



Mayor's Message

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

March 2021 has been the Month of Meetings for your Council.

Your Councillors have been involved with briefings, training and information sessions and advocacy meetings on a range of subjects and matters important for Hope Vale's future.

We started the month with finalising the consultation required to make a submission to the State Government on the Community Safety Plan required to accompany our proposal to change the AMP. The document is entitled "Community Safety Plan 2021 and Beyond" Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council, and can be found on Council's web page.

I attended, with Cr Allison Michael, Deputy Mayor Cr Bruce Woibo, and Cr Barry Bowen the regional Torres Cape Indigenous Council Alliance (TCICA) Meeting in Cairns with the other Councils from the Cape and Torres Strait in attendance, to discuss many issues common to our Communities.

We participated in the International Women's Day celebrations here in Hope Vale. In addition, all Councillors met State Government representatives to discuss the Council supporting an Indigenous PCYC for our community. This 'Agreement' will take time however the Council is hopeful resourcing from the State will be forthcoming and a formal submission will be made in the near future to initiate this opportunity for our younger people to have a range of activities provided, to suit their interests, and to help them develop into good citizens of the future.

To ensure the continued good governance of our Council the Councillors have reviewed 19 policies which were then endorsed at the March Meeting of Council. These policies cover topics such as fraud management, procurement, contracts, advertising and community grants which can all be found on Council's web site.

Just last week, all Councillors attended financial management training which was developed by the Queensland University and the Queensland Treasury Corporation on behalf of the Department of Local Government. This training was considered a 'Pilot' program and both your Council and Yarrabah Council were specifically invited to help develop the program which is intended for smaller and remote Councils across Queensland who operate in similar environments with limited own source revenue and remoteness.

One apology your Council does wish to make is the unfortunate postponement of the Community Meeting which was originally scheduled for 10 March. The Council is keen to have this meeting and will advertise a new date in the near future.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy Easter with family and friends.

Mayor Cr Jason Woibo