. It is the largest number of graduates we have had complete their NTCET in one year at XCC.



The College community congratulates the graduating class of 2017:  
Georgina Portaminni, Rachel Orsto, Britney Alimankinni, Kathleen Cunningham,  
Larissa Kantilla, May Kantilla, Segora Babui and Lateesha Coombes-Tipoura.

[www.xcecncatholic.edu.au](http://www.xcecncatholic.edu.au)    [admin.xcec@nt.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin.xcec@nt.catholic.edu.au)    (08) 8978 3970

## Rego Inspections are now available at Nguiu Garage



The Directors of Tiwi Enterprises are pleased to announce that from 1st February MVR vehicle inspections are now available on site for the MVR approved fee of \$53.90.

This new service will avoid the long waits for the local Police to have time to carry out inspections on behalf of MVR.

A second qualified mechanic is being recruited to meet the demand for mechanical services.



**MVR VEHICLE  
INSPECTIONS**

**ON SITE  
\$53.90**

# NT Gambling Project



Let's talk about cards and gambling

**The NT Gambling Project** has started in Wurrumiyanga. The aim of this unique health promotion project is to create a safe and supportive space for people to talk about gambling and to enable work with people to strengthen community action for activities that may reduce harm people experience because of card games and gambling. Through health promotion activities that are developed and driven by local people the project aims to build personal skills, provide information and re-orient health services. The team is also engaging with Pmara Jutunta and Willowra in the Central Desert region.

**The Australian National University** (ANU), Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies) and Amity Community Services Inc. (Amity) are working together in this project and with people in remote communities across the Territory.



Australian  
National  
University

**Amity**  
Community Services Inc



Some of the team members: Megan Whitty, Harriet McKnight and Charlotte Boyer



Flying into Tiwi

**Each partner plays** important roles in the implementation and evaluation of the project. Amity will work with people in communities to develop a health promotion activity, for example a message about gambling, harm or call to action. Sometimes the message may be in painting, song, animation or video. All health promotion activities will be developed with people living in community and tailored to engage and enable people to use their existing skills or further develop skills.

**Researchers** from ANU and Menzies will collect information through surveys and interviews about health, wellbeing and gambling from people in communities. The information collected will provide a snapshot of how people see health and gambling in their community at different points in time over two years. People might also want to share with the team what their experience of the health promotion activities has been.

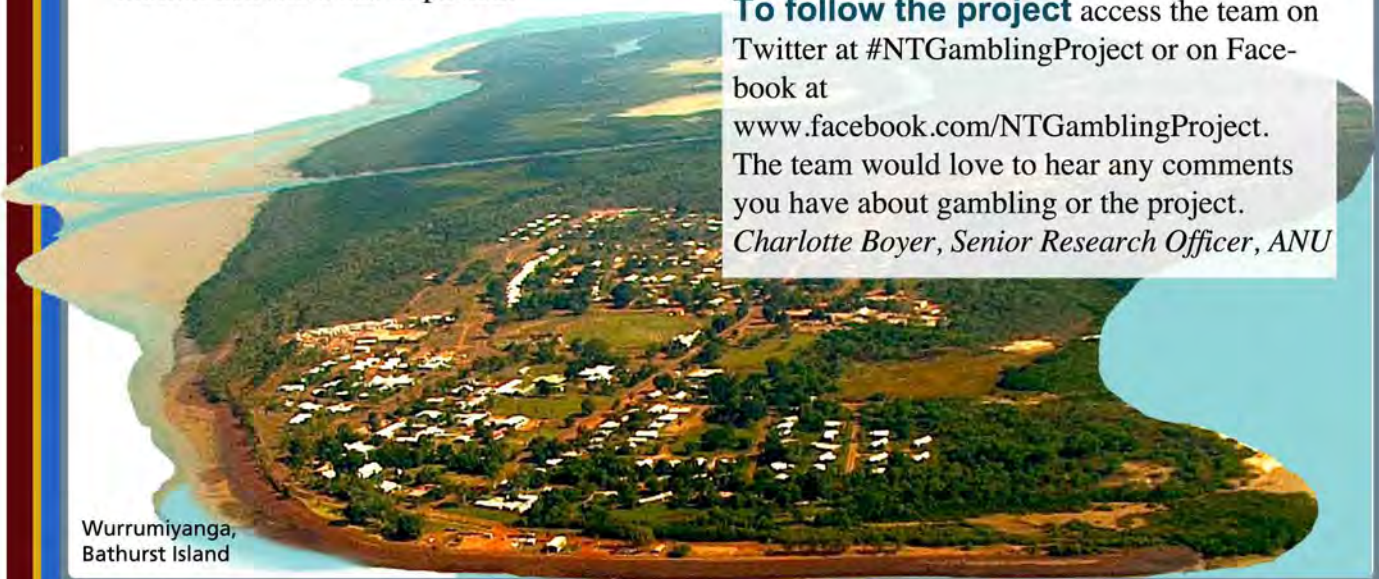


Dr. Marisa Fogarty presenting about the project to key stakeholders in Darwin

**This project is unique** because it includes research, practice and evaluation. Evaluation of health promotion is important because it helps to understand what activities are most useful when developing health promotion activities to influence change of harmful gambling behaviours. Evaluation also enables people to share their story and explain how being part of developing local health promotion activities has impacted.

**The whole team** is grateful for the welcome we have received when we have been travelling around the Territory talking and listening about card playing and gambling. In Tiwi we appreciate the support from Skin Group leaders, Tiwi Land Council, Red Cross and Prime Minister and Cabinet, along with many other people in Wurrumiyanga community.

**To follow the project** access the team on Twitter at [#NTGamblingProject](https://twitter.com/NTGamblingProject) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/NTGamblingProject](https://www.facebook.com/NTGamblingProject). The team would love to hear any comments you have about gambling or the project.  
*Charlotte Boyer, Senior Research Officer, ANU*



Wurrumiyanga,  
Bathurst Island

# 10 Years of Tiwi College



Peaceful Picka



Tiwi College, aerial

**This year will mark the 10th year** since Tiwi College officially opened early in 2008. A lot has changed during this time but there has been one overwhelming vision that has remained from when the elders of the Tiwi Islands came together all those years ago. This vision has been to deliver a quality education run by Tiwi, for Tiwi on Tiwi country.



Senior Young Men at work

**The school began** with around 40 students enrolled with fairly poor attendance but gradually each year the school has been growing in numbers and in regular student attendance. As we embark on the 10th year of the school's history we will make another step forward in quality education for the young Tiwi as we open another young women's class and another young men's class.



Senior Young Men EFC



Primary and Junior class



New Young Women's classrooms



New Boys classroom



Young Women's EFC testing

**The school now** provides quality education in the Classroom, Family Group Home and Academy for over 100 students. There will be an open celebration for this great milestone in June this year, information will come out closer to the date to confirm the day/s of this event.

Mana,  
*Stuart Ward, Principal*



Stuart Ward  
Principal  
Tiwi College  
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LMB 127, Winnellie, N.T. 0822  
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Primary class



Stanley Tipungwuti with a huge jump



New Women's family group home