

CEO Report for 2014

Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation CEO Report, 27th November 2014

Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation has successfully completed another positive year despite the down turn in the economy and government changes.

Ungooroo, as you are aware, successfully secured this new premises and office space as the last building was inadequate and unsafe. It has proven to be a positive and beneficial move as we are more accessible to the community and can provide better facilities to cater for services and services provision. We have increased our training room hire 80% which has been very encouraging.

We have secured a 3 year tender commence Jan 2015 with the Specialist Homelessness Service which we have previously facilitated, but this new tender is for the Upper and Lower Hunter taking in Merriwa, Scone, Muswellbrook, Singleton, Cessnock, Maitland, Dungog and Port Stephens areas. This tender will provide 2 new fulltime case work positions who are experienced in dealing with youth at risk.

We again held our 3rd annual MEEKA Youth Expo in October with over 120 Aboriginal students in attendance from 5 of our local high schools with the support of the Prime Minister Cabinet funding. We again will be holding our MEEKA Youth Expo next year, on Monday March 30th 2015. Check out our websites for further details.

As members, you are aware of Awabakal pulling their GP services which left a huge gap in medical service provision for the Aboriginal community in the Upper Hunter, so this year 2014 Ungooroo, the board have been very proactive in going through the process of acquiring our own GP services and commencing accreditation. We are happy to announce we have passed the accreditation and will be contracting our own GP, Dr Kumar who will commence practice February 4th here at Ungooroo. We will be setting up the office to be able to provide bulk billing services here at Ungooroo. We really encourage all of community to embrace this opportunity and utilise this health service when needed.

Also, we are in process of partnering with Glencore and Sydney University to provide dental health care here at Ungooroo and provide a dental program to all Aboriginal children throughout the school systems in the Upper Hunter. This will also commence February 2015 and we will provide again the bulk billing services.

We are in consultation with Headspace and mental health providers to also commence counselling consultation services here at Ungooroo and will inform all members of that as soon as we know the commencement date.

The current board also completed a refresher accredited Cert 1V in Governance/Business Training as well this year to keep current with legal requirements and business expectations.

We thank you for your support of the diverse initiatives that Ungooroo have taken on over 2014 and previous years and look forward to a very positive 2015 to come.

Kind Regards,

Taasha Layer

CEO