

Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia (CRCNA)

Annual General Meeting

Townsville office - Suite 5 281-285 Ross River Road Aitkenvale Townsville QLD 4814

Online @ <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86446412898>

Wednesday 9 November 2022 10.30 am

1 Acknowledgement of traditional owners

The Chair opened the meeting at 10.34 am and recognised the Bindal and Wulgurukaba people of the Townsville area and acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the various lands of the online participants. She also acknowledged and paid respects to all those who have contributed throughout history to the development of Northern Australia.

2 Welcome, apologies and proxy notices

The chair welcomed the members to the meeting.

The following apologies were tabled:

Name	Member name	Member number
Wayde Chiesa	RDANWQ	17063
Sonja Johnson	RDATNQ	17018
Troy Setter	Consolidated Pastoral C	17016
Prof Steve Rogers	Charles Darwin Uni	17011
Rob Cocco	RDA Greater Whitsundays	17046
Jo-Anne Ruscoe	Barramundi Farmers	17036
Don McDonald	Don McDonald	17001
Tony Renehan/ Vin Lange	Centrefarm	19193
Peter Dummett	Darwin Port	19179

The following proxy notices were tabled:

Name	Member name	Member number	Proxy holder
Ricky Archer	Ricky Archer	19216	Sheriden Morris

The following attendees were noted:

Name	Member name	Member number	
<i>In person</i>			
Debra Burden	Selectability	22275	
Carlos Ramirez	Carlos Ramirez	20236	
Marie-Claude Brown	NQROC	18094	
Sheriden Morris	Sheriden Morris	17004	
John Wharton	John Wharton	17003	
Brendon Douglas	Menzies Health	17029	
Peter Long	Peter Long	17007	
John Bearne	John Bearne	17002	
<i>On-line</i>			
Jonathan Pavetto	AEC	21260	Joined at 10.39 am
Darlene Irvine	FNQROC	19169	

Zoe Williams	Northern Gulf Resource	19185	Joined at 10.36 am
Bronwyn Venus	Sugar Research	20244	
Marianne St Clair	Simbani	19221	Joined at 10.54 am
Daina Garldvas	Griffith Uni	18096	
Rebecca Mohr-Bell	Argyll Consulting	18153	
David Larkin	David Larkin	21268	Joined at 11.05am
Cameron Judson	Cameron Judson	A21265	

Total members in attendance of 19

The following observers were recorded as attending.

Observers	
Donna Sinanian	Crowe Audit Australia
Scott Davis	Nominated Director
Anne Stunzner	CEO
Margaret Marty	Company Secretary
Carla Keith	General Manager

The Chair declared a quorum of 15 present at the opening of the meeting.

3 Confirmation of Minutes of Annual General Meeting #4 November 3rd, 2021

Resolution 1: The members adopted the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 3 November 2021 as a true and accurate record

<i>Moved: John Wharton</i>	<i>Seconded: Brendon Douglas</i>	<i>Carried</i>
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4 Reports

4.1 Chair's report

The Chair's report was circulated with the AGM meeting papers and taken as read.

The Chair highlighted the following points regarding the 2021/22 year.

- The year has seen a reinvigorated CRCNA emerge as key player in the Northern Australian development agenda driving a refreshed approach through our commitments to larger projects and new programs of work which will enable the economic development of Northern Australia in years to come. This year we added another **18 new projects**, bringing our investments to 75 projects overall.
- We have reinforced our relationship across the three northern jurisdictions Western Australian, Northern Territory and Queensland governments – with funding contracts for co-designed projects with the CRCNA.

She outlined some of the projects that are creating real industry jobs including:

- Tropical Rock Lobster industry in Northern Australia through Ornatas
- Investments in native bush foods – particularly Kakadu Plum
- Forestry project on Tiwi Island

and projects that are moving from field trials to commercial contracts

- Project partner AgriVentis secured a commercial contract to supply kalonji (nigella) seeds to Melbourne-based seed processing company Hab Shifa – with the view of replacing their import contracts.
- The team at the Darwin Aquaculture Centre launched the world's first hatchery protocol manual for the Blacklip Rock Oyster – which was formally added to the Australian fish name database in February 2022.
- In the health area we have focused on health service delivery and early detection

She noted that a more detailed overview of these projects and others are available in the Annual Report now downloadable from our website crcna.com.au.

Looking forward, the Chair acknowledged that the CRCNA has reached its halfway mark in its funding contract with the Australian Government. With all Grant funds now committed and as more projects come to an end CRCNA's focus will be firmly on ensuring that this work is translated and used by industry and the community.

She also noted that over the next 18 – 24 months the CRCNA will undertake a comprehensive evaluation of our projects past and present, to better understand their impact and identify the future opportunities.

The Chair noted recent changes to the Board and thanked the Directors and management for their commitment to achieving so much this year and their ongoing professionalism. She made special mention of John Bearne who has served on the Board of Directors and as Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee for 5 years but is choosing to step and down and pursue other endeavors.

She concluded commenting that she looks forward to the opportunity to contribute to the refresh of the Northern Australian agenda – a commitment recently announced at the Ministerial Forum in Darwin last week. The CRCNA is strongly positioned to continue to inform and influence this agenda.

4.2 CEO's report

The CEO's report was circulated with the AGM meeting papers and taken as read.

The CEO thanked the Chair and Board for their support and recognised the commitment of the staff over the past 12 months.

4.3 Appointment of auditor

John Bearne advised that Crowe Audit Australia were the auditors for the 2021/22 year and that the Board recommended to the Members their reappointment.

Resolution 3:

The members resolved to appoint Crowe Audit Australia (ABN 13 969 921 386)

as auditors of the CRC for Developing Northern Australia for the financial year 2022/23.

Moved: Brendon Douglas	Seconded: John Wharton	Carried
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Resolution 4

That the quoted Crowe Audit Australia fee for the completion of the audit 2022/2023 being \$18,500 ex GST be accepted.

Moved: John Bearne	Seconded: Peter Long	Carried
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6. Appointment of Directors

John Wharton, CRCNA Deputy Chair and Chair of the Selection Committee spoke to the members describing the constitutional term of appointment of Directors and the two vacancies created by the end of the current appointment term at this AGM for John Bearne and Sheriden Morris.

He also outlined the Director selection process and the role of the Selection Committee.

He noted that the selection committee have identified two Approved Nominated Candidates namely, Scott Davis and Sheriden Morris.

He clarified that the CRCNA constitution states that where the number of Approved Nominated Candidates is no more than the number of vacancies, the Approved Nominated Candidates will be taken as elected unopposed as Director(s) therefore there is no formal requirement for a vote from the members He therefore declared the appointment of Directors Scott Davis and Sheriden Morris.

He concluded by congratulating Sheriden on her reappointment and welcoming Scott to the Board.

8 Other Business

The Chair made a presentation to John Bearne on behalf of the Board and Staff and thanked him for his 5 years of service.

9 Close

The Chair thanked all members, guests and staff for their attendance and closed the meeting at 11.13 am.