



# Funding Guidelines

Wiri Yuwiburra  
Community Benefits Trust

# Wiri Yuwiburra Community Benefits Trust



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Chairperson



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Executive Officer

## Statement from the Chairperson

*Waddamooli (Welcome).*

*Gnulling yannie thulgurrie nun-ie  
(We all going home to country).*

The Wiri Yuwiburra peoples' lands are described as being in Central Queensland on the coast inland from Mackay. The Hail Creek Mine is in the centre of our country. The Wiri Yuwiburra people are small in number, but as a model for the advancement for our Traditional Owner brothers and sisters, we are big in aspirations for our people.

Most of our people were decimated in the dispersals, dispossession and removal from our country. These removals are seen as an enforced walkabout for us for a little while and we feel that because of this, we have not been in a position to "sing up" any business in our country.

In the past we were not always healthy enough in mind and spirit, or educated enough, nor experienced enough, to recognise the opportunity in some situations as they presented themselves. But with time, trial and error and the

determination of some of our people, we were able to overcome the hurdles and begin to see more of the advantages of an opportunity when presented.

We are now in the process of, once again, developing an economic base for ourselves and our people. During the early stages of our self-determination and the recognition of a need for economic development, we dared to dream that one day we would be given the opportunity to make the situation for our Wiri Yuwiburra people easier to cope with, than that of our previous displaced generations.

Today we seek to develop a platform on which we can build a positive future for our people and the survival of our culture. Through the Wiri Yuwiburra Community Benefits Trust, we are able to take advantage of economic prosperity within our country, and move towards the development of a sound economic base on which we can build upon to sustain: our children, our grandchildren, great grandchildren, great great grandchildren and our dreaming.

*"We have been in this land since the beginning of time, we will be here until the end of time.  
We will always be Wiri Yuwiburra Birri Gubba people and this will always be our land".*

**Rio Tinto Coal Australia Pty Limited (RTCA) operates the Hail Creek Mine located within the traditional lands of the Wiri Yawiburra People.**

The Wiri Yuwiburra Community Benefits Trust (Trust) was established on 19 August 1998 following negotiations between Hail Creek Coal Pty Ltd (Hail Creek Coal) and Aboriginal groups to receive annual sums from Hail Creek Coal for the life of the Hail Creek Mine. The Trust operated until 2003, when the funds were then invested with the Public Trustee. Now the Trust is again operational, this document has been prepared to let people know more about the Trust and how Trust funds can be applied for.

The Trust is made up of six trustees, being four Aboriginal trustees, one trustee appointed by Hail Creek Coal and an independent trustee (**Trustees**). It is the role of the Trustees to manage the Trust Fund in accordance with the purposes of the Trust and the law.



The Trustees' vision and objectives for the Trust over the next 20 years are that:

### **Vision**

*“Aboriginal People enjoy the same prospects for employment, economic prosperity and quality of life as other community members.”*

### **Objectives**

#### **Capacity Building**

*“That Aboriginal people are able to participate fully in their community and are empowered to take greater control of their health and community wellbeing.”*

#### **Education and Training**

*“That Aboriginal people reach educational outcomes at the same level as the community average and that there is continual improvement of the educational, training and pre-vocational skills and abilities of Aboriginal people living in the region.”*

#### **Cultural Heritage**

*“That ancient cultural heritage of the Wiri people is identified and preserved for the benefit of current and future generations.”*

#### **Governance**

*“That a professional governance structure and process to enhance effective and efficient planning and decision-making, leadership, coordination and monitoring of the Trust is developed and maintained.”*

The Trustees will use the Vision statement and Objectives as a guide to decide how the Trust can best support and develop the Wiri Yuwiburra community. The Vision and Objectives, in conjunction with the terms of the Trust Deed, forms the basis for the types of projects that the Trust will support and how it intends to allocate its funds. This is discussed in more detail in these guidelines.

**These Guidelines provide information on:**

- (a) The Trust;
- (b) The manner in which applications for the allocation of funding from the Trust Fund can be made; and
- (c) The criteria relevant for applications for funding

The Guidelines will be reviewed by the Trust at regular intervals to ensure that they are effective and meet the purpose for which they were established.

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Issues to consider when applying to the trust

**Is my project or initiative one that will benefit the Wiri Yuwiburra community and be one that the Trust can support?**

First assess your reasons for funding against the Vision and the criteria set out in this document to find out if:

- the type of project or initiative you are seeking funding for is one that the Trust can support; and
- if your application meets any of the relevant criteria.

**Contact the Executive Officer of the Trust**

Discuss your application with the Executive Officer of the Trust who will provide you with the relevant application form and who on request may assist you in preparing your application.

**Complete and lodge your application**

If your application meets all the criteria in this document, then lodge your application with the Executive Officer of the Trust. The Executive Officer will review your application and see if any further information is required before your application is forwarded to the Trustees for consideration.

**Trustees review and decide on the application**

The Trustees will review the application and assess it against certain criteria and then decide whether:

- (a) the Trust will approve the application;
- (b) the Trust will approve the application with some conditions;
- (c) the Trust requires further information from the applicant before making its decision; or
- (d) the Trust will not approve the application at this time.

**How will you be informed of the Trust's decision**

The Executive Officer will let you know in writing of the Trustees' decision on your application. If your application is successful, then the Executive Officer will also make arrangements to have the funds paid.

**FUNERAL EXPENSES**

Applications for support to assist with funeral expenses can be made by contacting the Executive Officer. Once an application is completed and lodged, the Trustees will determine whether funding will be provided.

**As a guide, eligible applicants are seen as those who:**

- Can demonstrate they can make effective use of the funds in accordance with these Guidelines and the Vision;
- Are willing and able to measure the performance of the project; and
- Can work in partnership with the Trust.

**The Trust will *not* consider any applications for funding for any of the following matters:**

- native title matters
- cultural heritage management matters that are already covered by agreements, native title protection conditions or other statutory requirements, or
- issues to be dealt with or considered by legal process

Funding may be provided for projects that will assist to achieve the Vision and Objectives. Examples are given below.

#### **Aboriginal business development**

- Assisting in the establishment, acquisition or expansion of viable businesses
- Joint ventures between Aboriginal businesses and other businesses
- Funding a business plan or feasibility study to establish a business
- Funding business training
- Funding professional advice as appropriate

#### **Educational programmes**

- Scholarships to attend high school, TAFE or university under specific conditions
- Assistance by way of scholarships for outstanding young sportspeople



## Heritage and culture conservation

- Activities related to the promotion of Aboriginal culture
- Cultural festivals
- Educational materials for use in schools and other institutions
- Research programmes (e.g. ethno-history work)
- Other projects ensuring the continuing cultural health of the Wirri Yuwiburra community

## Training and employment

- Assistance in training for jobs
- Assistance in searching for jobs
- Vocational training, to assist people in improving the range of skills they can offer to potential employers

## Community benefits projects

- Specific projects the community has not been able to achieve through government or other funding sources
- Projects that will deliver tangible benefits for community health and wellbeing
- Assistance to leverage government or other funding sources

## Sporting and community activity

- Specific grants to individuals whose specific circumstances require support (capped at \$1000)
- Assistance by way of scholarships for outstanding young sports people
- Sponsorship of Aboriginal role models to promote sport and sporting achievement

## Other projects agreed to by the Trust

- Projects that have compelling and significant benefit for the whole Aboriginal Community of Interest

If you have a project or concept that you think is appropriate for funding, contact the Executive Officer to discuss your idea. If it shows potential, the Executive Officer can provide assistance to prepare an application.

In completing the application form, applicants will need to explain how the project will meet the aims of the Trust and "Vision", how they will measure its success and how the project will be undertaken.

## An application for funding must be for a project or initiative that will benefit the Wiri Yuwiburra community.

The Trust Fund is to be allocated in accordance with the Trust Deed. Clause 6.6 of the Trust Deed governs the distribution of the Trust Fund. The Trustees may allocate the Trust Fund:

- (a) in supporting or implementing education, training, research and business development programmes for the Wiri Yuwiburra community;
- (b) providing a maximum of \$25,000 (annually) to provide community benefits not covered by paragraph (a) for the Wiri Yuwiburra community; and
- (c) by investment as set out in the Trust Deed.

The Trustees have also developed a Vision statement and the Trust Fund is also to be distributed with this Vision in mind.

Applicants for funding must be able to show that their proposed project will satisfy the following *mandatory criteria*:

- (a) the project or initiative must fit within the purposes of the Trust and deliver positive, constructive, real outcomes to the Wiri Yuwiburra community; and
- (b) the project or initiative processes and management must be sound and viable (ie, any idea which is not viable will not be funded)

### Mandatory information

In relation to Project Funding or One-off Individual Funding for sporting or cultural community event, all applications for funding must contain the following information:

- (a) the following details of the entities or proposed entities to receive any funding which may be allocated by the Trust:
  - (i) the current or proposed name and, if applicable, date of incorporation of the entities;
  - (ii) the business and postal addresses of such entities; and
  - (iii) if any of the entities have an ABN, that ABN;

- (b) for business development funding, the technical and commercial capabilities of the applicant and the additional training that would be required to maximise the likelihood of success of the business;
  - (c) the amount of funding sought and, unless the application is for a "one-off" payment, suggested milestones in the proposed project and the periods in which such milestones are expected to be achieved; and
  - (d) the applicant should provide relevant information if the project or initiative has been approved for funding from another source.
- (d) **(management skills and experience)** the experience and skill of the applicant relevant to the project or initiative and, for business projects, any training undertaken by the applicant in business and/or business management, to enable the Trust to assess whether the project or initiative will be well-managed and whether the proposed project outcomes will be achieved;

**Further material that will assist the application**

**Applicants should also endeavour to address, as far as possible, the following optional criteria about their proposed project or initiative:**

- (a) **(ownership)** whether members of the Wiri Yuwiburra community are part of the ownership or organisational structure of the project or initiative;
  - (b) **(community benefit and term)** the nature and extent of benefits to the community from the project or initiative and how long those benefits will continue;
  - (c) **(outcomes)** how the project's progress and outcomes will be measured over time and how a precise assessment of the resulting community benefits will be conducted, including information on the research to be undertaken to make such assessments;
- (e) **(employment impact)** for business projects or initiatives, approximately how many people are likely to be employed in the business;
  - (f) **(self contributions)** whether the applicants are also contributing financial or in-kind support to the project or initiative;
  - (g) **(viability research)** whether and what research has been done on the viability of the project or initiative and the project's or initiative's processes and expected outcomes;
  - (h) **(timing)** how long the project or initiative will seek to rely on funding through the Trust (because preference will be given to a stand-alone project or initiative requiring only "one-off" or "seed" funding);
  - (i) **(conditions)** where the project or initiative requires ongoing funding (which can only be provided by instalments), the conditions which the applicant is prepared to satisfy before each instalment becomes payable;

- (j) **(future sustainability)** how the project or initiative will be kept going after Trust funding has finished;
- (k) **(commitment to project)** whether the applicant will be actively involved throughout the whole of the project or initiative;
- (l) **(skills)** whether the applicant already has or is undertaking training to ensure the success of the project or initiative or whether a third party with such skills will be involved in the project or initiative;
- (m) **(reporting)** how the applicant will report to the Trust on the success of the project or initiative;
- (n) **(prior grant approval)** where the applicant has previously applied for and has been approved funding from the Trust, provide information of the project's or initiative's success and how it benefited the Wiri Yuwiburra community;
- (o) **(other sources of funding)** whether there is government or other funding already available for the project or initiative;
- (p) **(support)** whether there are any other groups or sections of the general community currently supporting the project or initiative; and
- (q) **(repayment)** whether the project or initiative contemplates repayment of the funding.

### Lodging an Application

**Each application for funding should (excluding funeral expenses):**

- (a) be made in accordance with the **Application Form** that is available from the Executive Officer;
- (b) be submitted to:

**The Executive Officer  
Wiri Yuwiburra Community  
Benefits Trust  
PO Box 3634,  
North Mackay Qld 4740**

**Tel: (07) 4951 6426  
Email: [hcmwy.trust@riotinto.com](mailto:hcmwy.trust@riotinto.com)**

- (c) address the mandatory criteria and should endeavour to address any applicable optional criteria listed above; and
- (d) except for applications made for funeral expenses, forms should if practicable be received by the Executive Officer at least three weeks prior to the Trust meeting at which the applicant wishes the application to be considered. The Trust will be meeting quarterly – please contact the Executive Officer for relevant details.

### Timeframe for consideration of applications

The Trust will endeavour to address applications in a timely fashion.

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