

Jabalbina misses out on funding for project

Dominic Geiger

A FAR Northern indigenous business plan aimed at creating 13 jobs is facing uncertainty after it was denied federal funding.

Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation had applied for a grant under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy to support a "tourism and land management enterprise development between Port Douglas and Cooktown".

Key to the proposal was money for a manager to help the corporation better navigate the complexities of indigenous land use.

But the group recently received a letter saying funding wouldn't be approved.

Jabalbina chief executive and former Labor MP for Leichhardt Jim Turnour said employees were "struggling to understand" what more they needed to do to get government support.

"We applied in January and after three-and-a-half months waiting we get a bland letter that doesn't provide any reasoning as to why our application was rejected," he said.

"The government seems to



Jim Turnour of Jabalbina

be saying that tourism and land management businesses run by Aboriginal people between Port Douglas and Cooktown aren't going to be commercially viable, it's just ludicrous."

In the letter from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, the corporation

was told applications were assessed on a variety of criteria, including "value for money for the Government's investment".

But Mr Turnour argued the corporation's own projections showed the proposal would "become profitable" after three years with the help of an enterprise manager.

"We have to negotiate development with traditional owners, deal with local, state and federal regulatory planning issues, secure finance and build the capacity of an Aboriginal workforce if the businesses are to be successful," he said.

"These additional barriers make support during the establishment phase critical to success.

"Jabalbina was seeking funding for an Enterprise Manager for three years to address these barriers and to set up and run these businesses.

"Financial projections for the businesses indicated they would create up to 13 new jobs."

Mr Turnour has requested a phone call with a department representative to better explain why the group was unsuccessful in its application.

Training Provider of the Week



Enhanced Beauty & Massage offers a fresh and fun approach to education and beauty, right here in Mossman. Within our boutique salon, we offer accredited certificates and short courses, as well as a professional beauty salon. Opening from July 4th, clients will be treated to a range of services from waxing, manicure & pedicures, massage, tanning and more and can be performed by our highly qualified beauty technician Joanne.

Monday's & Tuesday's are training days in which our talented beauty students are in training. There will be an opportunity on these two days to have treatments performed by the students at a discounted rate,

allowing the students to hone their skills under the watchful eye of our trainers. All courses are run by Far North Training & Consultancy, nationally accredited training organisation RTO# 32474. All classes are small and personalised and coordinated by Joanne, a local trainer who has worked in the industry for over 20 years.

Enrolments are now open for Certificate III in Beauty Services. Contact our team at Enhanced Beauty & Massage to learn more, and to see if you're eligible for government assisted training.

For more information on treatments and services go to www.enhancedbeauty.com.au or phone 07 4098 1005.



JOIN ECOBIZ DURING ECOWEEK



CCIQ ecoBiz is a fully-subsidised program that helps businesses like yours, save thousands of dollars across energy, water and waste bills. Through ecoBiz, businesses put sustainable ideas into practice. As an ecoBiz, you can access a number of free tools and events - including one-to-one coaching, a site survey, tools to benchmark, workshops and webinars.

WHY JOIN?

- 1. Save money with ecoBiz**
You will cut the cost of energy, water and waste to your business and understand how to provide your product and service more efficiently.
- 2. Improve your brand**
You'll enhance your public image which may help your competitive advantage.
- 3. Minimise your environmental footprint**
ecoBiz will help you reduce the amount of energy and water you consume, waste you produce and reducing greenhouse gas and carbon emissions.
- 4. Reduce ERA fees**
If you're an ecoBiz Champion you could be eligible to save 10% off your ERA fees.

REGISTER NOW

WED 1 JUN, 5:30PM-7:30PM (FREE)

Whileaway Bookshop and Café
43 Macrossan Street, Port Douglas

EVALUATE MONEY-SAVING OPPORTUNITIES AND TAKE ACTION

This workshop will help you understand the opportunities for savings in your business. You will learn how to evaluate these opportunities and develop a business case to turn ideas into actions.

REGISTER HERE

1300 731 988 ecobiz@cciq.com.au www.cciqecobiz.com.au

ANNUALLY THROUGH ECOBIZ, OUR QLD HOLIDAY HOME SAVES

- \$700+** ON ENERGY COSTS
- 107%** ELECTRICITY REDUCTION
- 35%** WATER REDUCTION
- 1 tonne** CO₂ REDUCTION



Enhanced Beauty & Massage

Beauty Salon & College

MOSSMAN



OPENING JULY 4th
Taking Enrolments NOW

11 Johnston Rd, Mossman (inside Far North Training centre)

ph: 07 4098 1005

www.enhancedbeauty.com.au