

# Notre Dame Nulungu Talking Heads Seminar Series



*A New Partnership*, William Roe, 1994

## Yawuru's Mabu Liyan Development Approach

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Venue: UNDA Multipurpose Hall

12:30pm – 1:30pm (Lunch provided from 12:00pm)

Ms. Ninielia (Nini) Mills

### Abstract

Yawuru are the native title holders for the Broome region. Yawuru and other Aboriginal people in the West Kimberley talk about the concept of *liyan* to describe a holistic sense of wellbeing incorporating emotional and spiritual feelings of connectedness that individuals have with their families, community, culture and country. *Mabu* (good) *Liyan* is at the heart of Yawuru's cultural and social existence. It is a cultural principle that has been maintained since *Bugarrigarra*, the beginning of time.

### Biography

Ninielia (Nini) Mills is a Yawuru woman from Broome who is strongly connected to her country. Her career has focused on advocating for and supporting the rights and interests of Aboriginal people. Nini has over 10 years' experience in Community Development in local Aboriginal organisations and the government sector. Nini is now Manager of the Community Development Unit at Nyamba Buru Yawuru Ltd (NBY), the business and development arm of the Yawuru PBC, representing the Native Title Holders for Broome and the surrounding area. Nini works with and for Yawuru people by driving the Community Development agenda, holistically linking program areas including Cultural and Language revitalisation, Housing, Early Childhood and Youth Development, Education, Employment, Training and Community Capacity Building. Yawuru's development agenda is underpinned by Cultural values centred on the philosophy of Mabu Liyan (good feeling). Passionate about empowering Yawuru people, Nini aims to create opportunities for future generations of Yawuru and other Aboriginal people.



If you would like to hear Nini's presentation from the 2018 Native Title Conference click on the following link:

<https://vimeo.com/278422573>