

# Learn to manage violence

■ Nicola Kalmar

A community training workshop aiming to promoting peaceful ways to deal with violence will be held in Broome next month.

The workshop is being run by the Alternatives to Violence Project, a training program enabling participants to deal with potentially violent situations using interactive exercises, discussions, games and role-plays.

This includes managing strong

feelings like anger and fear, dealing more effectively with risk and threatening situations, building good relationships with other people and communicating constructively in difficult situations.

The workshop costs \$100 for those in full-time employment or \$50 for the unemployed.

It will be held from 8am-4.30pm on Monday, November 14 and Tuesday, November 15. The venue will be announced closer to the date.

To register, call 9299 6788.



Fears are growing that access to a large swathe of land surrounding Broome's iconic Cable Beach could be lost. Picture: Niall McIlroy

# Beach access fears unfounded: Yawuru

■ Glenn Cordingley

The traditional owners of Broome have dismissed concerns access to Cable Beach could be restricted under a land protection order being sought by their organisation.

The Yawuru have applied to the Commonwealth to protect an area known as Billingurru, which encompasses sand dunes north of the rocks to the low water mark "in response to a history of continual encroachment on the area".

The Federal Government published an invitation to make representations in the *Broome Advertiser* on October 13.

The public notice included a boundary showing the proposed zone and named lot and property numbers in the "specified area" where protection was sought.

The Commonwealth will ultimately decide whether to preserve and protect the area from "injury or desecration".

A number of community figures raised concerns the move could lead to a potential exclusion zone, but the Yawuru have insisted access to Cable Beach would not be limited.

Nyamba Buru Yawuru chairwoman Debra Pigram said Billingurru was a sensitive salt-water ecosystem that encom-

passed delicate sand dunes and cultural sites important to Yawuru people.

"All potential development within the Shire of Broome needs to undertake the rigorous State planning and approval processes that apply to all landholders, no matter who they are," she said. "The same applies to this area of land and any concerns that this application will impact access to Cable Beach are unfounded."

Ms Pigram said the notice of application was a Commonwealth Government process "that we respect and abide by" and that she hoped the community was not swayed by "mischievous speculation".

Public submissions to Leo Anthropological Services have been invited until November 2 on behalf of the Federal Government.

Vehicles are allowed to access Cable Beach from a ramp and head north to enjoy what has become a favourite pastime. The Billingurru has been identified by the Yawuru as a site connected to secret/sacred rituals and a law ground known as Hidden Valley, described as a "very powerful place of great significance".

Long-time Broome resident and Chinatown pearl retailer

David Galwey said community angst was caused by statements made in the Yawuru claim.

"Perhaps the Yawuru could have consulted and alleviated any public misconception prior to lodging this claim without any notice to ensure that there was no room for misunderstanding or speculation as to the intent," he said.

Shire president Ron Johnston said the end result mirrored a "mutually respectful" and "good working relationship" between the NBY and the council.

"While it is acknowledged there is a heritage site in Hidden Valley, the alacrity with which NBY confirmed vehicles would not be impeded on Cable Beach is an example of this working relationship for which I am grateful," he said.

Broome Chamber of Commerce and Industry president Peter Taylor said he was pleased the Yawuru had responded quickly to allay community concerns about beach access.

"This is obviously a sensitive issue ... hopefully the matter will be resolved as a win-win for everyone," he said.

Shire director of development services Aletta Nugent said her officers were working on the submission in relation to the application for full council to consider.

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Warren is a **community leader** with a strong sense about the future and opportunities for the Kimberley. He has lived and worked across the electorate and passionately believes the Kimberley deserves better. Warren has a strong affinity for **community development and creating employment** and training opportunities.

**"I will be door knocking in Derby on Saturday 29th October"**

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