



Beanangng Kwuurt Institute (BKI)

Committee Members

<i>Chairperson</i>	Leonne Wynne
<i>WA Members</i>	Helen Skiadis Geraldine Martin (not confirmed) Kevin Fitzgerald (not confirmed)
<i>Vic UAICC National Congress</i>	Vince Ross
<i>Queensland UAICC</i>	Rev Dennis Corowa

Beanangng Kwuurt Institute is a separately incorporated body under the Uniting Church in Australia Act (WA) 1976. We continue to hold the values of the Uniting Church and are pushing ahead with our outreach programs and future planning to serve the Aboriginal community.

Our Site Manager Felicity Biggs assisted by our BKI Board member Helen Skiadas has been working with the community programs. Rev Alison Gilchrist has also recently come aboard to help with the development of our mission. Her help has been immensely needed as well as greatly appreciated.

Our networking has been mainly within the Aboriginal community through our Food Rescue program coordinated every Thursday for disadvantaged families. Food is collected from Secondbite weekly. There have been many non-Indigenous people and other cultures also attending Food Rescue and this is the ethos of the site that we wish to portray. This is a great program as it keeping BKI in touch with the wider community.

We recently received a Grant from the City of Canning Council for an Arts Workshop in the amount of \$3,048.25. The Workshop began early 2020 and attracted many participants from different cultures within the community to the Treasure Road site. The program was delivered over the 10 weeks. Relevant resources were purchased and a healthy lunch was provided each week. An Aboriginal Elder Eunice Bynder (Yamatji elder from the Badimaya tribe in the Midwest who turned 81 this year) was included in the grant expenditure to promote, teach and pass on Aboriginal inspired bush craft and hobbies she was taught and willing to share and pass on. A full acquittal and approval has been completed for this grant. The City of Canning was more than happy with the success of this art workshop.

We have set up a second hand clothing depot and have received many clothing donations and apparel which is beginning to pick up and is affordable for families should they need assistance with clothing, children's needs or setting up after relocating. Volunteers attend every Wednesday to help. This will begin and continue to generate income in the following months ahead.

During COVID-19 this year our site manager Felicity Biggs kept all of the programs going and carried on with our food rescue program and made sure that all policies implemented by the Government and Health department were in place to keep our clients safe. Restrictions such as social distancing, hand sanitiser provided and single person entry to the building were applied.

On 28th April 2020 we received a grant from LotteryWest to the amount of \$53,500 for the provision of Emergency Relief within our community who are experiencing hard times and this has been operating since 19th June 2020. A fortnight cheque collection from the Synod office has been set up for the purchase of the vouchers. The acquittal will be completed by the Site Manager Felicity Biggs. The grant will be released to BKI in two parts each being \$26,750 over a 12 month duration.



Contact has been made with Earthwise in Subiaco to begin a permaculture community garden at the Treasure Road site. Offering guidance knowledge and direction, Earthwise are more than willing to help begin the community garden in the coming months. Volunteers have begun attending every Wednesdays to help and a hot soup is provided for lunch. The ingredients supplied by food collections on Thursdays from Secondbite.

A draft 3 Year Strategic Plan has been put together by Site Manager Felicity Biggs. Outlining the future direction of BKI. The plan has been presented to the board and is in the process of changes for final approval by the Board of BKI.

A Friends of BKI Membership package has been put together by Site Manager Felicity Biggs. With the approval of the board, memberships will be put in place to encourage the community to have a sense of belonging to BKI. As well as be updated and kept informed of future and existing programs and gatherings.

A Facebook page has been created by Rev Alison Gilchrist. With over 8,000 followers. This is a great way to promote BKI and again keep the community informed of future and existing programs and gatherings. Alison also focuses on the Noongar language with a different Noongar word posted online on a weekly basis with its meaning.

A new computer has been kindly provided by UCA Synod Office. Organised by Helen Skiadas – BKI Board Member. Andrew Liepins from Synod Office installed the new computer and organised for BKI to have an office email set up on the new computer. bki@wa.uca.org.au

Community Engagement:

The above programs are ongoing and our challenge is to seek more funding from other agencies for site maintenance and more community programs. We have identified the Indigenous Land and Sea Council as a body to assist us as they have grants available for restoring and protecting Aboriginal history. The BKI site and the Sister Kates story clearly demonstrates the history of the stolen generation and it is a site and story that needs to be preserved. We are also waiting for Lotterywest to open up grant applications for other funding streams.

Meetings are scheduled with the Indigenous Land and Sea Council as soon they are cleared to return the State Head Office in Perth Central.

Financial & Risk Management

This is administered by Financial Services Unit of the Synod.

Constitutional, including Governance and Board appointments;

In conclusion, BKI is building a Board of local people with community connections and knowledge of what is needed in the community. To be a successful community organisation one must have report in the wider community and our board members and our Site Manager are people that have that report. Our goal is to be that Board.

BKI has a promising and progressive future with working and maintaining the land. Along with being supported and help given from many surrounding community groups, City of Canning and passionate volunteers and staff.

Leon Wynne
BKI Chairperson