

# Adnyamathanha Traditional Lands Association (Aboriginal Corporation) RNTBC

ICN 3743 ABN 14 146 238 567 (under special administration)

## NEWSLETTER 2 :: June 2021

### DEAR MEMBERS, TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND OTHER INTERESTED PEOPLE,

My name is Peter McQuoid and on 17 April 2021 the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations, Selwyn Button, appointed me special administrator for Adnyamathanha Traditional Lands Association (Aboriginal Corporation) RNTBC (ATLA) until Wednesday 30 June 2021. The special administration has since been extended to 31 December 2021.

While I am in this role, I'll send regular newsletters to let you know what I'm doing to help get your corporation ready to hand back to member control.

### EXTENSION TO THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATION

The Registrar has decided to extend the special administration of ATLA to 31 December 2021. This will allow sufficient time to make significant changes for the benefit of the Adnyamathanha native title holders. Those changes include:

- defining a clear strategy to secure ATLA's future
- consulting with Adnyamathanha people through member and information meetings
- establishing a culturally appropriate heritage and native title committee with community consultation
- promoting ATLA's interests with commercial partners operating on Adnyamathanha country
- building a full and correct members register, and
- working with the directors of Rangelea to provide transparency on how mining royalties are being used for the benefit of Adnyamathanha people.

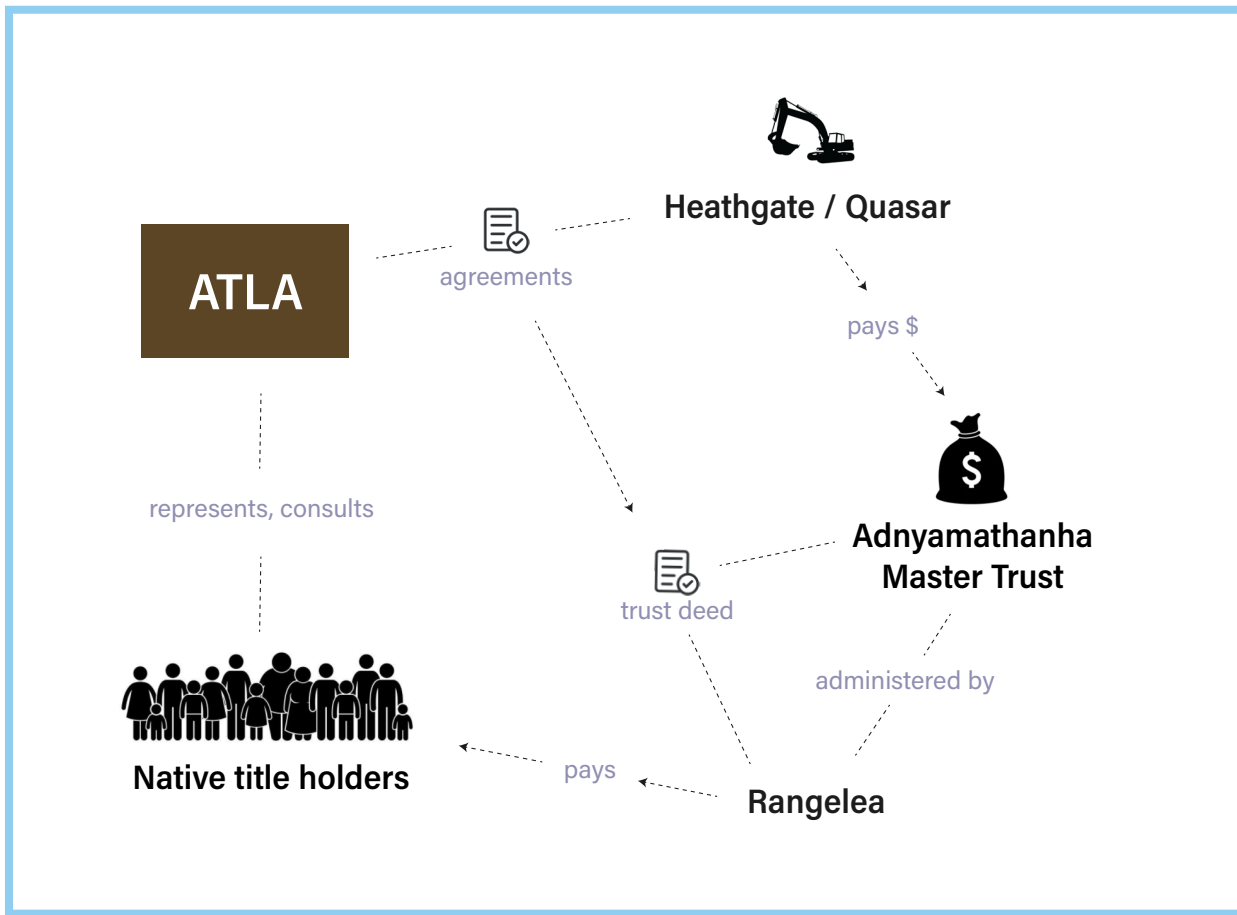
### WHY HAVE PAYMENTS BEEN SUSPENDED?

To explain the suspension, we need to first explain how mining royalties pass to Adnyamathanha people.

ATLA is the registered native title body corporate for the Adnyamathanha native title holders, and acts as their agent to manage the native title rights and interests of Adnyamathanha people.

Heathgate Resources Pty Ltd (Heathgate) and its affiliate Quasar Resources Pty Ltd (Quasar) each have native title mining agreements with ATLA. Under those agreements, Heathgate and Quasar make payments to Rangelea Holdings Pty Ltd (Rangelea). Rangelea is the trustee of the Adnyamathanha Master Trust. That means Rangelea is to distribute or use the funds from Heathgate and Quasar for the benefit of the Adnyamathanha native title holders, according to the rules set out in the Adnyamathanha Master Trust deed.

## How mining payments should pass to Adnyamathanha native title holders



The main reason ATLA is under special administration is that Rangelea has not been transparent about payments that have been made to Rangelea for Adnyamathanha native title holders under the agreements with Heathgate and Quasar. The special administrator is representing the interests of ATLA members who are Adnyamathanha native title holders by asking Rangelea provide information about how Rangelea has been using and distributing these funds.

ORIC understands that the payment from Heathgate to the Adnyamathanha Master Trust is \$260,000 per month and that during the first 3 months of 2021, \$780,000 was paid. In 2020, \$4 million was paid into the Adnyamathanha Master Trust.

The special administrator recently suspended payments to Rangelea by Heathgate and Quasar from May 2021—see the ORIC [media release](#). **The suspension has no effect on the \$4.78 million paid to the Adnyamathanha Master Trust in 2020 and 2021.**

Rangelea handles the distribution of funds from the Adnyamathanha Master Trust to Adnyamathanha native title holders. ATLA does not.

Not all Adnyamathanha native title holders know how the payments made by Heathgate and Quasar have been allocated or used by Rangelea. Rangelea has not released that financial information to them. Nor has Rangelea provided any helpful information to ORIC. Adnyamathanha native title holders and ORIC are also in the dark about how much has been paid to directors and employees of Rangelea from the funds held by the Adnyamathanha Master Trust.

Only the directors of Rangelea know what they have done or are doing with the money, and they have not been open about it.

Rangelea should provide information to all of the Adnyamathanha native title holders about how funds in the Adnyamathanha Master Trust are used and distributed. If Rangelea takes legal

action to resist releasing this information, large sums of Adnyamathanha money may be paid to expensive lawyers instead of Adnyamathanha native title holders.

If you are concerned about your share of payments from the Adnyamathanha Master Trust prior to my appointment in April 2021, please write to me at PO Box 18 Maleny QLD 4552.

If you are concerned about current and future payments from the Adnyamathanha Master Trust, I suggest you get in touch with Rangelea.

## Call for advisory group nominations ...your pathway to an ATLA board position

While we work with the existing advisory group, we would like to hear from additional people who feel they have skills to contribute to the commercial oversight of ATLA.

The advisory group works with the special administrator to make sound decisions for the welfare and governance of the corporation. Advisory group members will be considered for a position on the future ATLA board. This is a significant and important role in a registered native title body corporate.

To considered for a position, you must:

- be an Adnyamathanha native title holder
- be a member of ATLA
- be committed to fair and transparent consultation with native title holders
- wish to represent and work for all Adnyamathanha native title holders
- be committed to working towards a better future for all Adnyamathanha people
- have the business and strategic skills required to guide and strengthen the corporation.

If you would like to nominate to be considered, please fill out and return the attached **advisory group nomination form**. I will accept nominations well into the special administration but encourage you to express interest as soon as possible. Keith Mackay from PDM Consultancy will help me select people with the best range of skills.

## More about special administrations

See ORIC's fact sheet **Special administrations: what members and directors need to know**, and other fact sheets on corporate governance at [oric.gov.au](http://oric.gov.au).

You can find out more about special administrations by visiting **[oric.gov.au](http://oric.gov.au)** or by calling the Registrar's office on **1800 622 431**.

Many thanks,  
Peter & Keith



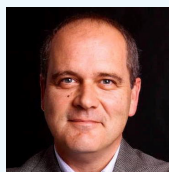
### SPECIAL ADMINISTRATOR

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# Adnyamathanha Traditional Lands Association (Aboriginal Corporation) RNTBC

ICN 3743 ABN 14 146 238 567 (special administrator appointed)

## NOMINATION TO BE IN THE ADVISORY GROUP

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
(insert name)

nominate myself for the special administrator's advisory group.

### My relevant background and experience

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### My contact details

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return your form to Keith Mackay by email to [k.mackay@pdmc.net.au](mailto:k.mackay@pdmc.net.au)

For more information, call Keith Mackay on 07 3289 6071