

Summary of Formal RIC Meeting – 11 and 12 November 2020 (Karratha)

A Pilbara- based regional committee of representatives from Banjima, Karlka Nyiyaparli, Robe River Kuruma, Ngarlawangga, Ngarluma, Puutu Kunti Kurrama, Pinikura (PKKP), Yinhawangka and Yindjibarndi people and Rio Tinto

RIC vision: We, like all people, think forward 100 years and ask what we hope for our children’s children and their grandchildren. We want to put in place now, things for the future. We want a future to be one in which they are recognised, respected, equal and strong. We want this for them, so they carry on our tradition through Land and Custom.



THIS MEETING’S KEY DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS

RFD Regional Standard – Cultural Heritage

- Each TO group shared their recent successes and future projects – this session was very well received and will be included at every meeting from now on
- RTIO is going to be working with TOs to provide them with easier and more comprehensive access to country
- TOs are going to have more input into meeting Agendas for LIC and RIC meetings
- RTIO and TO members are working on a statement of mutual commitments will be released when finalised.
- TOs will be providing feedback on RTIO’s Integrated Heritage Management Process
- Cultural Awareness Training is going high tech! – New Virtual Reality (VR) technology is being used to create a Cultural Awareness video by each TO group that wishes to do so. Rio Tinto will discuss how this can be used for CAT.

RFD Regional Standard – Business Development & Contracting

- RTIO is going to provide to TOs comprehensive ‘Life of Mine’ information from mine pre-feasibility to development and rehabilitation to enable TOs to take early advantage of business development & contracting opportunities and work with RTIO on cultural heritage and environmental protection measures from early in the life of a mine.
- The RIC workshopped the top challenges and barriers to engaging TO sub-contractors and what support services would best address those issues.

RFD Regional Standard – Employment & Training

- RTIO has updated it’s Cultural Leave Policy which will allow TOs to obtain paid or unpaid leave to attend cultural activities, funerals, lore business and corporation business.
- An Aboriginal Employee Retention Study Summary was presented and discussed on ways to improve retention of TO employees at Rio Tinto.
- Focus on health – RTIO will be funding (through Karlka Nyiyaparli) a desktop review of dialysis treatment and prevention options as a first step towards gaining better resources in the Pilbara.
- The RIC discussed new initiatives for its Work Readiness Programs

Everything else!

- RIC Strategic Plan needs to be reviewed and updated. This will be done before the next RIC meeting in March 2021.
- The Regional Framework Deed (RFD) is to be comprehensively reviewed in 2021.
- RIC has partnered with the Co-operative Research Centre (CRC) for Transformations in Mining Economics (TiME) and will provide valuable feedback on test projects for ways on re-invigorating communities before, during and after mining takes places on that land.
- The RIC received a presentation on TO data collection, in the context of gathering community data in culturally appropriate ways and retaining ownership of that information.