

Bush Tukka Fusion Proposal to Corrections Department Industries and Employment

Background:

What is Bush Tukka Fusion?

It is a franchise model that will provide the hard assets, training and product that delivers a Bush Tukka food business to Indigenous franchisees.

What are the issues?

- There is a clear relationship between the lack of opportunity in communities to the high level of suicide.
- Many educated children in communities have little or no employment or commercial opportunity and have to either leave country or slip into the financial dependency model.
- Within our prison system there is but few initiatives that can lead to employment around culture and probably non that will lead to business ownership
- In many communities the food on offer is detrimental to Indigenous children's health.
- There are literally no initiatives for Indigenous people to engage with the culture of their food in a commercial model, whilst allowing them to tell the story of their people and the food.

What are we trying to achieve?

- Provide an economic opportunity for Indigenous people through a commercial model that engages with the culture of their bush foods and can be duplicated around Australia.
- Demonstrate to young Indigenous students that commerce is a pathway in university they may consider
- Provide a clear pathway for students, people incarcerated and remote communities into a model that will provide employment and a business opportunity.
- As part of addressing the suicide rates and economic empowerment of Indigenous people Bush Tukka Fusion will create the opportunity
- Bush Tukka Fusion through VET courses will allow Indigenous children to dream once again and explore the possibilities beyond being a Bush Tukka Fusion operator to the many roles in commerce around the supply chain and allied business services.

Who are we?

Auntie Carol Pettersen, a Noongar Elder, along with Keith Gregory are the founders of the Children's Global Hygiene Foundation and the driving forces behind the Bush Tukka Fusion initiative with a vision to have a franchise model, Indigenous owned and operated, in cities and country towns across Australia.

Bush Tukka Fusion

We are a social enterprise that is part of a larger not for profit organisation called the Children's Global Hygiene Foundation (Aus) Ltd. We provide opportunities for indigenous people to own and run a small business and to demonstrate to others the power business has to create self-determination.

A minimum of 50% of the profits from the manufacture of Bush Tukka Fusion ovens go to support the Foundations GrimeStoppers education and hygiene programs in remote communities and a scholarship program for Indigenous children to study commerce at University.

The Proposal

We wish to investigate the opportunity of Indigenous prisoners undertaking the construction of our Bush Tukka Fusion trailer units.

This will include:-

Construction of a 10 x 6 trailer

Making the ovens which entails pouring fire rated concrete into a mould.

The fabrication of various metal doors, hinges, metal trays and guide rails for the ovens.

Fabrication of stainless steel bench tops

Adding and securing pizza prep fridge, solar units, and the running of 12 volt electrical system.

Providing Indigenous artwork on the ovens.

Further Proposal

Bush Tukka Fusion is keen to run VET courses in both the women's and men's sections of the prison.

The course will include a small business course and training on the Bush Tukka Fusion ovens. We understand that a certificate in food handling can be undertaken within the prison.

Discussions have already commenced with Batchelor Institute who are happy to run the small business course.

Outcomes

We see that entering into a Memorandum of Understanding on the above in relation to the manufacture of our trailer units is the beginning of the Indigenous storyline behind Bush Tukka Fusion.

To have the ovens built by Indigenous men that will ultimately be used by only Indigenous people is in itself story about self determination.

We believe that it will bring about a sense of pride and satisfaction to the prisoners in knowing that they are part of an initiative to bring about change for their people.

In a sense they are working for their people not for non-Indigenous people.

Training of women and men on the ovens will also give them pathways to employment and possible business ownership.

It will also once again give them pride when they return to their community to find an oven they helped to make and that they can show the rest of their people and the local school how to cook nutritious foods.

They may well become ambassadors and facilitators for change in their community with a renewed sense of purpose.

The Future

Should the relationship flourish we will continue to manufacture within the prison for both the NT and for other states and territory's around Australia.

The trailer units will be marketed as built by Indigenous people.

Going Forward

Should the proposal be acceptable to the prisons department, and following entering into a Memorandum of Understanding, detailed drawings will be supplied and production costs ascertained.

Should elements of production not be financially viable then some aspects may be sourced elsewhere.

