



## Unity Through Enterprise

### The Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation

Owned by the Yolngu residents of Minjilang, Milingimbi, Ramingining, Galiwin'ku and Gapuwiyak Communities NT

## New Industrial Hub Model underway in Ramingining

Monday, October 15th 2018

This week saw the beginning of an exciting new relationship between the Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation (ALPA) and Developing East Arnhem Limited (DEAL) where both parties will make a significant financial contribution to development of the *ALPA Industrial Hub Concept* in the remote Aboriginal community, Ramingining.

DEAL and ALPA will co-contribute equal amounts for the establishment of *Stage One* of the Industrial Hub. Investment and installation commenced in Ramingining in September 2018 and is due to finish in January 2019.

*The Industrial Hub Concept* is a way to maximise opportunities for local people and develop infrastructure, capacity and capability in the Ramingining community. The Industrial Hub will give local business more opportunity to win and service government and other contracts to support operations in Ramingining.

Key Components of Stage One are:

- The expansion of Dinybulu lodge that can accommodate and cater to visitors, key visiting personnel and contractors. The new development will provide additional jobs for local people and opportunities to expand into the areas of hospitality and catering.
- A concrete Batching Plant and delivery vehicles. This has been trialed by ALPA through its Bukmak Constructions in early 2018 and was proven to be a valuable piece of infrastructure in the community. ALPA sees this as a crucial component for future development in community housing and major road developments in the region.
- The creation of 8 new positions identified for local Yolngu workers during the construction phase and in ongoing operations.



L- R: Steve Roberts, John Cossons Mickey Wunungmurra and Michael Dykes.



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“We’ll provide a very solid grounding of continuing employment and not just one off employment. We’re building capacity in Ramingining and this should be a model for other industrial hubs in Aboriginal communities” says ALPA General Manager for Enterprise and Economic Development, Steve Roberts.

The agreement is the first of its kind between ALPA and DEAL. “Capital is one of the greatest inhibitors to economic development in any region. We certainly have a strong belief in ALPA’s capability. This is a very strong recognition of ALPA having the right governance model in place and it ticks all the boxes for us”. – DEAL Chairman, John Cossons.

This is the first stage of three stages where the industrial hub will offer full contractor support, a logistics base and business centre along with training for local Yolngu people from school to jobs. DEAL CEO, Peta Melki, believes this agreement can help achieve that vision.

“Once you define the opportunities and the gaps then the business plan is clearer. If the community need the outcomes of the project and most importantly want to be a part of the delivery then East Arnhem communities can build capacity to support economic development. It’s not a short term solution it requires a long term commitment to inclusion and good governance.”

Acting CEO of ALPA, Michael Dykes, says this is “ground breaking in a number of ways, the hub can and will support both independent enterprise and government contracts in Ramingining and Arnhem Land. If we can keep jobs alive then we keep communities alive”.



**ALPA Deputy Chairman, Mickey Wunungmurra, signing the historic deal today.**

“Today is a turning point for ALPA and the board. It’s for people to realise we are creating a better future and we’re driving the legacy of ALPA to the next reality. We are promoting ourselves and saying we can do it!” – ALPA Deputy Chairman Mickey Wunungmurra.

#### **For Media Interviews:**

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