

Banjima Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (BNTAC), on behalf of the Banjima People, make the following media statement:

We acknowledge and are deeply saddened by the unexpected passing of our Elders Council Chairman Mr G Parker in Onslow on Monday 8 June 2020.

We ask that all media take into account the profound sadness and loss being experienced by his immediate family, the Banjima People, the Pilbara community in general, also the Western Desert Martu People and the people of the Kimberley region. We are all saddened at the loss of one of our Elders.

As a matter of lore and culture shared with other traditional owners across Australia and the world, the Banjima people do not support the destruction of sites of cultural significance.

We stand with all Aboriginal traditional owners and particularly our Pilbara brothers and sisters, the Puutu Kunti Kurrama and Pinikura at this time, in our abhorrence at the destruction of the Juukan rock shelters, and those suffering the threat of or having recently experienced similar site destruction.

BNTAC has only just received notice of the Western Australian Minister for Aboriginal Affairs decision on the approval of Section 18 in South Flank. BNTAC will need to consider the detail of the Ministers decision before making any further comment.

Maitland Parker,

Chairman, Banjima Native Title Aboriginal Corporation.

Ends

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About BNTAC

Incorporated in 2013 and with offices in Perth and Tom Price, Banjima Native Title Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (BNTAC) is the Registered Native Title Body Corporate for the Banjima People.