



ISSUE 14 : DECEMBER 2019

CURIJO CONNECT

We recognise and respect that Aboriginal people are first peoples and Traditional Owners of this country. We pay our respects to Elders both past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal peoples of this land. We acknowledge the rich and diverse cultures and the long history of Aboriginal Australia. We understand the important role of maintaining these rich cultures and the ongoing relationships with the land.

MESSAGE FROM US

Welcome to our 14th edition of our Curijo Connect newsletter. We are excited to be sharing our business journey with you.

Curijo has had significant growth in the last quarter, with our team expanding nationally. We have opened an office in the Illawarra with five permanent staff located at our new and exciting space. This team will be primarily working on our new project with the Department of Communities and Justice with the Permanency Support Plan (PSP) Learning Hub being based here. Along with being a space for our Child and Family Services Consultants.

We are always striving to provide high quality consultancy services to our clients across our two primary practices:

- Business, Evaluation and Audit
- Community, Culture, Education and Change

To assist us in the growth in our team and business we are currently implementing new internal support systems which is keeping us all busy.

We hope you enjoy reading about some of our achievements and the work we are doing. The year is flying by and Christmas is quickly approaching, we thank all our valued clients for your support of our business.

Thanks so much,
the Management Team

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WELCOME TO CURIJO

OUR NEW STAFF

We would like to welcome six new staff members to our team here at Curijo. Bethamie Woodstone, Eva Wheatley, Michelle Cook and Natasja Witbreuk who have all joined our PSP team. Felix Chow and Nitesh Perwani who have joined our BEA team. And Samantha Butcher and Jenny Adams who have joined our Child and Family Services Team. Curijo is excited to have our new staff join our team as we expand and grow as a business. Keep an eye out in the upcoming newsletters to read their staff profiles.

SERVICE UPDATES

CCEC PRACTICE UPDATE

Well where do we start, our three teams that sit within the CECC Practice; Child and Family Services (CFS), Adult Education and Consultancy (AE&C) and the PSP Learning Hub are all in full swing.

Our CSF team has grown again with two new casual Administration Support Officers joining the team. We have been working across NSW primarily, supporting Funded Service Providers with best practice consultancy support. We are conducting several types of assessment and review, developing cultural support plans, conducting family history research, conducting family finding and family group conferencing.

Our AE&C team have been designing, developing and facilitating a variety of adult education solutions to Government Departments and organisations. It's been a pleasure to share knowledge, skills and expertise with people to improve workplace culture and diversity and best practice service delivery. We are also working on several consultancy projects within this team, some of our consultancy work is community consultation and engagement development of specialised guides and documents and design and implementation of programs.

Our PSP Learning Hub team have begun their roles, in four new positions. Our project is moving forward, and we are currently conducting sector wide consultations and developing materials in preparation for our online learning platform.

We are very proud that we are receiving regular high-quality feedback from our customers and thank our awesome team for the work they do. We'd also like to mention and thank the Aboriginal business who have helped us in recruiting our fabulous new staff, 3 Emus.



BEA PRACTICE UPDATE

The BEA team thanks all our wonderful clients who continue to support us as we grow in capability and capacity. The last quarter has been a fun time for learning. We have completed a number of important projects as well as commenced a few more. This quarter we welcome two additions to our assurance team in Canberra. We also welcome a new Aboriginal associate to our team from Melbourne.

We were very excited to hear that we made the new ACT Government's Business Services Panel. And we look forward to making new contacts.

DFAT UPDATE

Last month we were lucky enough to attend the DFAT Indigenous Supplier Briefings and are soon to attend the Big Meet at the Realm on 21 November. Michael and Darren will be representing Curijo. Stop and say hi, if you are attending.

We have also been fortunate to be successful in work with DFAT in the Australian Aid space. Thanks to the Supplier Engagement Team for their wonderful support.

SPONSORSHIP

YUIN FITT WOMEN'S RUGBY LEAGUE TEAM & MULI WARRIORS

We are proud to announce the sponsorship of the Yuin Fitt women's rugby league team, and the Muli Warriors in 2020. We look forward to working with both teams in the future and developing strong partnerships. And wish both teams the best of luck in the 2020 Koori Knockout.



MURRA INDIGENOUS BUSINESS MASTERCLASS

MELBOURNE BUSINESS SCHOOL

Our staff member Tina McGhie has one more block left before graduating from Murra Indigenous Business Masterclass later this month.



Murra Indigenous Business Masterclass practical outcomes include;

- Frameworks to grow and consolidate your business and/or organisation and your career
- Overall understanding of areas vital to success - strategy, finance, marketing, people and talent management, negotiations and leadership
- Networks: the power of informal relationships which continue beyond the program
- Diverse cohort provides collaboration and joint venture opportunities
- Post-program support: mentoring and consulting projects

We are very proud of Tina and are excited to see her graduate and share her knowledge and experiences. Congrats Tina!



DID YOU KNOW?

34TH ANNIVERSARY OF HANDBACK

MARKS CLOSURE OF ULURU

Located in the Northern Territory, Australia. Uluru has been sacred to the Anangu people for tens of thousands of years.

The first non-Aboriginal person to see Uluru was explorer William Goose in 1873, naming it Ayers Rock after the Chief Secretary of South Australia, Sir Henry Ayers.

In 1966, the Gurindji strike also known as the Wave Hill Walkoff led by Vincent Lingiari, inspired many anangu people to leave pastoral leases and return to Uluru.

Over the next decade, Anangu people as Uluru's traditional owners lobbied the government for the right to their country, expressing concerns about mining, pastoralism, tourism and the desecration of sacred sites.

In 1985, the Uluru national park was handed back to the traditional owners, in an even known as the Handback. The question of closing the climb was raised, and Anangu spokesman Kunmanara Lester said that while Anangu didn't like people climbing Uluru it would be allowed for now.

Signs were put at the base of the climb asking visitors on behalf of Anangu, please don't climb. As visitors learned more about Anangu culture and their wishes, the number of visitors climbing Uluru began to drop.

On the 34th Anniversary of the Handback marks the successful closure of Uluru. This significant decision marks an important step in the fight for land rights.



STAFF PROFILE

CLEVELAND MCGHIE

What is your family background?

I am a proud Wiradjuri and Ngunnawal man. I was born in Wollongong, NSW and raised on Dharawal country. Raised by my mother and privileged to have a strong connection to culture and the community of the Dharawal people.

Have you completed additional training, degrees, certificates?

I have a Certificate IV in Youth Work, a Diploma of Leadership and Management and extensive experience working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people and their families

What was your journey to Curijo?

I spent three years managing the Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience Program (AIME) in Canberra, ACT. I was also a presenter for AIME delivering education, cultural and life skills workshops to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students. I then spent two years with the Department of Juvenile Justice now Department of Communities and Justice. I was an Aboriginal Caseworker, responsible for supporting young juveniles involved with the criminal justice system, delivering offense focused rehabilitation programs, also incorporating culture for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders. I relocated to Newcastle (Awabakal country) at the end of 2018. I spent seven months working with St Vincent de Paul Society, as an Aboriginal Local Area Coordinator supporting people living with a disability with their NDIS Plans. In June 2019, I was fortunate enough to join the Curijo team, I currently live and work out of Awabakal country.

Have you had a career highlight whilst at Curijo?

Definitely completing my firsts; first Aboriginal Cultural Support Plan, first Kinship Assessment, first Foster Care Assessment and first Cultural Learning Journey Training.



What qualities, skills and abilities do you bring to Curijo?

I believe the strengths I bring to Curijo include my motivation, determination and driven attributes. These come from my background in sport, I have always been driven to deliver quality work, build on my learning and motivate and support others to learn and thrive as well.

What does it mean for you working at an Indigenous business?

I have spent time working with Indigenous non-for-profit, government departments and NGO's. Although for me working for Curijo, is working for my family, my community, my culture. I have learned, I still have so much to learn and there is still so much to be done before we can see Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture fully acknowledged and respected in Australia.

What are your interests and things you like to do in your spare time?

Sport, I love sport, in particular rugby league. I have a brain that works incessantly, there is always a thought, an idea and vision. I like to record them and explore them when I get the chance. Most importantly my mob (family), my jarjums (my kids); taking them outdoors, on adventures, short trips to visit family and seeing them smile.