



Remote Engagement Coordination – Indigenous Evaluation Research Project

## Election Engagement and Education

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Yalu Marngithinyaraw

Presentation about a research project on elections and electoral engagement in Galiwin'ku

## Back story to this project/ preparing ourselves...



Our work started back 2016 with a project on Evaluating Government Engagement

- What we went through, with that project, this gave us ideas of how to create the information within the community
- As an individual person it gave me strength for other things to come

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What we went through, with that remote engagement evaluation research in community, this gave us ideas of how to create the information within the community

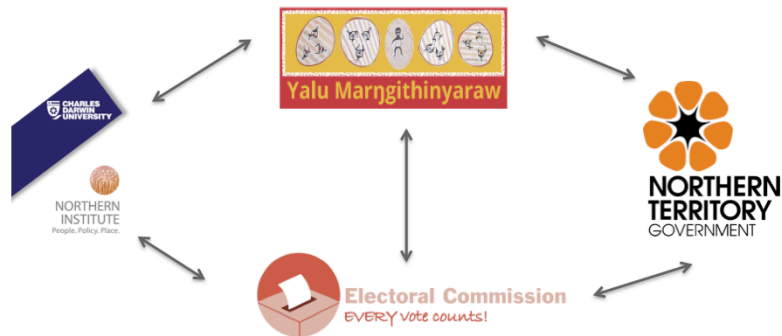
We learnt a lot about that, and this gave us ideas and strength to move on and do our own research

This research was nurtured in the community and this helped us to get strong in our own knowledge and identity.

As an individual person it gave me strength for other things to come

Managing that project, moving around with the other team and coming together to report that work. It was good that we shared that information, from going into different houses and speaking to people

## Starting the Election project/working together



We went to Katherine to met the other groups in the project, to talk to them and stand with them.

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We were sharing with them about the community and grass roots, what has been happening for a long time

When the election time comes up, people are excited. Some have a fear that government might charge them. We were sharing information to them from the grassroots. At the same time as asking what is the better path for engaging community and government people

## Bringing the project to Galiwin'ku



This project about elections was introduced to Galiwin'ku through Yalu'

- We sat and talked – bring the ideas together, how to do and what to do and when to do
- We made a preparation and visited the L.A. to share that information about the work that had to be done, and they agreed to that
- CDU / Yalu' / community were putting effort and input agreeing to do that research in community

Then the project came to Galiwin'ku

This project about elections was introduced to Galiwin'ku through Yalu'

1. We sat and talked – bring the ideas together, how to do and what to do and when to do
2. We made a preparation, made a plan and visited the L.A. to share that information about the work that had to be done, and they agreed to that
3. CDU + Yalu' + Community were putting effort and input agreeing to do that research in community

It was good talking with LA members because represent different clan nations. Was also good taking that message to the community, going around and telling to people before the election comes.

## Research at the polling booth



It was the first time in history that we had BBQ with many people coming and sharing their experiences about the election.

The researchers were there to help support and find out what people need

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- Some didn't know the pathway of election, Some were never told through the school.
- For balanda people they teach about the election, but not Yolju people. When they leave school they forget everything and they don't know what to do
- People need to think first before election, going around to people – letting them know about the two parties
- Getting them ready, talking to Yolju in the community and think about parties that stand for you and support Indigenous people
- What to do with the new enrolment for people who have been here 2-3 years past, and new enrolment for students that are able to enroll but haven't yet

Researchers –came on board to help support and find out what people need

## Outcomes and Recommendations



Later, the group came together and collected all the information, thinking of the community and how to focus towards the future, how can it change for a better way

- Knowing the underneath story
- Teaching the young people
- Need practical and theory parts of elections working together

### Evaluation – feedback from community

The group came together and collected all the information and evaluated all the resources that had been taking place during those elections times

Do the evaluation:

- the thinking of the community,
- words of the community,
- how to focus towards the future,
- how can it change for a better way for the community

Give education to the school children through a project happening so the students learn like balanda students learn, take them excursion so students will experience all these things They will know the seats who stands for voting, the message they promote, how they support community, what we need to be doing and how can we change process and policy so meets requirement of community – need to bend it in a way that suits community

**You only give us the tip of the story, not the whole story, the root story.** We need to know about two parties sitting behind, we need to understand the levels – liberal/labor and the states. Who really support, is it liberal or others. Sometimes they claim Indigenous people but no practical work. Only put theory on paper and no action to support the community Need practical and theory working together



Thank you!