

WAMS audience with National Leader of the Opposition - 2007

On Friday 21st September 2007, WAMS were given an audience with Kevin Rudd (Leader of the Opposition) at Walgett Airport.

WAMS Officers who attended were Jessie Richardson (Clinic Manager), Christine Corby (Chief Executive Officer), Kylie Gilmore (Program Manager) and Richard Simpson (Aboriginal Ear Health Worker).

Kevin Rudd's entourage included his Personal Assistant, PR Representative, Security Officers, TV crew from Channel Nine and Reporters.

WAMS staff heard on the local early morning news that Mr Rudd was going to be in Walgett on this day to discuss issues pertaining to the drought, doctors and the hospital, WAMS CEO was informed of this. Walgett Shire and Walgett Health Service were contacted, and informed WAMS they were not aware of the arrival of Mr Rudd or his presence in Walgett.



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WAMS staff presented to the Walgett Airport and spoke with the pilots who contacted Mr Rudd's PR Representative who agreed to an audience with Mr Rudd prior to his departure from Walgett. Mr Rudd arrived and was introduced to our staff. Photographs were taken of the meeting.

Whilst waiting for the "meet and greet" staff were given the opportunity to view the aircraft, which was a larger version of the Royal Flying Doctor Service planes.

WAMS presented four packages of information regarding the structure of WAMS, a brief from Bila Muuji (regional AMS group) the work we do at WAMS from a health perspective, a copy of the report from WAMS 20 year celebrations and other general information about Walgett community. Mr Rudd was also given a brief outline of WAMS as an organisation by the CEO. WAMS presented Mr Rudd with a carved emu egg as he was celebrating his 50th birthday.

Mr Rudd and his team were very accommodating and easy to speak with. He indicated that he would return to Walgett if elected.

