

## Budina Community Celebrates Native Title Win

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Photo: Clive Lyndon (left) and the Budina celebrate Native Title recognition

The Budina community is today celebrating the legal recognition of their land and culture at an on-Country Federal Court hearing at Lyndon Pastoral Station. The event was co-hosted by Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC), the Representative Body for the Murchison and Gascoyne Region and Budina Aboriginal Corporation (BAC), the Prescribed Body Corporation nominated by the Budina people to manage native title matters.

The Budina determination area is approximately 4,096 square kilometres in size. It is located approximately 300 km southeast of Exmouth and 400 km north east of Carnarvon. The area occurs within the Shire of Ashburton, Shire of Carnarvon and Shire of Upper Gascoyne. The area overlaps seven pastoral stations: Lyndon, Towera, Emu Creek, Uaroo, Middalya, Mangaroon and Maroonah.

The Budina are small but close community who have continuously maintained their association with Country. The Budina People continue to look after their Country and pass on cultural knowledge through traditional law and traditional customs.

His Honour Justice Griffiths congratulated the parties involved in the native title determination process and appreciated the effort made by everyone who travelled to Lyndon Station to witness the historic event which formally recognised the native title rights and interests of the Budina people.

Clive Lyndon, Budina Elder said, “This is an important outcome for the Budina and I’m so glad to see so many people could make it out here to celebrate with us. I’d like to thank YMAC for all of the work that they have done, Carmen Cummings in particular for the work she did on the connection report. I’d like to thank Sean and Cathy Darcy who own Lyndon Station, they are good people. My vision is to pass on our culture to the next generation and set up a way for non-Aboriginal people to experience and learn our culture.”

YMAC CEO Simon Hawkins said, “The Budina determination is a great outcome for a beautiful group of people. Justice Griffiths took a very personal approach to conducting the Court hearing that was enjoyed by everyone present. I’d like to acknowledge the great relationship between the Budina people and the Lyndon Station owners, Sean and Cathy Darcy. This is a unique relationship and the wonderful celebrations are a credit to everyone involved.”

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Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) is the native title representative body for the Traditional Owners of the Pilbara, Midwest, Murchison and Gascoyne regions of Western Australia. YMAC has a representative area over one-third of Western Australia and represents over 24 native title claims, all with their own language, culture and traditions.

YMAC is a not-for-profit organisation run by an Aboriginal Board of Directors. It provides a range of services to its members including claim and future-act representation, heritage protection services, community and economic development, and natural resource management.

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