

New Pilbara office boosts YMAC's presence in the region



CAPTION: YMAC CEO Simon Hawkins and Mrs Natalie Parker, YMAC Co-Chairperson – Pilbara Region, at the launch of the new Pilbara office.

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It's official – Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) has celebrated the official opening of a new Hedland office on 17 November.

Located at 8 Manganese Street in Wedgefield (Port Hedland), it's the first time YMAC has owned an office building in the Pilbara after leasing premises for two decades.

Staff moved into the new office late last year and worked around renovations as they took place throughout 2022.

The new space has a renovated reception area, a boardroom, and accessible bathroom, visitor car park, plus several offices and meeting spaces for visiting staff to meet with clients.

YMAC CEO Simon Hawkins said the new Pilbara office was part of the organisation's ongoing work to enhance its presence in its representative regions.

"The office has been designed as a fit-for-purpose space and allows us to provide services to our clients to meet their needs, along with Prescribed Bodies Corporate (PBCs) as required," he said.



Yamatji Marlpa
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



“YMAC’s first Pilbara office opened in 2002, followed by one in Roebourne in 2003 and a South Hedland office in 2004, as well as staff in a Karratha office.

“A Tom Price office also existed for a short period to keep up with native title claims.

“Over time, we recognised that with many of our clients based around the Hedland area, it was practical for us to be in the same location.”

Solar panels on the building’s rooftop and a battery provide for 80 per cent of power requirements, off the grid.

YMAC is a 50 per cent shareholder in Pilbara Solar, a renewable energy company that seeks equity ownership opportunities for First Nations peoples in all their development projects.

“We can now have larger meetings on our own premises while also having a dedicated space for Pilbara Solar,” Mr Hawkins said.

“There are a lot of exciting things happening in the renewable energy space right now, with many businesses switching to clean energy solutions to reduce their carbon footprint.

“YMAC continues to support Traditional Owners with native title claims but also in other areas such as future acts, heritage services, land and sea management and land services.”

Visitors are welcome at the Wedgefield office, which can be contacted on (08) 9160 3800.

Ends

About Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) is the Native Title Representative Body (NTRB), delivering native title and other services across the Pilbara, Mid West, Murchison and Gascoyne regions of Western Australia. YMAC is run by a First Nations board of directors, representing several native title groups, each of whom have their own language, culture, traditions and protocols. YMAC services include native title claim and future act representation; heritage services; executive office, community, and economic development assistance; land administration, and natural resource management support.

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