This Community Profile provides you with information specific to the Barkley Region of the Northern Territory.

The information has been compiled through a number of text and internet resources, and consultations with members of the local communities.

The first version of this Community Profile was prepared for RAHC by The Echidna Group and we acknowledge and thank Dr Terri Farrelly and Ms Bronwyn Lumby for their contribution.

Other sources include:
http://www.ntgpe.org/communityprofiles/tennantcreek/anyinginyi.html

RAHC would also like to acknowledge and express gratitude to the Aboriginal people of the Barkley Region who have so generously shared aspects of their culture and communities for use in this Profile.

*Please note: The information provided in this community profile is correct, to the best of RAHC's knowledge, at the time of printing. This community profile will be regularly updated as new information comes to hand.

If you have any further information about this community that would be useful to add to this profile please contact RAHC via: enquiries@rahc.com.au or call 1300 MYRAHC.
The Northern Territory

This map of the Northern Territory, divided into regions, has been adapted from the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH) Program Management & Implementation Section (2008) Map of the Northern Territory.

The depicted areas are for the purpose of the Remote Area Health Corps Community Profiles alone, and do not represent any Aboriginal language group, land or cultural group boundaries.
This map of the Barkley area has been taken from the map of the Northern Territory, adapted from the OATSIH Program Management & Implementation Section (2008) Map of the Northern Territory.

**Barkley Area Profile**

*The population figures refer to the number of Aboriginal peoples living in the community, and are estimates only.*

### Languages in the Region

The below languages are present in the Barkley region. However it should be noted that as a result of colonisation, the growth of towns, and the transient nature of some Aboriginal peoples, there may be many different Aboriginal languages evident in a given area.

- Alyawarre
- Anmatyerre
- Central Arrernte
- Eastern Arrernte
- Jingili
- Kaititj
- Kaytete
- Kriol
- Mudbarra
- Luritja
- Ngaanyatjarra
- Ngaatjatjarra
- Pintupi
- Pitjantjatjara
- Southern Arrernte
- Wambaya
- Warlpiri
- Warnmanpa
- Warrumungu
- Western Arrernte
- Yankunytjatjara
- Wuriaki

Kriol is the contact language now spoken as a first language by most Aboriginal people across the region. Kriol is spoken in the Barkly and further north, but not generally far south of Tennant Creek.

### Major Communities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Resource Centre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tennant Creek</td>
<td>3220</td>
<td>Tennant Creek Town Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elliott</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>Elliott District Community Government Council</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The population figures refer to the number of Aboriginal peoples living in the community, and are estimates only.*

### Minor Communities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Resource Centre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newcastle Waters</td>
<td>Elliott District Community Government Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marlinja</td>
<td>Barkly Shire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likkaparta</td>
<td>Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The population figures refer to the number of Aboriginal peoples living in the community, and are estimates only.*

It should be noted that in many Aboriginal communities, population figures can fluctuate dramatically, due to a number of factors including seasonal changes (wet and dry seasons), and ceremonial activity. Communities can also known by several names – this may include the European name given to it after colonisation, and several Aboriginal names.

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**Aboriginal Interpreter Service**


NT Dept of Local Govt & Housing

Central booking service 08 8999 8353

The AIS provides 24 hours 7 days a week central booking service.
Tennant Creek (Anyinginyi)

Tennant Creek is a small township of about 3500 people, located 500 kilometres north of Alice Springs and 1000 kilometres south of Darwin. Tennant Creek is at the heart the Barkly Region and is synonymous with the cattle industry.

It’s a place shaped by Aboriginal culture, gold mining and pastoralism. The surrounding area is called the Barkly Tablelands, a region characterised by wide grassy plains, endless blue sky and massive cattle stations.

The traditional owners of the area surrounding Tennant Creek are the Warumungu people and their culture is very much alive and well. Their stories are showcased in the Nyinkka Nyunyu cultural centre, situated in Tennant Creek.

Tennant Creek is also known as the ‘Golden Heart of the Northern Territory’ – a name that refers to the warm personalities of its people and because it is the site of Australia’s last major gold rush in the 1930s. People initially looked for gold in quartz, but it wasn’t until the 1930s that they discovered that the gold was still in the ironstone.

The town’s goldmining history remains, and is captured at sites around the town such as the Battery Hill Mining Centre. It is thought that there is still plenty of gold to be found, and mining for this and other valuable minerals, like manganese and copper, remains a vital economic contributor for the region.

Until the 1930s gold rush era, the repeater station, built in 1872 for the Overland Telegraph Line, was the only building that stood in this area, alongside the creek. The Telegraph Station is located 11 kilometres north of the town, and travellers can explore the buildings and grounds to get a feel for life there 130 years ago.

"Anyinginyi" is a Warumungu word meaning "belonging to us". It is one of 15 Aboriginal languages spoken in Tennant Creek.

Devils Marbles Conservation Reserve, Karlu Karlu is Tennant Creek region’s most spectacular landmark with thousands of huge, precariously balanced boulders. The Aboriginal people believe that these boulders are the eggs of the Dreamtime’s Rainbow Serpent. This dramatic collection of giant, perfectly rounded boulders is strewn across a shallow valley. The Devils Marbles are located 114km South of Tennant Creek.

Health Centre

Anyinginyi Congress Aboriginal Corporation (ACAC) is a Community Controlled multidisciplinary Aboriginal Health Service in Tennant Creek and achieved general practice accreditation in 2000. The clinic is part of an organisation that also has various other sections in a holistic approach to health and well being. Other sections include Alcohol Aftercare, Education, Arts and Crafts, Sports and Rec, Community Development Unit and the Stolen Generation unit. Professional Development is encouraged at all levels. ACAC services the town area and Aboriginal Communities within a 100km radius.

Over 2500 people access health services at the clinic each year. Approximately 90% of services and 80% of patients are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent. Tennant Creek is awaiting the opening of a dialysis unit based at Tennant Creek Hospital. ACAC was and is a significant player in the setting up of this unit. As in many communities in the NT there is a high burden of chronic disease (diabetes, renal failure, cardiovascular disease etc).

Clinic hours are Monday to Friday and there is an after hours roster staffed by Aboriginal Health Workers, registered nurses and doctors. Currently, the after-hours work is minimal.
Getting Advice

The following organisations and contact numbers may be useful in locating sources of advice about Anyinginyi. Care has been taken to ensure these details are correct, however unfortunately some may change or be unattended.

Anyinginyi Congress Aboriginal Corporation
1 Irvine St Tennant Creek NT 0861
Ph: 08 8962 2385 (Clinic)
Ph: 08 8962 2633 (Admin)
General Manager gm@anyinginyi.com.au
Health service, but also delivers other programs and services
Visits 12 Aboriginal communities and outstations within a 100km radius of Tennant Creek
Services include:
Clinic – Health, Dental, Stolen Generation Counsellor, Social Security Agent, Liaison/Welfare section
Services & Programs – Women’s Health, Health Promotion, Diabetes Clinic, Men’s Health
ACAC Alcohol Aftercare – Rehab/Support service
ACAC Arts & Crafts
Education & training Unit – Accredited Aboriginal Health Worker training, literacy and numeracy
ACAC Sports & Rec – Gym and training facilities

Tennant Creek Town Council
Peko Rd Tennant Creek NT 0860
Ph: 08 8962 2401
council@swich.com.au
www.tennantcouncil.nt.gov.au