Does your business need help to GET GOING *or* GROW?

FITZROY VALLEY ABORIGINAL BUSINESS PROGRAM

Overview

The natural disaster caused by tropical cyclone Ellie in early 2023 had a severe impact in the Fitzroy River Catchment and Kimberley region. To residents. To property. To businesses. The bridge has been rebuilt but economic recovery from the floods takes time.

The State & Federal governments recognised this and have agreed to support local businesses to participate in the recovery effort and to create new opportunities.

This presents an exciting opportunity for Aboriginal businesses that are looking for a boost. It is also available to support sound new business ideas.

Indigenous business support agency Morrgul has been engaged to deliver the program to eligible clients.

Morrgul

FAQs

WHERE AND WHEN IS THE PROGRAM RUNNING?

The program is for eligible businesses and individuals located in the Shire of Derby-West Kimberley. The program can also support individuals and businesses located outside of the Shire of Derby-West Kimberley who have a demonstrated record of supplying goods or services within the Shire of Derby-West Kimberley.

The program runs from October 2024 to 30 June 2025.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

You must be either

- An individual or entity looking to start a small business, or a small business or sole trader with an active ABN looking to expand their capability or capacity
- The business must be registered or eligible to be registered as an Aboriginal business.
- The business must also be able to demonstrate that its objectives are aligned with at least one of the five focus areas of the flood recovery plan.

  These domains are:

  – People & community

  – Infrastructure & built environment

  – Economic

  – Environment & heritage

  – Country & culture

WHO IS NOT ELIGIBLE?

- Service businesses who are part of a national chain, superannuation funds and personal investment vehicles
- Businesses whose operations are not considered to be aligned with or supporting the recovery needs outlined in the Kimberely Floods State Recovery and Resilience Plan 2023-2024
- Businesses within the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley, Shire of Halls Creek and Shire of Broome that cannot demonstrate a previous history of providing goods and services into the Shire of Derby-West Kimberley or if establishing a new business, compelling evidence of future work in supplying services to the Shire.

WHAT TYPE OF HELP IS AVAILABLE?

- Business planning and preparation
- Evaluation of ideas, viability assessment and capacity assessment to help get a business started or re-energise an existing one
- Business development and growth initiatives
- Business support and compliance. Better systems including bookkeeping, OH&S and pricing models
- Possible delivery of training
- Assistance with grant applications
- Mentoring and support

IS THERE ANY GRANT MONEY POSSIBLE?

There are two grant programs available through Government. A ‘small’ grant for services and training (for less than $25,000) and a ‘large’ grant for equipment and assets, with grants up to $100,000. There are restrictions on what is eligible. It is envisaged that they will be very sought after and will require a strong application to be successful. Morrgul is available to assist with grant applications.

ARE THERE THINGS THAT GRANT MONEY WON’T SUPPORT?

- Salaries, wages, allowances and oncosts
- Purchase of land and/or buildings
- Upgrades to leased or rented property
- Costs associated with ordinary asset maintenance or renewal
- Purchase of motor vehicles, caravans, motor homes
- And a range of other ineligible costs listed in the grant guidelines

WHAT DO I NEED TO COMMIT TO?

You must be ready to commit your time to work with Morrgul. It is to be a collaborative process. You must be ready to share your business planning aspirations and your current financial position.

If you are not currently a registered Aboriginal business you must be willing to achieve recognition on the websites of Supply Nation, ABDWA or ORIC.

WHO/WHAT IS MORRGUL?

Morrgul is an Indigenous business consultancy with a proven history of helping Aboriginal people establish and build successful businesses. It does not charge for these services. For this project it will receive funding from the Federal and State governments. Morrgul is based in Broome but will provide services across the Kimberley region, with a strong focus on outcomes for the Shire of Derby-West Kimberley.

HOW DO I LEARN MORE?

Contact **info@morrgul.com.au** or call **08 9193 5570**

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Australian Government

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Department of **Primary Industries and Regional Development**

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