



# Mayor's Message

*Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council's Mayor  
Cr Jason Woibo's monthly message*

---

*Wantharra nyundu?*

It's been a month of numbers, budgets, finance and forecasting for your Councillors. A lot of work goes into ensuring Council meets all the legislative and audit requirements around the end of the financial year reports as well as the budgeting process. I'd like to make special mention of Council's Finance Director Shannon Gibbs for enabling us to be the first Council in Queensland to have our Audit completed for the 11<sup>th</sup> time in a row. Also thanks to Shannon and her team for all the work they've done in supporting Councillors to ensure our finances are in good shape, sustainable, and in line with Council's vision.

My local hero's mention this month comes off the back of some fantastic news for our township. Hope Vale residents can now be even more confident in the top-level health care they receive after the Hope Vale Primary Health Care Centre was one of two Centres to have recently been awarded the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners accreditation for the first time. This means the facilities have met strict clinical criteria relating to their systems and practices which are in line with national and international health standards. There are now only four primary healthcare centres across the Torres and Cape Health and Hospital Service to hold this accreditation. The award is the result of 12 months hard work by staff and this should give peace of mind to patients that their Centre is following the same practices that happen across the globe. I congratulate the Centre's staff and in particular the Director of Nursing Lesley Reid for this accomplishment, particularly under the difficult circumstances that Covid 19 has brought. Congratulations Health Team!

NAIDOC week celebrations were really well-received and it was an honour to be part of them. A big thank you to everyone who participated and to everyone who put events on. Special thanks to those who helped arrange the activities and events. It was deadly and really showed our community spirit.

How good are our Ballerina girls and our boy's Yimbala dance group? It was really exciting to see them perform on Centre Stage at the Cairns Show. They're starting to get their own brand and are becoming recognised and very popular. Well done to Miss Courtney and Leearna Burke for taking the initiative – which was much loved by the crowd and well-received by the Show organisers.



# Mayor's Message

*Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council's Mayor  
Cr Jason Woibo's monthly message*

---



As is happening across Australia, Covid19 cases are rising throughout our township. Coupled with influenza, there are quite a few sick people around. We all need to do our part and do the right thing to try to cut down the spread of both Covid 19 and the 'flu. Please isolate if you have to, keep our community - particularly our elders - safe and well. Even though it's not mandatory yet, use your common-sense about wearing a mask indoors and in places where it might be easy to spread or pick up the virus.

I recently attended a Police Summit in Cairns where there was an opportunity to raise issues about community policing matters. Council is advocating to see increased police numbers in our township, which in turn will go towards increasing safety. This was an opportunity for senior people from QPS and the relevant departments to hear the voices from First Nation's representatives. We thank QPS for the opportunity. In the next few weeks our township will be welcoming the new Sargent and we look forward to working with them.

Have you noticed that the Helipad has been finalised? Great work by all involved in this important asset to our township. The work on the Cultural Park is progressing – more materials are on their way and once they arrive, residents will see the Park continue to take more shape.

During the first week of August, I'll be going to Canberra with FNQROC as part of a delegation from member Councils. We'll be meeting with departmental people and with Ministers in the new Albanese government. A focus is to make sure the new government understands the issues we face in our region, and to present some ideas for projects and funding going forward. I'm not looking forward to the Canberra weather in August!

Until next month. Stay safe.

**Mayor Jason Woibo**