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PRESS RELEASE

Young Council Employee Chosen for First Circles Program

A 25 year old council worker from Yuelamu has been selected for the Department of Chief Minister's First Circles Leadership Program to commence later this month.

Reanna Campbell was born and bred in Alice Springs and raised on her family's outstation of Mt Peachy, 95km south east of Alice Springs. Educated at Anzac High School, Reanna then commenced with the Department of Parks and Wildlife in and around her grandfather's country of Rainbow Valley. She went on to do further training through Batchelor Institute in Land Management, on the job training in the Simpson Desert as a ranger, Centrelink training, Cert I and II in Business and has worked as an aboriginal interpreter for her community.

Reanna currently holds the position of administration officer in the Yuelamu Council Office, where her colleagues provided strong references and the encouragement required to facilitate her successful application.

Andrew Ross, the programs' manager commented that Reanna "was chosen because she demonstrated a sound work ethic, commitment to family and community and a willingness to develop her knowledge in order to contribute more to her community".

The First Circles Leadership Program supports emerging Aboriginal leaders from across remote communities and on this occasion, has 16 members chosen from 33 applicants ranging in age from 20 to 50. There are seven women in the group and nine men.

Council's CEO, Diane Hood commented that "Reanna's accolade is well deserved and she is in good company with five previous Central Desert residents being part of the program, including our current President, Cr Adrian Dixon. Reanna is a strong worker and an important member of the Council team who always provides excellent customer service to her community. I hope Reanna continues to work for Central Desert Regional Council, and even considers becoming a Councillor herself in the future!"

Reanna likes to go hunting, cook, fix cars and spend time with her very large family.

She will attend a number of Darwin based workshops over the coming 12 months and hopes to make an impact on the community by being in the program. Reanna confesses to being very excited as it's a whole new experience for her.

Further information can be obtained by calling the Governance Manager on 08 8958 9522 or by emailing governance@centraldesert.nt.gov.au.