**Applicant: Ngaarda Media Aboriginal Corporation**
**Project Title: Ngaarda Media Bush Bands Concert and Outside Broadcast 2027 in Roebourne**

**Description of organisation** - Ngaarda Media Aboriginal Corporation is the only licensed Aboriginal community radio broadcaster in the Pilbara and a First Nations media training hub. The organisation represents more than 30 cultural language groups and uses radio, digital media and broadcasting platforms to preserve language, culture and community knowledge. Ngaarda Media broadcasts throughout the Pilbara, Kimberley and Gascoyne regions and provides pathways for Aboriginal people and young people into media and creative industries.

**Description of project** – The project seeks funding to deliver the inaugural Bush Bands Free Concert and Outside Broadcast in Roebourne (Ieramugadu) during August 2027. The event will feature local Aboriginal bands and solo artists performing at a professionally produced concert that will be broadcast live via FM radio, online streaming and the Ngaarda Media app. Supporting activities include a "Meet Your Station" open day, artist interviews, youth technical crew opportunities and the creation of a live concert album and video archive. The initiative aims to restore a significant cultural gathering following the conclusion of the Songs of Peace program while promoting cultural expression, youth development and social connection.

**Project Budget – Income (includes donations, volunteer labour, additional grant funding, organisations contribution)**

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|---|---|---|
| City of Karratha Large Community Grant | Not Confirmed | $41,140 |
| Ngaarda Media (financial) | Confirmed | $13,974 |
| Ngaarda Media (In-Kind) | Confirmed | $5,490 |
| | **INCOME TOTAL** | **$60,604** |

**Project Budget – Expenditure**

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|---|---|
| Artist Fees & Hospitality | $20,000 |
| Technical Production | $13,150 |
| Venue & Operations | $1,890 |
| Marketing & Promotion | $8,200 |
| Project Staff | $7,400 |
| Contingency | $4,474 |
| In-Kind Broadcast Infrastructure & Studio Use | $5,490 |
| **EXPENDITURE TOTAL** | **$60,604** |

**City of Karratha Funding Received Last 3 years**

| | |
|---|---|
| | **$0** |

**Key Considerations**

- The project responds to community feedback regarding the loss of the long-running Songs of Peace program and seeks to re-establish a culturally significant community gathering.
- The event is intended to be free to attend, removing financial barriers to participation for Aboriginal community members and families.
- Ngaarda Media has committed more than $20,000 through cash and in-kind contributions, representing a substantial organisational contribution towards project delivery.
- The organisation has also applied for external funding through the Horizon Power Community Partnership Grant, demonstrating efforts to leverage additional investment.
- Approximately 500 attendees are expected at the live event, with an estimated broadcast reach of 5,000-80,000 listeners and viewers across the Pilbara, Kimberley and Gascoyne regions.
- The project incorporates paid opportunities for local Aboriginal artists and youth work experience opportunities in broadcasting, media production and event management.
- Ngaarda Media has extensive experience delivering live broadcasts and cultural events, including involvement in the Songs for Peace and Songs of Freedom initiatives.

**Community Benefit**

- Provides a professional platform for local Aboriginal musicians and performers.
- Supports cultural preservation through recording and broadcasting Indigenous language and contemporary music.
- Creates opportunities for intergenerational community connection, social cohesion and cultural celebration.
- Delivers practical skills development and work experience opportunities for young people in media and event production.
- Supports Aboriginal economic participation through artist payments and local procurement.
- Extends the benefits of the event beyond attendees through regional broadcasting and digital distribution.

| **Strategic Alignment** | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☒ Goal 1 - We resect Aboriginal peoples' Cultural Authority and Connection to Ngurra (Country)<br>☒ Goal 2 - Our community is welcoming, connected, vibrant, healthy and safe<br>☒ Goal 3 -. Everyone is included<br>☐ Goal 4 - Our places and spaces are functional, attractive and reflect our unique identity<br>☐ Goal 5 - We respect and care for the natural environment<br>☒ Goal 6 - The local economy is diverse and thriving, with opportunities for all<br>☐ Goal 7 - Our civic leaders are innovative, listening and balanced in meeting community needs. | | |
| **Project Total** | $61,744 | **Aggregated Assessment Panel Score (%)**<br>78% |
| **Amount Requested From City of Karratha** | $41,140 | |
| **Amount Recommended** | ***$41,140*** | |

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Officers recommend funding the full requested amount of $41,140 towards the delivery of the Ngaarda Media Bush Bands Concert and Outside Broadcast 2027 in Roebourne.

The project demonstrates strong alignment with Council Plan Goals 1, 2, 3 and 6 by celebrating Aboriginal culture, strengthening community connection, supporting local artists and creating opportunities for Aboriginal economic participation. The project responds to an identified gap following the conclusion of Songs of Peace and provides a professionally produced, free community event expected to attract approximately 500 attendees, with additional l audiences reached through Ngaarda Media's regional broadcasting and digital platforms.

The application demonstrates strong organisational capacity through Ngaarda Media's experience in broadcasting and cultural event delivery. The organisation has committed $15,114 in financial contributions and $5,490 in-kind, representing approximately one-third of the total project value. The proposed grant will support event production and delivery costs, including artist fees, technical production and associated activities that provide opportunities for local artists and young people.

Full funding is recommended in recognition of the project's cultural significance, free community access, demonstrated organisation capacity and the potential to establish an ongoing cultural event for Roebourne and the wider Pilbara region.