

Palm Island Voice



ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

PLEASE note there may be images of deceased persons within this publication.



FREE!

Issue 451

23 June 2026



The 69th anniversary of the 1957 Palm Island Strike was commemorated through a five-day program. Events began in Townsville with a screening of *Protected*. Families of the strikers travelled to Palm Island to reconnect, share stories, and meet with Council representatives to begin planning for the 70th anniversary commemorations in 2027. The on-island program ran over two days and enjoyed strong community support.



New services centre signed and sealed



Services Australia has joined with Council to co-design a new, custom-made service centre that will align to future town planning for the Palm Island Community.

After engaging with PIASC in October last year, both parties endorsed the new co-design approach and agreed to construct the purpose-built facility, to meet current and future community needs.

The partnership was formalised through a Statement of Intent, signed in the Council chambers earlier this month.

“The new centre will form part of an integrated community hub, improving service accessibility and supporting long-term sustainability for the Palm Island community,” Mayor Alf Lacey said.

“The initiative is a reflection of Services Australia’s commitment to working in partnership with our communities by putting us at the centre of service design as shared decision-makers.”



Palm Island Community Economic Development Foundation

POSITIONS VACANT

The Palm Island Community Economic Development Foundation Ltd (the Foundation) is a 100% community-owned and community-led organisation, established to drive economic growth, business development and local employment on Palm Island. Grounded in the cultural values of the Bwgcolman and Manbarra Peoples, the Foundation serves as the lead organisation for economic development across the island. The Foundation's initial flagship initiative is the Remote Australia Employment Service

GENERAL MANAGER

The General Manager is appointed on a time-limited, establishment basis to stand up the Palm Island Community Economic Development Foundation as a credible, culturally grounded, government-ready entity capable of:

- receiving, managing and growing external funding;
- generating foundational revenues in perpetuity; and
- establishing the strategic, governance and operational foundations for a robust local business economy, including the framework for the development and operation of business and corporate assets.

As part of this establishment phase, the General Manager will be responsible for the governance oversight and strategic management of the Remote Australia Employment Scheme (RAES) as the Foundation's first operating business enterprise, ensuring it is positioned as a sustainable, compliant and scalable economic asset of the Foundation.

The role exists to design, establish and stabilise the Foundation so that it can operate independently, sustainably and with confidence from government, funders, community and partners, and transition to permanent executive leadership once establishment objectives are met.

This is not a business-as-usual role. It is an intentionally finite formation role with clearly defined deliverables and exit conditions.



RAES PROJECT MANAGER

The Project Manager is responsible for the oversight of all operational functions and projects undertaken by the Foundation. This includes but not limited to the Cemetery Development Project, the Foreshore Project and any other initiatives or project as developed and approved by the Foundation.

This role will lead and manages project in close collaboration with the General Manager and Program Manager.

The position will oversee performance and compliance, manage project resources and budgets, and maintain strong relationships with NIAA, community stakeholders, employers and partner organisations.

This role works closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, families and communities. Cultural competence, respectful engagement and an understanding of local community contexts are essential.

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander applicants are strongly encouraged to apply.

This is a full-time permanent position, working 38 hours per week.

This position is based on Palm Island.



(RAES), commencing in November 2025, delivered with the support of the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA). Future programs will span entrepreneurship, small business, tourism, housing, and youth development.

RAES PROGRAM MANAGER

The RAES Program Manager is responsible for the overall leadership, management and delivery of the Remote Australia Employment Service (RAES) program.

The position ensures high-quality, culturally responsive employment services that meet contractual, legislative and funding requirements, while achieving strong employment, training and participation outcomes for community members.

The role provides strategic and operational leadership to RAES staff, oversees performance and compliance, manages program resources and budgets, and maintains strong relationships with NIAA, community stakeholders, employers and partner organisations.



THE NEXT *Palm Island Voice* DEADLINE*
(Issue 452*) will be Thursday 2 July
for publication on Tuesday 6 July



The ***Palm Island Voice*** is published FORTNIGHTLY (*unless we have paid advertising) by the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council. Members of the Palm Island community and local organisations are welcome to submit birthdays, community information, pics, yarns and letters to the Editor.

For advertising rates and/or more information contact the Editor, Christine Howes, on 0419 656 277 or at howeschowes@gmail.com You can also follow us on Facebook, we have more than 3,400 followers! The ***Palm Island Voice*** is also available online at <http://www.chowes.com.au>

Operating Hours for Palm Island Council are 8am–5pm Monday–Friday
If you have any questions please contact Reception on 4770 1177 or 4770 0200
Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council has 7,300 'followers' on Facebook!!!