



The NLC appoints interim CEO

15 March 2024

The Northern Land Council (NLC) has appointed Mrs Jessie Schaecken to the role of interim CEO, effective immediately.

The NLC is pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs Jessie Schaecken as its Interim Chief Executive Officer.

Mrs Schaecken brings a diverse wealth of experience in local government and governance to the role, along with a strong commitment to the NLC's values of respect, consultation, responsiveness, and social justice.

The former acting CEO of West Arnhem Regional Council expressed her enthusiasm for joining the NLC and dedication to advancing its mission. A mother of four, residing in Noonamah, Mrs Schaecken has also worked at the City of Palmerston, Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation, and held leadership positions in the superannuation sector.

As the NLC embarks on this new chapter, Mrs Schaecken will support the strategic direction of the organisation and oversee its operations to ensure goals are met for the betterment of Aboriginal people across the Top End.

She looks forward to collaborating with constituents of the NLC's seven regions, staff and other stakeholders, to foster growth and empower Aboriginal people to acquire and manage their lands at this important time in history. Her priority is to ensure social, economic and cultural benefits flow to Aboriginal people.

Mrs Schaecken succeeds Mr Joe Martin-Jard, and expressed her gratitude for his service during his two-and-a-half-year tenure.

A recruitment process for a new permanent NLC CEO will be announced in the near future.

Quotes attributable to Matthew Ryan, Chair of the NLC

- The NLC's Executive Council has appointed Mrs Schaecken as the NLC's interim CEO.
- With her proven track record of leading local organisations, Mrs Schaecken is well-positioned to support the NLC into this next chapter.

- It has been a busy week of meetings between our Full Council, Executive Council and guests, with key issues raised and priorities laid out. We are hitting the ground running, and with the support of Mrs Schaecken, our Council is getting to work for the betterment of our people across the Top End.

Quotes attributable to Jessie Schaecken, Interim CEO of the NLC

- I am honoured to accept this appointment and embrace the opportunity to serve the Council with dedication and integrity.
- I am committed to working collaboratively with our Council, constituents, staff, and other stakeholders, as we move forward and as the NLC continues to advocate for Aboriginal people across the NLC's seven regions.