

Waka Nurrkanhayngu - Regenerating the Existence of Life Working Together Two-way

Petra T. Buergelt¹, L awurrpa Elaine Maypilama^{1,2,3}, Yungirr a Dorothy Bukulatjipi³, Rosemary Gundjarranbuy³, James Bayon³, James Gunitjawuy Gondurra³, Evelyn Djotja³, Douglas Paton^{1,2}, Stephen Sutton^{2,3}, Alice McCarthy³, James Smith⁴, Rowan Bedggood⁵ & Duncan Poulson⁶

1. University of Canberra, Canberra, Australia
2. Charles Darwin University, Darwin, Australia
3. YALU Aboriginal Corporation, Galiwin'ku, Australia
4. Flinders University, Darwin, Australia
5. Swinburne University, Melbourne, Australia
6. Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), Darwin, Australia

The multiple crises we are experience are both a threat to our existence and an opportunity to regenerate and even transform our existence. Restoring the health of all creatures including humans and our planet requires us transforming in ways that enable us to live again in harmony with nature. Being able to do so necessitates walking two intertwined transformative pathways. The first pathway entails becoming conscious of the multitude of ways in which the Western culture and society have and still are disconnecting us from us having deep relations with and understanding of our interconnectedness with nature, the invisible feminine spiritual world, our ancestors, and the ancient Indigenous LAW that creates a culture and society that ensures the health of all creatures. The second pathway involves remembering, reconnecting with, reviving and living according to our true primordial sacred nature, the invisible spiritual world, our ancestors, and ancient Indigenous LAW. We – Yol u from diverse Clans living in the very remote community Galiwin'ku in Arnhem Land (NT) and Western allies from different organisations and countries – are walking both pathways together long-term two-way to facilitate Yol u reviving and strengthening living their Yol u Rom or LAW to heal and to regenerate Indigenous capacities that enable harmonious living and health holistically. This regenerating will also reduce the risk of 'natural' and social disasters. We are offering the holistic knowledges we co-created thus far in this AIATSIS funded project. We will share about how we are working together two-way, what strengthens and what weakens Yol u, and pathways for Yol u reviving and strengthening what strengths Yol u and removing what weakens Yol u. We hope that us sharing will increase recognition of the sophistication and value of Indigenous cultures, and inspire other Indigenous and Western peoples to walk with us two-way and long-term to regenerate the existence of life.

