

Alternative Date for the King's Birthday Public Holiday

Engagement Outcomes



1.1 Background

The City of Karratha sought feedback from our community to understand if the King's Birthday public holiday should remain in August, aligning with FeNaCING festival, or move to September to align with the rest of Western Australia. This decision is made in three-year cycles.

Over the next three years, Western Australia will celebrate the King's Birthday public holiday on

- 29 September 2025,
- 28 September 2026 and
- 27 September 2027.

Under the *Public and Bank Holidays Act 1997*, WA local governments may request the King's Birthday public holiday be celebrated on an alternative date of significance within its district, instead of the date proclaimed for the rest of the State. Since as early as 1996, the City of Karratha has been celebrating the Royal Sovereign's birthday public holiday on the first Monday in August to coincide with the community-run FeNaCING Festival. Community groups also schedule major sporting events over this long weekend.

The feedback below outlines community's sentiments on the proposed public holiday change.

1.2 Survey Promotional Activities

Facebook Posts

Post 1 (Boosted) – Thursday 09 January 2025 at 6pm

Copy:

The City of Karratha is seeking the community's feedback on when to hold the King's Birthday public holiday.

Traditionally, the public holiday has been celebrated on the first Monday in August, aligning with FeNaCING Festival and other local events.

Council will decide whether to retain the public holiday in August or move it to September, to align with the rest of Western Australia, for the next three years. This decision will be made at the Council meeting on Monday, 17 February.

Should the public holiday remain in August, or should it be moved to September?

Your feedback will help guide Council's decision. Complete the poll here:

<https://whatwemakeit.karratha.wa.gov.au/alternative-date...>

Feedback closes 9am Thursday, 23 January

Reach: 7,783

Likes/Reactions: 57

Comments: 88

Shares: 25

Post 2 (Organic) – Tuesday 14 January 2025 at 6pm:

Copy:

For over two decades, the City of Karratha has celebrated the Royal Sovereign's birthday in August aligning with FeNaCING Festival.

Under the Public and Bank Holidays Act 1997, WA local governments may request the King's Birthday public holiday be celebrated on an alternative date of significance within its district, instead of the date proclaimed for the rest of the State. This decision is made in three-year cycles.

Council will decide whether to retain the public holiday in August or move it to September. This decision will be made based on the community's feedback at the Council meeting on Monday, 17 February.

Should the public holiday remain in August, or should it be moved to September?

We want your feedback. To have your say, visit:

<https://whatwemakeit.karratha.wa.gov.au/alternative-date...>

Feedback closes 9am Thursday 23 January.

Reach: 1,659

Likes/Reactions: 1

Comments: 1

Shares: 0

Post 3 (Boosted) – Tuesday 21 January 2025 at 6pm:

Copy:

It's the last chance to have your say on whether the King's Birthday public holiday remains in August or moves to September.

For over 20 years, the City of Karratha has traditionally celebrated the King's Birthday in August, coinciding with FeNaCING Festival and other local events.

Now, Council is deciding whether to keep this tradition or shift the holiday to September, in line with the rest of Western Australia for the next three years. This decision will be made at the Council meeting on Monday 17 February.

Should the public holiday remain in August, or should it be moved to September?

Your feedback will help guide Council's decision. Complete the poll here:

<https://whatwemakeit.karratha.wa.gov.au/alternative-date...>

Feedback closes 9am Thursday 23 January.

Reach: 6,257

Likes/Reactions: 24

Comments: 35

Shares: 7

What We Make It Online Platform Performance Summary:

1,419 Views

1,323 Visits

1,222 Visitors

391 Contributions

391 Contributors

0 Followers

1.3 Survey Consultation

Survey Method	Survey Adoptions
Online Survey	Pre-populated answers were provided for participants to select their responses from, for each question. Participants were also given a free text box to provide reasoning for their selection.

Information Provided and Questions Asked

Over the next three years, Western Australia will celebrate the King's Birthday public holiday on

- 29 September 2025,
- 28 September 2026 and
- 27 September 2027.

Under the *Public and Bank Holidays Act 1997*, WA local governments may request the King's Birthday public holiday be celebrated on an alternative date of significance within its district, instead of the date proclaimed for the rest of the State.

Since as early as 1996, the City of Karratha has been celebrating the Royal Sovereign's birthday public holiday on the first Monday in August to coincide with the community-run FeNaCING Festival. Community groups also schedule major sporting events over this long weekend.

Council will be deciding the King's Birthday public holiday dates for the next three years at its meeting to be held 17 February 2025.

We're asking the community to provide feedback on whether the public holiday should continue to be celebrated on the first Monday in August for the next three years, or if the date should be changed to September to align with the rest of the State.

Have your say:

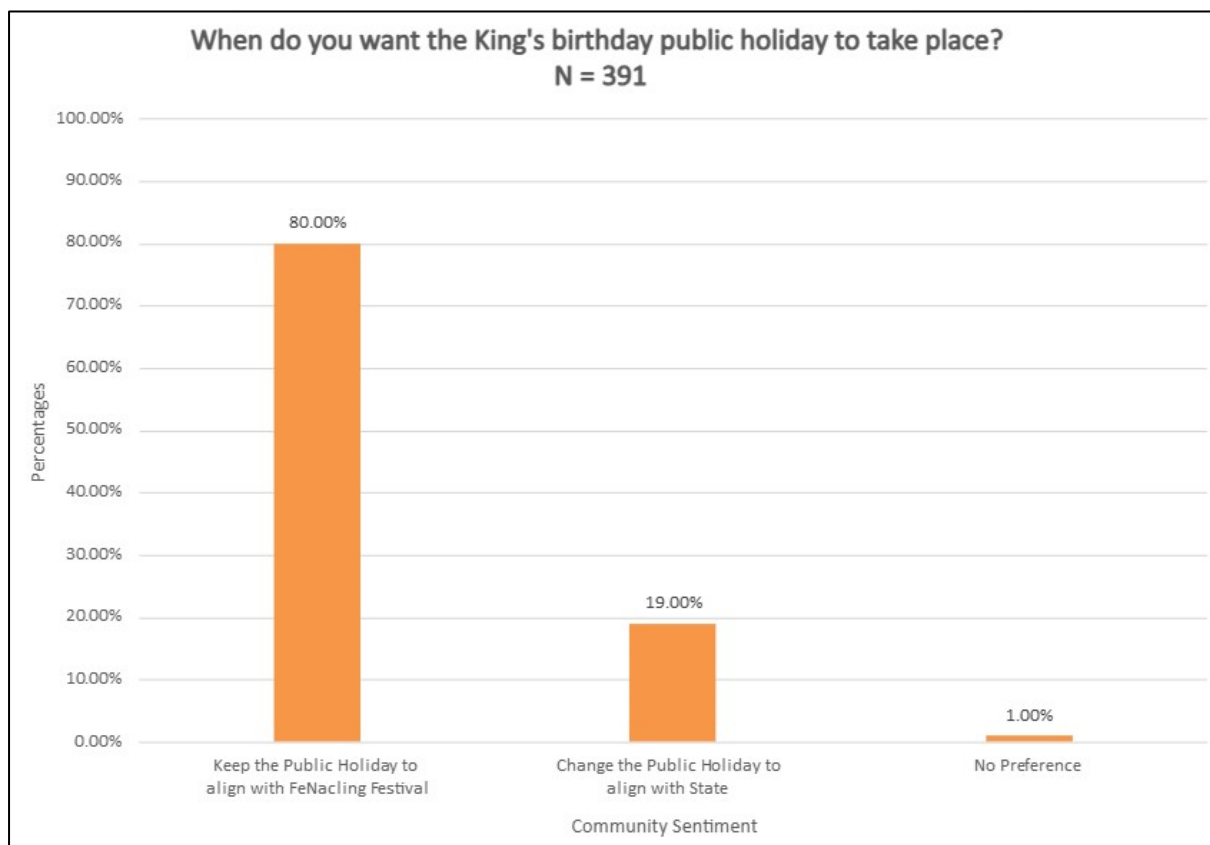
When do you want the King's birthday public holiday to take place? Required.

- A. Keep the public holiday in August to align with FeNacling Festival
- B. Change the public holiday to align with the rest of the State
- C. No preference

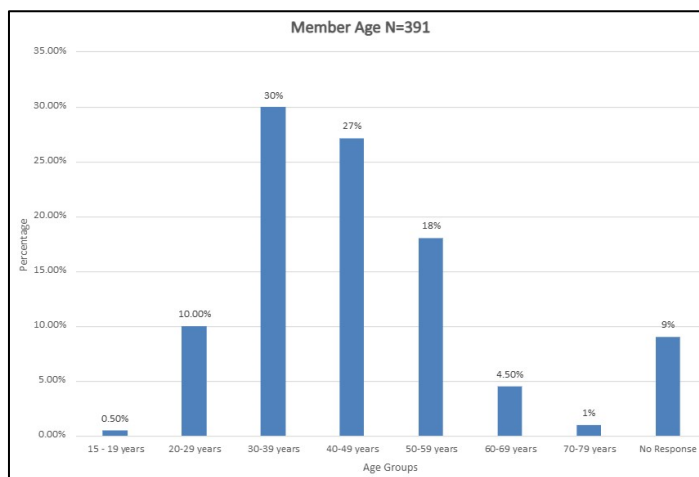
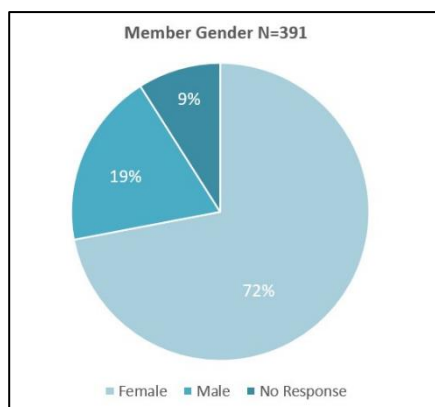
Please explain the reason for your selection. Your response will assist the Council's decision if there is no preference. Required.

1.4 Survey Results

Survey Method and Access	Data Results
Online: Available on What We Make It Platform Survey Open: <i>3:30pm Thursday 09 January 2025.</i> Survey Closed: <i>9am Thursday 23 January 2025.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 391 contributions were made to the survey. • 80% (312) participants voted to keep the public holiday in August to align with FeNaclING Festival • 20% (76) participants chose to change the public holiday to align with the rest of the State • 1% (3) participants had no preference.



Member Demographics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of the 391 member contributions, 72% (280) were female, 19% (75) were male and 9% (36) did not provide a response. 0.5% (2) participants were between ages 15-19, 10% (38) were 20-29 years, 30% (117) between 30-39, 27% (106) between 40-49, 18% (72) between 50 – 59, 4.5% (17) between 60-69 years, 1% (3) within 70 – 79 years and 9% (36) respondents did not state their age.
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Themes that contributed to (312) people voting ‘yes’ to keep the public holiday in August	
<p>A Karratha Tradition</p> <p>81% (253 mentions)</p>	<p><i>“This community has taken that day as a public holiday for many years, it is now traditional. It is a very big weekend for our community, a day to recover before returning to normal jobs, activities etc is a good thing, especially for those locals who are involved in stores and activities.”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community views it as a ‘Pilbara tradition’ Do not see the point in changing a system that is not broken Preference for August weather (closely tied to association of public holiday with our annual festival) Helps bring community together Fosters social connection and unity
<p>Better for children and families</p> <p>22% (69 mentions)</p>	<p><i>“So much fun for the school children and teachers to be able to fully enjoy the weekend and have Monday ‘recovery’ after the fireworks. It’s our favourite weekend of the year in this family.”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gives children time to recover and rest Parents can organise family after busy weekend Teachers recognise it is an important weekend for their students Allows families to spend time together

<p>Stallholders to recover and clean up</p> <p>19% (58 mentions)</p>	<p><i>"Why change something that's not broken? Having the public holiday in august aligning with FeNaCING helps so much with stall holders, volunteers, and over all how fenacle runs (the background work, packing up etc)"</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The public holiday is essential for volunteers to decompress • Makes set up and removal of stalls easier • Beneficial to small businesses
<p>Beneficial to attendance</p> <p>11% (33 mentions)</p>	<p><i>"This makes the most sense to encourage maximum attendance to the festival."</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows stallholders, local businesses and vendors to attend • Families are more inclined to watch the fireworks and attend • Boosts local tourism

Themes that contributed to (72) people voting 'no' to keep the public holiday in August	
<p>If the public holiday were to align with the rest of WA, there would be less confusion</p> <p>79% (57 mentions)</p>	<p><i>"Doing business is already hard enough in WA, without mixing holidays. All of Karratha needs to have the day the same. Different companies take different days, this creates difficulties also. Align it with the rest of WA."</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates issues within businesses as many head offices are in Perth or international • Some local businesses still operate on the FeNaCING weekend public holiday • Many staff members will take both holidays off
<p>The FeNaCING public holiday creates barriers for families to enjoy a public holiday together</p> <p>19% (14 mentions)</p>	<p><i>"Long weekend in Sept is also usually AFL grand final weekend...also easier for family to visit us from Perth on long weekend."</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows for people with family not in Karratha to spend that time with them • Some partners have separate public holidays as their work does not recognize the Karratha public holiday

*The above percentages were calculated based on the number of 'yes' and 'no' responses.

Data Integrity Strengths	Data Integrity Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory site registration prior to survey participation. • IP Address identification available to identify when/if multiple contributions coming from a single contributor. • Those most interested in the issue are likely to be engaged. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation based on self-selection and access to an online device. • Participants must 'go to the survey' relying on promotional activity to raise awareness about availability of the survey. • Inability to quantify the incidence of legitimate email addresses provided by participants. • Inability to set demographic quotas allowing weighting of data for it to be considered representative of our population.

1.5 Facebook Comments and Responses

As many community members did state their opinions on Facebook about whether the King's Birthday public holiday remains in August or moves to September, the following data captures relevant sentiment. This information is not included in the main data set as the people who chose to comment on the posts, were happy to be identified and were comfortable expressing their opinions in a public online forum. Many of those making comments also completed the survey. It also discards the legitimacy of those that did participate in the survey and signed up to do so. The sentiment of community's perspective has, however, asked to be considered.

Post 1 – 89 comments

37.5% (33) of Facebook users clearly stated that they would like to keep the public holiday in August.

"Don't mess with tradition, please leave it as the FeNaCING weekend, it's part of the town's history."

2% (2) of Facebook users clearly stated they would like to change the public holiday to September.

"I manage a business, and we have always taken September as the public holiday. When half the town takes August and the other half plus the rest of the state have September why do we need our own public holiday it is ridiculous."

60.5% (54) comments were not relevant or did not have a clear response.

"Can you please use a simpler voting system- having to join or log in means less people will actually complete this!"

"Can we have both?"

"What's the point of another survey, they don't listen anyway, only look after their business interests."

Post 2 – 1 comment

100% (1) of Facebook users clearly stated they would like to change the public holiday to September.

"Made sense when FeNaCING was a 3-day event, but it hasn't been for a very long time. Change it."

Post 3 – 40 comments

32.5% (13) of Facebook users clearly stated that they would like to keep the public holiday in August.

"Please keep it (City of) Karratha"

5% (2) of Facebook users clearly stated they would like to change the public holiday to September.

"Bring it back to September then everyone has the day off (at the same time) except shift workers of course"

62.5% (25) comments were not relevant or did not have a clear response.

"Have them both."

"What are the people voting at the moment? What is it leaning towards? That answer may get more people to vote if they know how the odds are going?"

"When was he really born?"

1.6 Department of Education

At the time of writing this report, the City was still waiting for an official response from the Department of Education (Pilbara region), however, a short conversation with the local administrator did not identify any obvious barriers to progressing with maintaining the King's Birthday Public Holiday with the FeNaCING Festival weekend in August.

Comments provided by Department of Education staff via the survey:

"Work in education so don't get the public holiday as it falls in school holidays. Works better for the children to have the day off after FeNaCING."

"As a teacher, the day after the festival gives families a day to reset and rest after so much fun, sun and sugar intake. It is a well-placed break the kids, and teachers, need."

"As a teacher it means that kids will have a day of rest after their big weekend! All our kids love FeNaCING and it is the highlight of the year for them."

"As a teacher, FeNaCING is one of the most important weekends for my students and is highly anticipated amongst all, a 3 day weekend gives the kids time to cool off before their return to school."

1.7 Raw Data

Full Verbatim Comments from Survey

Responses to keep the public holiday to align with FeNacling Festival.

Not sure why this is an issue. It should remain as it is. It would definitely benefit attendance at the festival and there are bigger issues in the world than when to have a public holiday.
Good time of year for Pilbara
Just keep it the same as it's always been please
FeNaCling Festival gives the people of Karratha the opportunity to attend the festival in full with the public holiday included. The days selected by the rest of the state share no key cultural event to the community
This works for us locally, and adds to a nice sense of community
Fenacle weekend in Karratha should remain a long weekend because it fosters community spirit and provides a unique opportunity for locals and visitors to come together and celebrate. Moving it to September could disrupt established traditions and lessen the impact of the event, which is often tied to the local climate and seasonal activities. Keeping it as a long weekend allows for greater participation and enjoyment, making it a highlight of the year for everyone involved.
Why change?
I think local stall holders would live to recover and clean up but otherwise I don't really mind. I believe that a lot of people take both anyway
The simplicity of a tried and tested community tradition
Work in education so don't get the public holiday as it falls in school holidays. Works better for the children to have the day off after fenacle
Cooler weather wise in August and good to have inline with FenacIng. No real reason to change what has been for so long
Leave the date as is system isn't broken, a lot of work goes into the festival and stall holders, volunteers and organisers out in a lot of effort. It will make it worse for businesses to pack down after the event and doesn't give them time for a break before returning to work after a busy week / and weekend.
When you look at the local vendors that attend fenacIng and the people that work it, I think it is best to leave it as the Public holiday. It's not broken, it works, so why try change / fix it?
This community has taken that day as a public holiday for many years, it is now traditional. It is a very big weekend for our community, a day to recover before returning to normal jobs, activities etc is a good thing, especially for those locals who are involved in stores and activities.
It's nice to have it align with Fenacle, which is a hectic weekend if you attend
The public holiday coinciding with the FeNaCIng festival is much more relevant for our town.
Works well with the kids having day off after late nights from FeNacling.
I vote for keeping it how it is (August) how it's been for so many years - so many families travel to join this massive event yearly. The weather also is so much cooler I'm August as the last couple of Septembers have been extremely hot.
I like the tradition
The weather is way too hot in late September. None of the travelling carnies will come in late September. Besides, why change the date to late September and throw Karratha out of sync with the annual celebrations in other surrounding towns such as Broome, Roebourne, Hedland, and other fun festivities during the cooler months. Also, factor in all the

tourists who will all be long gone at the end of September. There is no good reason to change the date of our annual Fenacng festival, which has been ongoing for 53 years! We have never celebrated the monarch's birthday on the actual date in Australia, so it seems almost absurd to even consider changing by almost two months! From me it's a big fat NO! DO NOT CHANGE FENACLNG CELEBRATION DATE!

The festival is a huge success every year with the holiday aligned. Last year's event was a huge success even with dramatic weather involved. September is when all businesses and people in town start organising Christmas parties and school kids are focussing on exams and school holidays so will be more likely out of town. Why fix something that isn't broken? The festival is a huge success every year with the holiday aligned. Last year's event was a huge success even with dramatic weather involved. September is when all businesses and people in town start organising Christmas parties and school kids are focussing on exams and school holidays so will be more likely out of town. Why fix something that isn't broken? No change required. Over the many years of living in Karratha, I have only had one complaint directed to me and that was from a contractor from over east. Interestingly the contract he was working on finished on time and within budget. No hindrance. We are who we are, don't change that. May we be unique in some way or form to make the "City" somewhat "Local"?

Gives people time to attend and contribute to the FeNaCING festival which is a great traditional event

It's a pretty special tradition for the Karratha community. Gives a real sense of community, we all love Fenacle long weekend! Please don't take away something that's so special about our town and our festival 🙏

It allows for flexibility. I hear that for many working in the larger organisations, they have the option to choose which day they observe the public holiday and this gives a deal of flexibility to individuals. For small business it means should they choose to display at fenacl they have a day off to rest and recuperate instead of going straight into a working week. Many people will choose to celebrate on the sunday evening, so Monday gives further opportunity to recover. Consideration for public safety as well if revellers are tempted to make work commitments they otherwise wouldn't have had to meet and choose to drive where they may still be under the influence. For kids it will allow them the time to get a little bit of the excitement out of their system before returning to school, and enjoy their haul of goodies. Summarily, there's more benefit to keeping it aligned to fenacl than there is by aligning with the rest of the state. Any argument for alignment would logically follow a case for aligning Australia wide... And that's hardly a topic anyone is really interested in thinking about...

It's a nice tradition and culture for the town .. would be a shame to change it! The kids love fenacle , they talk about it all year.

So much fun for the school children and teachers to be able to fully enjoy the weekend and have Monday 'recovery' after the fireworks. It's our favourite weekend of the year in this family.

It's a tradition in Karratha so why change it?!

Happy for the public holiday to remain at the usual time in August. It makes sense to follow the FeNacling weekend as it gives kids an extra day off to relax, and recover after a fun weekend.

Allows everyone to recover after the Fenacl festival. Volunteers get a rest and kids can stay and enjoy the fireworks

It makes our event a real community one where we can all celebrate what makes our region special.

It helps support many local businesses- small and large at an event that helps define the region. Let individual businesses choose to decide otherwise, but keep things as they have always been
The weather is cooler in August, much better for making the most of a long weekend.
It's a night when families can enjoy the fire works and not worry about school or work next day.
Keep as is. need to recover after FeNaCING
Why change something thats not broken? Having the public holiday in august aligning with fenacle helps so much with stall holders, volunteers, and over all how fenacle runs(the background work, packing up etc)
The festival has always been held on this weekend. It is a part of Dampier/Karratha's history so it deserves to still have the holiday that weekend.
Don't change it
FeNacling is the most exciting weekend in Karratha, and everyone enjoys the Monday to rest up after a big weekend
To align with the Fenacle and continue to provide a long weekend for the biggest event in our region.
To keep the community unified in being able to enjoy the long weekend.
Perfect weather in Aug and its tradition.
Allows community to come together. Good for students to have a long weekend during school term so they can have a break.
This has been out tradition here in Karratha and it now aligns with the city culture.
Keep it as it is currently- it's worked well for many many years
Keep the tradition going. It's good to have a day off after FENACLE
It's a big weekend, especially for kids and people who have to work. Would be to hard going to school and work the next day if the public holiday wasn't there
It's a great tradition and we should keep it up.
Keep it the same
Having the public holiday line up with fenacle is perfect for small businesses families and our economy. If you move it you will have losts of business shut due to lack of staffing. Keep the holiday as is and keep the sheep
To allow families time to do normal weekend stuff (shopping cleaning washing) but also attend fenacle. To allow families from other local towns to attend without taking up their whole weekend.
As a teacher, the day after the festival gives families a day to reset and rest after so much fun, sun and sugar intake. It is a well placed break the kids, and teachers, need.
Its been this way forever.. we all look forward to FeNacling long weekend .. It's tradition
Families have already made plans and bookings based around this holiday this year! People travel from all over for Fenacng, this will be hindered without the public holiday date
As people working/volunteering over the fenacle weekend shouldn't have to go back to their normal jobs the Monday after
Tradition. Business and locals are also used to this so we generally plan life/events around this.
As a teacher it means that kids will have a day of rest after their big weekend! All our kids love FeNacling and it is the highlight of the year for them.
Better to align with festival.
Supports local tradition that has been in place for a long time now.

I think it's unique to have it on our long week end.
My family and business would not be able to participate in the festival we currently do without the public holiday. We would not watch the fireworks or attend the festival on the Sunday night without the public holiday following the next day.
It's been this way for 30 years, works well, local businesses benefit, great long weekend and time for families
Keeping the public holiday in August to align with the FeNacling Festival would be a better outcome for the local, and wider community. To keep the public holiday over the festival weekend ensures local and travelling stall holders would be more likely to continue to take part in the festival, without the rush of packing down by 11pm Sunday, or having to rush off site. If there was no public holiday, people from the wider community would be fettered to take part in the festival. The city would miss out on income brought to the town by visitors to the festival, due to travel, and lack of smallholders willing to travel just for two days. It is in the best interest to have the public holiday remain the same.
Fenacling has become an iconic part of the City of Karratha calendar. The Monday public holiday has become part of the fenacling tradition
Helps local business and community groups have a day to reset after a huge weekend, and allows families to have a day to rest as well.
It's a cooler time of the year but also doesn't interfere with AFL grand final as well as local grand finals. Also the dates in September are in the school holidays where most go away!!
It's great for the kids to have the Monday off after Fenacling to recover
The FeNacling festival and the long weekend is a local event and celebration and should remain so. Please think about community not business when making a choice on the public holiday.
it has been working so far
Locals want to recover from the big weekend of late night fireworks and food van heaven!
It's a great tradition unique to the town. Also if you're going away for a long weekend away, you're not competing with the rest of the state!
The current placement of the public holiday following the Fenacling Festival is essential to preserving its success and the well-being of our community. It ensures everyone can fully enjoy the festival's traditions without the pressures of work or school, provides families with a vital recovery day, and aligns with many boarding schools' long weekends, allowing families to reunite and manage travel. This timing also boosts local tourism, extends visitors' stays, and supports businesses, while maintaining a cherished tradition that fosters community pride and identity. Changing the holiday would risk disrupting these benefits, creating logistical challenges and diminishing the festival's vibrant spirit. Let's protect what makes our festival and community unique by keeping the holiday as it is.
Students won't go to school on the Monday due to a big weekend and a late night at the fireworks
So there can be companies and volunteers to help.
Lots of reasons
Having the long weekend aligned to the FeNaCLING Festival is unique for our town. It makes it enjoyable going to the festival on the long weekend as the mood is relaxed. There is no benefit to changing the date. Also September date is the start of school holidays so it is lovely for the kids to have a break during the term to enjoy time with family.
I have 2 toddlers and this is a massive weekend. Saying I need the extra day of recovery is an understatement
It's always been on fenacling weekend

Why is this even a question karratha is unique keep it that way
It allows parents to spend a whole weekends with the kids and make the set up and removal of stalls easier
Just to keep it as is.
Its something unique to Karratha, and separates us from the rest of WA in a special way.
It is a great time for community to get together around Fenacle weekend and enjoy community spirit
If you are going to change it needs to be done the year before not the year of as a lot of businesses plan a year in advance.
The change happened when I was in Newman and it was outrageous. Very detrimental to the community and festival.
There's so much work involved with the fencing weekend , not with just the stall holders but the volunteers as well so the extra day is helpful to all involved to make this a great weekend, which is enjoyed by all
NA
Fenacle is the weekend we celebrate Karratha as a town and our home. It makes sense to make it our long weekend.
Sending kids to school the day after a full day and late night at the show would be a crime to both the parents and the teachers. And if people have to work, then it's the kids and the teachers who will suffer. Just don't change it.
The King's Birthday public holiday should remain on the first Monday in August to coincide with the FeNaCING Festival, as it strengthens community engagement and regional pride. FeNaCING is a long-standing tradition that brings residents and visitors together to celebrate Karratha's culture, heritage, and identity. Aligning the holiday with the festival allows families, volunteers, and community groups to fully participate, fostering social connection and unity. This tradition also supports local businesses and organisations, enhancing the festival's economic and cultural impact. Changing the date would disrupt this vital community event, weakening its success and diminishing the shared pride it inspires.
Fenacle is looked forward to by the whole community each year. It's a massive weekend for everyone including workers, stallholders and even the families that go and all benefit from the extra day off.
No real reason to change the date.
This weekend is a huge community event and everyone working deserves the public holiday. As a teacher, fenacle is one of the most important weekend for my students and is highly anticipated amongst all, a 3 day weekend gives the kids time to cool off before their return to school.
It's not just FENACLE other community/ sports events are centred around the use of this public holiday.
It's tradition
This festival is an important event for the community and something I both enjoy and value. It's unique to the region and recognised more and more - I love it and wouldn't change a thing
It's been the Fenacle long weekend in August since I started attending the festival in Dampier in the 70's. As a previous stall holder at Fenacle, stall holders need the extra Day to pack up and recover from such a busy weekend. It gives the locals a chance to have a day off as well, after the busy weekend.
It will easier for stall holders and all community helper for the FeNecling Festival. They should need a public holiday on Monday.

No one is in town during the king's birthday. This will affect the community coming together during fenacling.
It's tradition & good to have a rest after the business of fenac
Other events in karratha utilise the holiday . If the dates change the fireworks display will not attract as many people as they need to attend school work on the following day. Long time local 40y + I like it 😊
Please don't take away this tradition. It's so much more worth it having it in august.
After a long weekend of events over the FeNaCl festival it takes a large toll on the kids especially staying up to watch the fireworks! No one wants to work or go to school on Monday and it allows catch up for things missed over the weekend like washing, shopping etc. It also allows for a more broken up year for rest periods and holidays as most of our long weekends are early in the year.
Align with FeNaCling is best for the local small business. especially After two days festival.
This is a big event for the region and we need to support all the organisers of the fenacles event by making the following Monday a holiday.
Cooler time of year. More opportunity to do something useful on a longweekend
It's been tradition for a long time. Plus some us double dip and get both days off...
Unique to karratha. A day to recover for the kids before school goes back.
Leave it as is, it's unique to Karratha and we like it the way it is.
It works for local people, why change what works for the locals who live here
Easier to enjoy the Fenacling Festival weekend.
This would ruin Fenacle. Stall holders, volunteers, clean up etc. less people will want to work the Sunday
This is historically unique to the Karratha area, no need to align with everyone else, fits in well with our festival weekend
It is unique to Karratha and as a new community member it really creates a sense of community and individualism.
This makes the most sense to encourage maximum attendance to the festival
It's the main weekend, the highlight of living in Karratha. Do I really have to explain myself????
Aligning with the weekend long festival allows local businesses and the community alike to enjoy and recover from the weekend long festival.
Having the long weekend for FeNaCING makes it so much better, without the Monday off, one of the best weekends in our calendar would become so much harder.
It's an opportunity for us here to take advantage of a long weekend when the rest of the state is busy. Plus when we work the September date it's quieter. Perfect!
Why change what's been in place for so long? The community is always drained after two long days in the sun and to be able to rest is a good thing. Or why not put them both In place? One specifically for FeNacling, and one for the kings birthday in September. Most businesses make this decision for their stores anyway, either opening for one day or the other.
Growing up here, it's always been known to be like this. Unfortunately as more old timers leave town and new ones come in we seems to keep adjusting to the new people ideas.. some times things should just remain the same
Extra public holiday outside of school holidays. As a teacher I also recognise the importance of children having an extra days rest after FeNacling festival before returning to school.

Keep FeNacling on the long weekend to keep it a special occurrence and give people time to enjoy. Keep it in August so it's not too hot to enjoy it.
It's a great tradition to have the Monday off so people can watch the fireworks and not have to worry about work or school the next day.
To keep it as it has been for the past however many years
Big affect on stall holders/ Carnival operators
Keep it in the winter month!!!
Having a public holiday after Fenacle can give Pilbara residents a break after a great function
I actually think Karratha should have Fenacing endorsed as a local public holiday, same as many other locations around the country have their own localised show days. Otherwise, leave it as is, or move Fenacing to be on the Kings Birthday weekend. Fenacing survives on a lot of people volunteering their time.
It's our point of difference to celebrate our biggest event of the year.
Moving the public holidays away from the festival date will affect both vendor and visitors attendance.
Why mess with history and culture. When it works, it works. Why make it so difficult. You've already made this difficult to vote and are making it to your favour deterring people to create an account. You should be using surverymonkey. Shame on you. Don't change it.
Because the public holiday has worked for years here. It makes absolute sense to have a weekend dedicated to the community coming together, as is definitely looked forward to by most in our community.
We should keep the public holiday on the FeNacling festival the business owners need the day to get themselves settled after the festival
Firstly keeping the public holiday in August will not only significantly support our stall holders in their pack up and clean up post-event but the city staff who close out the event and pack down as well. It also supports people who want to enjoy the Sunday evening without having the decision to cut short/early or reduce spending in areas such as the bar due to work the next day, which would significantly affect stall holders and carnival workers incomes. Secondly changing the date would put the PH in the school holidays, which are already challenging enough to manage for working parents without adding in biz closures to the minimal places to take them for activities, daycare closures or 15% PH increases to costs. Also WA is one of the only states where LGOs don't offer BOTH a show holiday and the Kings Birthday. Why can't there be both for Karratha?
Fenacing is a Karratha tradition that brings the community together and should be kept at its original date with a public holiday. The public holiday allows Karratha locals to enjoy the festival more with their friends and families. The date in September has nothing to do with the kings birthday anyway and we do not need to fit in with the rest of the state
It's a great family and community weekend keep it with Fenacing
Leave the way it has always been as it's something unique to Karratha. Businesses have worked around it previous years. Make sense to have a wind down for stall holders who often have other jobs and also for sporting associations who have run tournaments over the weekend.
This is much easier for kids to get organised for the week by having the Monday to reset. It would cause less participation on the later half of the Sunday evening as parents will need to get kids home for school the next day.
There shouldn't be a need for an explanation, however, it's tradition, the stall holders/volunteers will be working to God knows what time to clean and pack up. There I

assume less people attending Sunday/Sunday night due to the need to get up the next day for either work, school etc. Another, its stupid to move it.
I was born and raised in Karratha and so are my children. The August public holiday has become more of a tradition in our lovely City. Some say change is good but you can't argue with tradition. It's been the same way for the 40 years of my life and for some a lot longer. Please don't change it and leave as it is.
Tradition
I live across the road and it gives the vollies time on the Monday to clean up. Also families can enjoy the weekend and not have tired kids going to school next day. Why change our holiday just to make companies happy because it disrupts them.
As if it's changed to the September to match the rest of wa, I believe it will demi ish the ammount of stall holders at the fair, especially local ones who won't be able to be at fenacle all weekend and then turn up to work in the Monday
If the public holiday was established and has been associated with FeNaCl since 1996, people clearly rely on the day as part of making it a successful event.
It's a busy weekend for families and having a holiday afterwards is better for children. Absenteeism will be high at schools if not a public holiday. Also gives people the option of a long weekend to go camping during winter if they choose
CoK needs to stop trying to overstep. FeNaClng public Holliday is a long standing tradition allowing not only FeNaClng but many other events to operate over the same long weekend. Many planning over a year in advance. Rather than changing things that works for our region and is also a draw card for attendees and operators, let's focus our attentions on things that aren't working for the region.
It enables east Pilbara residents to travel home after the festivities on the Sunday night. Also allows locals to enjoy the festivities on the Sunday night.
It's better for workers that have worked hard at fenacle all weekend to be able to have the Monday off work/school to recover from the full days and late nights working at fenacle
To allow local people to hold stalls and participate in volunteering or work at the event before returning to their regular commitments.
Having a public holiday on the Monday allows everyone to rest & recover from the busy weekend and the late night on the Sunday due to the fireworks. Going back to work & school is easier after a Monday public holiday.
It's always been on Fenacle weekend. It's nice having a long weekend that's just for the Pilbara, instead of the rest of the state.
Main event of FeNacling is always on the Sunday night, Monday as a PH gives people time to recover prior to going back to work.
Why change, the rest of WA should align with us....we fund them
It works
It's always been great to have this day line up with the festival. I don't see the need to change it
It's the towns history and culture to have it on that day. It also helps family be together for the one big event in town
Otherwise staff will just take sick days.
I would prefer to have the longer weekend over the festival, because it's a cooler month and would be a much more enjoyable weekend to do things than in September, when it starts to get hot.

Keep with tradition of FeNacle. It's always a good way to finish such a big weekend of FeNacle fun. Whether you're a stall holder, a performer, a volunteer or coming to enjoy the events the Monday public holiday is a much needed rest day.
I've been here 20 plus years and it's always been in August - if it's not broke don't try and fix it !!!
It's been this way for as long as I remember. Keep the tradition 😊
FeNaCING is what makes Karratha special. Please keep the public holiday in August!
It's a nice day to recover after a very busy and exciting weekend.
Why change the date of the Fenacle public holiday period if it has been running for over 50 years during this time frame. It is something that is unique to karratha so changing it is a ridiculous idea especially since everyone in the pilbara area who enjoys the festival loves the traditional way of enjoying, viewing and making the most of the days.
Keep it as the towns little thing. Always good to have to day off after fenacle weekend. My kids are usually shattered and need the off to recover especially after the late fireworks.
It helps to create the amazing community vibe that FeNaCIng brings to our town. It brings people together and that public holiday allows for people to stay out on the Sunday night, enjoy the live music, fireworks and socialising without worrying about getting home to bed for school/work the next day. Part of living in Karratha is the incredible community vibe. And this long weekend really aids in that.
It allows us the benefit of enjoying the fenacle show over the entire weekend and have an additional day to recuperate/do chores. Without that it would mean less time at the show
Tradition
Tradition, why should we have to align with Perth. Port Hedland, Newman, Tom Price, Marble Bar just to name a few choose their own due to significance in their town. Karratha chose August back in 1967 so should stay the same
As a teacher in Karratha, having the public holiday benefits myself and the students as it provides us with a day of rest after a very crazy and fun weekend, we find even on the Tuesday we are still missing students from sickness and tiredness. This then also helps parents to that my work full time to rest with their child without taking any leave. My vote is on a education benefits.
A lovely town tradition- will be very sad to see this change considering how many have worked hard to keep Fenacle going over the years!
Much better option to have the Monday public holiday after the Fenacl Festival.
Fenacle is a great weekend for the family and fireworks on Sunday night means hard for kids to go to school or adults to go to work on Monday. Fenacle will lose the interest of people on Sunday night if no public holiday on Monday.
To allow people with children to attend the Sunday night fireworks. It's too late otherwise for us to attend and the kids go to daycare/school the following day. Attendance numbers would be a lot less if we have work the following day.
I was born in Karratha and have been going to fenacle my entire life here I'm 27yrs old I have my kids now and august is the month we look forward to every year. Keep it as is never change tradition
Keep tradition and what makes Karratha special.
Our little city doesn't have many traditions, this one is important and very much deserves to be honoured.
Fenacle is a massive weekend full of family fun, having the monday public holiday allows everyone to be ready for the next working day and also celebrate the kings birthday.

Keep the community feel of August. September is during school holidays so it's not really appreciated as a public holiday.
Keep it, it's unique and good for the town
Why change something that's not broken? The kings birthday holiday is a crock anyway so have the day for our kids is more important!
For as long as I have lived in Karratha we have loved having the long weekend of Fenacle. Now with having young kids I can only see it as being a huge benefit having the Monday to recover from a very busy fun filled weekend!
it's FeNaCING tradition and it's a big event ..Will affect staffing and gives those working the whole weekend a break before returning to work
Tradition. Also coincides with travellers and merchants attending other fairs.
This has been a tradition since the inception of FeNaCING and shouldn't be changed as you will lose another piece of history of the CofK.
Having the holiday with FeNaCLng encourages the community to come together.
Way too hot in September
It's tradition and keeping tradition is important
1. Unique to Festival 2. Staffing and it's a huge weekend. Allows to pack down on a public holiday and grab a bit of rest before returning to work.
Nice to have a longer weekend after busy time at fenacle ☺
If changed the public holiday will fall in the school holidays and for a large number of people living in Karratha that will mean we don't receive the benefit of the public holiday.
Why change it after nearly 30 years?? It's fine as it is.
It's a massive weekend for those residents who participate in the delivery of Fenacle, as well as exhibitors, performers etc. It's great to have a recovery day. Also, it's a wonderful Pilbara tradition!
Keep it the same, it means we get a long weekend where everywhere isn't booked out
It just works to have a public holiday after the Fenacing festival as it keeps me more relaxed and likely to enjoy the whole weekend at the festival knowing I can rest the Monday after ☺
The weekend of the festival is a huge event for Karratha and surrounding area. The event would suffer without the long weekend
It makes the Pilbara special by aligning it with FeNaCLing festival
It is too warm in September
Traditional. Let's kids have a sleep in after watching fireworks on Sunday night. A big weekend deserves a rest on the Monday for everyone
Because it's tradition!
I like having the day off when my Perth coworkers still have to work.
this works out better for everyone in the town
If FeNaCl is held in September it will be hotter than in August which will take away the enjoyment of an outdoor festival. Secondly, why change something that is part of the embedded history of Karratha and much loved by residents past and present. Everyone loves the August long weekend.
It's great for families and small businesses!!
Why change something that works? And a lot of work places have union agreements in place to have both public holidays anyway, if it's changed it will undo our agreements. Do not change the holiday.
Been this way for years plus nice to have a day to recover after the craziness of FenacI

The long term residents of Karratha all understand the reasons that the PH is after Fenacling occurs on the Sat and Sun, it allows the stall holders to pack up and have a rest before returning to work. We do not need to adhere to the Kings birthday date, Port Hedland also uses an alternative PH date, we are not the only location in the Pilbara.
My family loves the festival and we all need recovery day after late night . Children will be so tired to go back to school on Monday and late night fireworks.
It's a weekend all families look forward to every year. The public holiday afterwards is perfect time to reset after a massive community celebration. Some families will have to cut their time short at FENACLNG if they no longer have the public holiday. It also increases the chance of staff calling in sick on the monday
Do not change. This has been a favourite tradition that gives the regional community something to look forward to and have our own special day. Having in sept would mean a lot of people won't go as everyone goes away during the holidays
It has been this way for many years and works for us in the Pilbara!
History, gives the Pilbara a unique holiday to WA. Great weekend for all of the community nar and far.
Keep iy as it is now a tradition and the locals enjoy having it aligned with the fenacle show
It's unique to our community and FeNacling is nice to celebrate as our own day that deserves a public holiday.
It's been a tradition for years. Our town care deeply about that weekend. So many businesses have already moulded their services around this public holiday. It's a very lucrative weekend for the entire community not just the store holders.
Keep the date, it's tradition!
It is always great to know you still have a housework day after heading into FeNacling all weekend. It is part of our history and I see no reason to change it.
The date has been changed to coincide with the community festival since 1996. It's now considered a tradition and synonymous with the region.
My husband works all weekend at fenacl, with the public holiday on the Monday he actually gets to spend time with our kids that day, as he doesn't see them all weekend otherwise.
It's great for families to go watch to fireworks on Sunday night and not worry about school next day.
it's a community tradition keep it as is .
The festival is a great and having the public holiday aligned makes it even greater.
Align with tradition. Has more meaning than Sept Kings birthday weekend. Celebrate the Pilbara, not an English monarchy hundreds of miles away.
Works for our community!
Tradition and gives you time to recover from fenacle. Nothing special about having the public holiday in September
Keeps it in the cooler weather so more enjoyable for everyone.
It's the right thing to do...don't change something that has already been in place for years
Because such a great festival requires a holiday to support it.
Please listen to vote of your community instead of going with your own personal preference. August will be cooler and is gives our community our own special day to celebrate, please leave it how it is
Been here six years, it works for the locals.
Even though I have to work it as we align with our Perth company, we need to keep our community traditions going.

It allows families to enjoy fenacle weekend without the worry have having overtired kids for school the Monday following fenacle. If you changed the public holiday it is likely there won't be as many families at the fireworks on the Sunday night
FeNaCle is one of the most exciting things to happen in Karratha in a year. I just feel that it makes more sense to have the public holiday with a major city event than to have it stand alone in another month.
Makes sense
It is our special day for the big fenacle weekend that we all enjoy!
Keep the tradition
Having lived in Karratha for the last 11 years we have always loved the public holiday on the Monday for Fenacle. It's one of the best weekends in town for families and it would be such a shame to change it.
Keep the tradition.
It is a massive week and weekend. We need it for stall holders and staff to be able to pack down safely and have a bit of a break before returning to work.
What change something that has been in place since 1996.
After Fencle weekend the Monday gives vendors and patrons a change to relax and unwind after such a busy and crazy weekend.
Its probably our only 'cultural' weekend of the year. Keep the tradition.
A) Lets keep some traditions B) Fireworks on the sunday night will have less attendance due to school for kids next morning C) gives local vendors the day to pack down / clean
I believe Hedland also have their long weekend in August. It's a special way to wind down from the hustle and bustle of FeNaCING, and is an appreciated break. The other dates are in the school holidays
It's always been around FeNacl, don't change it! It's great having the extra day to recover and rest after the show festivities. Alternatively have both public holidays like a lot of places over east do.
The community embrace and enjoy fenacle and all look forward to the long weekend aligning with the celebration of the show coming to town. I strongly feel it should remain as a long weekend in August using the kings birthday public holiday
It's something so unique to Karratha and the Pilbara. FeNaCING Weekend is like no other, I have lived here for 14 years and I simply could not imagine not having the Monday as our PH.
After 2 full days of FeNaCING fun I can safely say having the Monday off is much needed for us all - parents, children. This doesn't need changing. Please Leave it as it is 🙏 keep FeNaCING traditions going!
It works well so best to keep it as is
There is a lot of of work that goes into planning, executing and closing an event of this scale. This also includes many local stalls. These people also have families. I feel we keep the holiday as 1. It's always been the fenacle weekend (lived here 30yrs). The second reason is it allows all those people to enjoy a day off and reflect, relax after the major weekend. Third reason, as the fireworks are the Sunday it's also very late for the kids and some adults especially those who travel to enjoy them. Getting home approximately 11 at night is not great for anyone getting up early for work and school. My kids would struggle if I had to wake up after minimal sleep for school.
I think it's important to keep the tradition of FeNaCling festival, it differentiates Karratha to the whole state, which is pretty special. When I moved to town, I loved that quirky feature!

Leave the public holiday as it has always has been
NA
It's always been that way why change it
Tradition
FeNaCl weekend is our traditional weekend for over 50 years and the Monday off allows us to enjoy the busy weekend including the annual fishing competition. This tradition doesn't need to be changed
It is Karratha tradition. Please keep Fenacling long weekend.
The fair is enjoyable but exhausting for a lot of people. Many of the town people and neighbouring towns work hard at Fenacle and Monday is a day we can use to recover from that.
If it were in September, it falls during the school holidays when the kids are already home from school. During august, it provides a much needed long weekend for kids, parents and teachers and, aligning with FeNaCling gives families something to celebrate and enjoy together.
Keep the PH in August to assist families with the festivities of such a big weekend. Gives everyone the opportunity to join in on the fun of such a wonderful iconic Karratha event, also some time for rest or even go away for a night. Don't try to "fix" something that isn't broken! It works keep it the same
Recovery from fenacI
Keeping the public holiday to align with fenacle is better for the local community and makes the festival weekend more of an event.
Long weekend during the best and busiest time of the year in the north west keeps it special.
Keep the holiday as the Monday following Fenacle - it creates an exciting community feel knowing we all have a long weekend ahead doing something as fun as attending the festival. You can also have a few drinks and watch the fireworks worry-free about the next day.
I feel FeNaCING would suffer on the Sunday majorly if we didn't have a PH on the Monday.
FencIng weekend is an absolute institution in Karratha and should remain as is regarding the public holiday.
Long weekend
Traditional. Most other towns have their own show holiday. Your stall holders who are also businesses need the rest or to pack up on the Monday if you still keep the show on that weekend but don't have Monday as the holiday your sales for beer tent for the community group that does it will also suffer. Gets too hot if you move it later, you'll have less attending and carnie won't align if that's also something your considering. You change the date these 3 years and you change it back the next you loose traditions and can't get that back cause you wanted to "try it" for 3 years. Most local businesses take both. It doesn't currently cross over with any other events and also usually runs the weekend directly after Roebourne cup so you have tourists both weekends that then usually stay the week leading up to. with another new event coming to the Pilbara that you would probably be aware of the weekend after FenacIng this will also have people stay put for more instead of moving on.
As a long term resident I have loved living in Karratha for its uniqueness in not following tradition, and having a public holiday after the FenaCl weekend. I fail to see where there would be any benefit in changing the public holiday to suit the agenda of the council and express my wish that it remain the public holiday on the Monday after our festival weekend.
Been here for 30 years and like it the way it is

NA
It has been the public holiday after fenacle for years, and by changing it to align with the rest of the state, businesses will be at a loss from employees having sick days and taking annual leave instead.
Tradition. Fantastic community and family long weekend
Stop messing with things. It's wonderful to have a long weekend for Fenacle
The holiday is needed after a late night at the festival for both adults and children.
FENACLING Monday would be a school day without the public holiday. Having the public holiday means kids can spend the Sunday at the show and stay for the fireworks. The Perth Royal Show falls over school holidays, shame to see Ktown kids miss out and have to turn up to school the following day.
It has been this way for many years in Karratha. No need to change it.
Tradition just keep. Other day is school holidays people go away then and arnt in town.
Why change something that has been this way for many years? Leave the public holiday alone so it aligns with FeNaCLNG.
This is an important local tradition. We all love our fenacl festival and having a day off makes it much easier to celebrate and enjoy. It also encourages volunteers as they know they have the day off to recover post event
Fenacle won't work without the day off
Aligning this holiday with FenacIng is one of the many things that help keep a unique identity to CoK. It's been done successfully for years and I think it should continue
Keep it a tradition!
Recovery after being at fenacl. Gives people chance to get away for a long weekend or a day trip if they want to avoid crowds. First half of year has lots of public holidays, 2nd half is a bit more spaced out.
Since moving to Karratha this has been a highlight weekend for our family, extended family constantly visiting this long weekend etc. bringing valuable income and economy to Karratha. I wouldn't change to Sept - hot and won't have the same financial benefits.
This weekend is a Pilbara special to which provides a long weekend of fun, community events and a well deserved long weekend. If you move it, the weekend would fall on the school holidays most years. That's a nope, please don't move it
It is part of the fabric of our town, it is part of the FeNaCling festival which is iconic in our region. Every town in the Pilbara has their own long weekend for their show weekend, please don't try and make us conform to the metro centric minority.
It's a great weekend. Kids need a break on Monday before they go back to school. In other news it would be great if some proper fencing secured the perimeter of the festival so that those display antisocial behaviour can be evicted from the area. Making a safer environment for families in the evenings instead of relying on police to manage it.
This is a great day to have the public holiday as it promotes community involvement in a range of activities over the weekend as there are so many events available to participate in.
It's a great Karratha tradition and allows everyone a chance to really enjoy the weekend knowing there is no work/school the next day.
In August it falls within the school term giving a much needed break for teachers and students. Also, separating it from the Royal Show in Perth means festival vendors are available to come up for FeNaCl.

Please explain the reason for the change??? This has been my home my WHOLE life and it's not a case of being set in my ways, it's more of a common sense which allows that extra day surrounding the FeNacling and other local events. Not conforming to the rest of the state with the Public Holiday (where Karratha and surrounds work on the rest of the states public holiday) is a majority no bother, considering we are in a working city/town which rely heavily on resource related jobs who work all days of the week in way. Seriously why is this even up for debate!!!!
Makes for a festive weekend special to karratha. Means everyone can enjoy the fireworks at feNacling with their family's and have a rest street
It's great for the community to have an extra day off to recharge after the best weekend of the year
Keeping the King's birthday public holiday in August to align with the FeNacling Festival would allow for a seamless continuation of festivities and a relaxing atmosphere for the community. By scheduling it after the festival, it ensures that the joy and celebratory mood aren't disrupted, helping families and individuals unwind and enjoy.
Why change it? Fenacng public holiday is one of the most loved traditions of Karratha
It is so important to the community. It's really what makes us so unique! Who want to live in a place run by folks who want to fit in when we want to stand out!
Monday is needed as a PH to allow volunteers and local business owners to clean up and pack down from FeNACING
Since as early as 1996, the City of Karratha has been celebrating the Royal Sovereign's birthday public holiday on the first Monday in August to coincide with the community-run FeNaCING Festival. Community groups have already scheduled major sporting events over this long weekend.
It's a great tradition in Karratha so please keep it
What on earth the council always wants a "change"!!!! Do some actual work please !
As a teacher, I couldn't imagine student attendance or engagement being great after spending 2 days enjoying the festivities and late night fireworks on Sundays. Furthermore, the weather in August is much more pleasant to enjoy the outdoors than in September. I used to think when I first moved to WA that it was aligned with the AFL grand final, but that doesn't always line up anyway. Living so remote from Perth, I don't see the point in changing to September... it's not like I'm going to plan a trip to that state's capital for only 3 days anyway. Other regional towns change their date to suit local context, and that's why I believe August suits best for Karratha.
Fenacng is a big event and weekend for many, also many local traders need the day to pack up. Also the Kings birthday isn't on varying dates, so what does it matter when it's held?
It's great having the long weekend with FeNaCl as the weekend is tiring, especially for kids and with the fireworks on the Sunday night. Having the Monday to recover is fantastic and means tired kids aren't being sent to school on Monday. The long weekend with FeNaCl also means we can enjoy more family time compared to if we didn't get the public holiday.
It's great to have a public holiday after FeNaCl to recharge after an amazing weekend.
Fenacle is amazing and we need a day to recover from so much fun!
It works brilliantly the way that it is! There is more significance to the FeNaCLNG festival in Karratha than just aligning with the rest of WA!
Fenacle is an institutionalised community event. The long weekend in August encourages local area visitation drawn in by the FeNaCle Festival.

This holiday will help keep Fenacle going which is great for the community. The holiday is needed for the festival workers to be able to pack up and clean up after the weekend.
The long weekend aligning with FeNaCING festive is iconic. It gives you that day off after the big weekend. Plenty of employers are flexible anyway about allowing employees to chose which one to have off (if they're bigger than just Karratha). I couldn't imagine not having the Monday off. Support keeping where it is!!
More benefit to the community for public holiday to follow fenacle festival.
Nice to have a recovery day after FeNacling.
Nil
The Sunday of Fenacle is such a late night for children. They all stay up for the fireworks. There will be many absences from school the following day if the public holiday doesn't remain. Therefore impacting education.

Responses to change the public holiday to align with rest of the State.

We are in business. We end up having to work on the Fenacle Monday as our non-Ktha offices - plus many of our Karratha clients - work on this day. Also causes confusion between our staff and our local clients as nobody seems to know whether it's a long weekend or not. And then our staff want to have a long weekend when the standard long weekend is because they want to go to Perth to functions that family and friends are holding on the long weekend. Just standardise it with the rest of the state! Also Fenacle doesn't need 3 days!!
I love having the public holiday in August, however, my partners work does not recognise it. We have two seperate public holidays. This is inconvenient and not needed. Fenackling can still occur over a Friday - Sunday. The kings birthday can allow other to celebrate as a family.
All aligns
It will be nice to join the rest of Australia to celebrate the king's birthday at the same time.
It's very frustrating when conducting business with clients in other areas across the state and the hassle of having to explain to clients every year trying to get them to understand. Particularly frustrating when you have a head office in Perth and getting them to understand our public holidays differ and confusion with penalty rates etc.
Easier to align with work in Perth.
This will align with other businesses in the state.
Prefer to have it same as the state
makes it easier when planning holidays with family not in Karratha
I would prefer to align with the rest of the state, I k own alot of locals that have to work fenacng weekend so having the usual public holiday seems to make more sense so the entire town does the same thing
There are no public holidays in the second half of the year (aside of Christmas), it would be nice to have a break to look forward to. It's also a pain when other places in the State (and even the town - eg the post office) don't align with us business wise. There's no point having a public holiday FeNaCING weekend, unless it's also on on the Monday. If there was no August public holiday, it would be good to move the fireworks to the Saturday night instead.
It would be nice to spend that time with family in Perth who also have the long weekend, or they can come and visit
Karratha is all over the place half do fenacle and the other half on kings birthday very confusing

I'm only voting to go against Amy Brennan's vote
It's just annoying because you never know which businesses will be open or not on both days (the statewide holiday and the local one). It might be different if FeNaCING was actually open on the holiday.
Those who don't have kids shouldn't miss out just because the majority of the town has kids... the King Birthday PH falls within school holidays therefore kids are already off and parents normally take time off too.
alignment to the rest of the state allows more connectedness with family back in Perth, we are still WA residents and should be on the same PH days. Those who don't have kids shouldn't miss out just because the majority of the town has kids... the King Birthday PH falls within school holidays therefore kids are already off and parents normally take time off too.
It's easier to be online with the rest of the state as well as a lot of businesses still keep their public holiday for September. Leaving it in August creates a lot of issues
It would be easier for my business as our head office operates from Perth. Also we have family visit on the long weekends so when they fly up we are needing to take annual leave.
FenacIng sits on the weekend no benefit having the monday
To align with the rest of WA
Half the businesses recognise the FENaCLNG holiday. Half don't. And some recognise both holidays. So there is no unity in this. It makes it difficult to operate here when the rest of the state is in holiday in September. It just doesn't make sense anymore to have the FENaCLNG holiday anymore. When the community is divided on the matter. People are just using this FENaCLNG holiday so kids can watch fireworks and have the day off school??? Not a valid reason. They need to articulate why this holiday is significant and why keep it? People from outlying areas will still travel holiday or not. And Covid has taught us parents will take there kids out of school at will anyways. So to me it's economic sense to align as a state. Because those that want too will not work anyway historically speaking.
Keep it as is, I get the choice of when to take it.
So that our holidays align with family in Perth.
Long weekend in Sept is also usually AFL grand final weekend...also easier for family to visit us from Perth on long weekend.
Better to align with the rest of the state. Even in Karratha and surrounds we already have some organisations who don't observe the local public holiday in august, which makes things confusing. We don't need the holiday in august for fenacle as it doesn't run on the Monday anyway. Instead of moving the holiday, leaving it in place on august for fenacle then also observing the Kings birthday holiday would go down a treat. Just saying. If you can't have both, move it to September.
FeNacling festival isn't even on Monday and at the end of the year my brain needs more of a break
Easier to meet up/ holiday with family and friends who don't live in Karratha
Allows for people with family not in Karratha to spend that time with them
Align with the city due to work commitments.
It can be confusing for businesses operating outside the area and non locals
Makes sense
Doing business is already hard enough in WA, without mixing holidays. All of Karratha needs to have the day the same. Different companies take different days, this creates difficulties also. Align it with the rest of WA.

It becomes confusing for businesses and travellers when an alternative date is being used as a Public holiday. We don't need 3 days to celebrate Fenacle so let the public holiday align with the rest of the state
My kids are living in Perth so I prefer to have my long weekend the same time as them so that I can travel down to Perth. In addition, when I have to work on the King's birthday I can't get much done because my work colleagues in Perth are off on the public holiday
To spread the public holiday days out its a while to wait from August to December. Also for work reasons double the work load returning in August after the public holiday as the rest of Australia are at work
Change to the rest of the state
This is a historical public holiday. Need to align with state.
I manage a business and it puts a strain on the business when the whole town is not in line with the rest of the state. We have always kept the September holiday. This holiday was only introduced because the fair used to run over three days. We need to get back in line with the rest of the state. We don't need our own public holiday.
We should be aligned with the state. We don't need a monday off just for fenacing the event is on sat and sun anyway.
I have been in the town for 25 years. FeNacling used run to the Monday which made sense. The community involvement of Fenacle is a lot less than it used to be. It seems to be a big cash grab for travelling carny's. The fact Woodside, Rio, Yara do not acknowledge this as a public holiday anymore has caused a lot of division on this. The business I work for and I imagine a lot of other contractors work for the majors here in town is very difficult to navigate this as a public holiday when our client doesn't. Also we have a FIFO work force as does a lot of local contractors that celebrate the WA gazetted Kings Birthday end of September. We for the last 5 years have made the decision to take the September Public Holiday. It also lines up with either the AFL and NRL grand finals sometimes both.
Because people who work for companies that don't follow the Fenacle long weekend have a hard time getting care for their school aged children or are forced to take a day AL to care for them. We are already forced to take AL at Xmas as so many companies close without choice. Which leaves not much AL for the rest of the year to actually have a holiday.
To be consistent in public holidays and businesses in WA and here in the Pilbara
Working in a small business it makes it very hard having a different PH from the rest of the state when working with suppliers. My business gives workers the choice of which public holiday we'd like to take and every year the majority vote is for the September PH.
Having the public holiday on a different day to both the rest of the state and the country is way more of a hindrance than it is a benefit. I would rather it be the same. Everyone i know if Karratha works public holidays only depending on when it falls in their roster. So changing it makes no sense. The festival isn't even open on the Monday.
as a lot of the workers have Kings b'day off as their business is based outside CoK it makes sense to align it with everyone else.
So we align with the rest of the state.
It'd be different if fenacle was also running on the Monday and open. But it's just a day to not do anything. You can't go away because to you want to enjoy the festival and feel like it could be better used in September. Makes it hard when large buisness in WA continue to run while it's a public holiday here and vice versa when perth have the public holiday. Just doesn't make sense anymore.
Bshsksn

The city is split with some companies taking each. Schools (st Paul's) takes both making it really hard for child care.
Because my birthday is in September :)
It is very annoying being at work the day of the normal public holiday and trying to get things done when you need to contact other government agencies, business and things ect...and they are not open on the day because we have swapped the days around. There is really no point being at work when you can't get anything done.
My partner works for a worldwide company and does not recognise Karratha's August Holiday so we never get to have the same Public Holiday together at this time of year.
We take the public holiday in September, in line with the rest of the state. It makes it confusing for the community when we are closed that day and in the past have had negative feedback on social media about it. Unless the show was actually opened on the Monday which it isn't as it is normally been packed away, I see no point to have the public holiday in August. Thank you.
Always disliked being forced to take the public holiday in August
Keeping it inline with the rest of the state means less confusion and also the opportunity for locals to spend the long weekend with other family and friends, that are not local to Karratha, when they also have the time off. The Fenacng festival weekend can still go ahead, and doesn't require a public holiday, as the festival is only on the Saturday and Sunday anyway.
1 - many people living in Karratha have family and friends in other parts of the state (more so in Perth), having a joint public holiday means that plans can be made with those people. 2 - waiting from August to December for a public holiday is a long time for those working full time with leave challenges.
It's too difficult with work requirements; other family in Perth being on leave and celebrating and we are working.
Keep it the same as the rest of the state and as an employer it will also make it a lot easier so all employees get the same public holiday and not dependant on what site they work for.
The public holiday used to align with Fenacng and Roebourne Cup Day on the Monday, butvthat has fallen away. Government services don't open on the public holiday in Karratha so we should also align.
Would just prefer it to be in September
To align ourselves with the rest of the state
There are more public holidays in the first half of the year but hardly any in the second half of the year, especially in the lead up until Christmas. Pushing it out until the end of September gives the opportunity to get away before the things get busy in November and December. We don't need a day off on the Monday after FeNaCING, it's unnecessary. It would be better to be in line with the rest of the state.
FenacI is on fri and Sat anyway, so no need for it to have PH on monday
Loved her for 10 years & have never seen the value of having an PH for Fenacle. It wouldn't be about increasing attendance as if there was no PH, more people wouldnt go out of town for the "Fenacle long weekend". Also, unlike the first half the year which has a heap of public holidays, there is only 1 in the second half of the year. I would rather this public holiday half way through the second half of the year to break it up, rather than so close to the June PH, then nothing until Christmas. Lastly I think consistency with the rest of the state, especially from a business perspective, just makes sense. If it's about tradition, then seek approval to have both as PH's.

It's a long time from first week of August until Christmas Day with no public holiday. Also local people forget about double sermons over the Kings holiday weekend as it's not a public holiday here but state policing laws don't discriminate
All other locations have it in September and would prefer it be aligned
I don't go to FeNacling
So it's aligned with my husband for holidays
I think it should align with the rest of the state
Half of Karratha abides by the August holiday, and half the September - there is no consistency! Should be the same as the rest of WA
No need to have a public holiday after Fenacle. Keep it aligned with everyone else
I don't see the point in having a public holiday after fenacle, would prefer it be in September to be the same as the rest of the state
Less difference to the state, no real benefit to having on Monday as the festival is already over
No benefit in it being that Monday as the festival is already over
It's nice to have the public holiday with the rest of the state as most people don't know KTA has a public holiday in August and residents still get work calls to mobiles on the Monday. It's also not as if the festival is still running on the Monday anyway.
Fenacle is all packed up and over on the Monday. Changing will mean all of Karratha public holidays aren't over by September and spread out a little more. Also working for a company with a Perth head office this impacts work

Responses with No Preference

I like AFL Grand Final long weekend as much as FeNaCING Long Weekend. :)
Nothing is o. For the Monday after fenacle to warrant long weekend.years ago the Roebourne cup, horse races were on that Monday. Don't have kids so the holiday in school holidays doesn't faze me.
It doesn't really matter

Facebook Comments

Post 1, 2 and 3

Please keep it Karratha
When was he really born ?
My birthday is in July though.
It looks to me that I have to create an account to vote. U should be able complete the survey without doing the above. Half of the City has the August holiday and the other half of businesses don't as they do not recognise it as being a public holiday. Being it back to September then everyone has the day off except shift workers of course
What are the people voting at the moment? What is it leaning towards? That answer may get more people to vote if they know how the odds are going?
Completing the survey is the only thing the City will go by everyone commenting here doesn't count.
Yeah but I think if it's swaying one way or another and the people know which way, then more may be willing to vote?

unfortunately they wont.
I believe it's not as simple to decide, all factors need to be considered.
Is it possible for fenacing to be moved to the observed state PH in September?
Should the powers decide too keep it as is, would public holiday surcharges be placed on both recognised state observed PH and the Karratha recognised PH?
How would this be monitored?
NO FeNaCING can't be moved to September - due to the show circuit ..
You would have No carnival operators and you would lose 95 percent of the stalls as they go from festival to festival.
Understood how does the PH surcharge affect locals, paying surcharges twice for the same statutory holiday.
Does the statutory holiday (Kings birthday) have to be observed on Fenacing Festival?
Can it not be observed on the State Public Holiday in September?
For as long as I have lived here which is 30 years and involved with the organising of FeNaCING since 2004. Have I ever known a business to double dip !!
Businesses that observe the FeNaCING p/holiday charge the surcharge.
And the Kings Birthday in September they do not apply the surcharge.
Is it not possible to continue with FeNaCing on the current date yet the Kings Birthday be observed in September?
There are many public festivals occurring in Karratha in celebration of the theme at the time e.g Christmas, Art Festivals, Cultural celebrations etc.
Which are not necessarily observed on a Statutory Public Holiday and are not deemed as a local public holiday.
I don't believe it's necessary to change FeNaCing, however I do believe that the Statutory Public Holiday be observed in September.
There is still a load of locals who attend these celebrations/festivals irregardless whether it's a PH or not.
No, as you need to consider the festival finishes at 11pm (11.30pm) before stall holders can leave the grounds.
Who wants to then pack down at that time of night. Pack down for stalls takes hours and hours .
And who will want to do litter pick up from 11.30pm to 5.30 am in the morning, and then go to work !
People need to think of the bigger picture.
I'll add as someone who used to tram over from Darwin to Karratha after completing a gruelling 3 day Royal Show, packing down, driving to Karratha, and then working a very full on 2 day festival here in Karratha, the PH on the Monday was very, very welcome. Most of us were able to pack down at a reasonable pace and able to take a breather.
Thank you your input as a stall holder it is greatly appreciated.
Any body ever been down to the festival on the Monday, was it still there with all or most or some the operators?. The people in the know say if the day is changed we stand a good chance of loosing it.
The bigger question is who's idea it is to change, name them.
Good question! I'd like to know how/ why this change of date thing came about.

Have them both
I voted against changing to September because 1: late September is too hot.
2: All the carnies and stall holders will have done their run throughout the Pilbara and Broome and gone home, or moved on to places down south where it's cooler weather.
If it moves to September I doubt that we will be having our FenacIng festival at all!
3: We've never celebrated the monarch's birthday on Queen Elizabeth actual birthday so why should our festival change because King Charles is now Monarch!
None of it makes any sense to me.
Who/how/why has this question even been created anyway?
The FeNaCING is not being changed to September only the Monday holiday. We forfeit the King's birthday to have the August one. FeNaCING use to go for 3 days now only 2. Hope his helps
Yes we use to celebrate the King's birthday on the day'
Keep in August
August is good
Keep it how it is
Keep it in August with FeNaCING festival.
Too hot in September.
Keep it august
August
August
Made sense when FenacIng was a 3 day event but it hasn't been for a very long time. Change it.
well why change it now when it's been the same for so long...
just like the last survey on the Covid issue the Council will just ignore it anyways
you have to sign up to fill in the poll. This is really disappointing and seems intended to discourage participation. Do a poll not requiring sign up or better yet put it to a binding vote, not just a poll you can ignore. I'd also like to know why this is being proposed? Who tabled it? Why? Why now etc
thanks for the clarification, this is the first time I've seen the consultation wasn't aware it was 3 yearly!
Ohh please don't.... I know this is voted on every 3 years but councillors should know what the right thing to do is
only if it suits their business's mate. A bit like not allowing the Burger Bus to operate in Dampier at the Lions park
I manage a business and we have always taken September as the public holiday. When half the town takes August and the other half plus the rest of the state have September why do we need our own public holiday it is ridiculous.
because who's cleaning up for hours after it closes ?
Volunteers that work
Who is running the stalls?
A lot of Small businesses that have brick and mortar stores
Who helps the carnies?

Locals that work if there is no public holiday that Monday whoever does the bar will also suffer, which once again is usually a small business or a community group that has volunteers that have regular jobs.
Much bigger picture here.
100% on the money!!
we'll then don't swap another public holiday. Make a new one if it's that important.
a lot of people take both as is so they can travel to go to Perth's. both would be the much better solution
Does that mean moving FeNaClng festival?. Cause if it does it won't work with the carnival ppl as they will be in Perth for royal show ...
it's only
Moving the public holiday not the festival
Will the results of this poll, actually count towards the decision? Or will the Mayor side with the WA government, as per previous community surveys?
Lets hope so.
Hey City of Karratha if we vote and 73% agree, but the mayor disagrees, will it just go with the mayor's vote anyway?
comment of the week. It's especially important to spend \$30,000 getting feedback to ignore too!
Stay as is ir
T works foreveryone sofa
Can we have both?
i vote both.
Don't forget to register your opinion, if literally takes 2 mins to click the link. Facebook comments won't count when council make their decision next month, which should be to keep the FeNaCLNG weekend!
nothing we say will count. The mayor will do what he wants anyway
Why is this even a question!! Seriously if new people to town don't like it then they can always go home!!
Also... the mining companies should be made to take the same weekend so the town is not divided.
conversly, WA Government departments need to either be open on the August chosen date or the September date, you can't take both!
Seriously
s seriously
What's FeNaCING?
really?
Keep it traditional - always the first weekend of August!!
Yeah let's go to September and everyone can cookYeah let's go to September and everyone can cook
yes keep it as it is. Down south has it when the Royal Show is on.... same same
Yeah let's go to September and everyone can cook
Is there an option to vote for two public holidays?

Can you please use a simpler voting system- having to join or log in means less people will actually complete this!
that's the point
What change something going since 1996. It's a tradition!!
Already voted
Another vote for to keep it on the FeNaCLNG weekend! Don't forget to fill the form out. It's take less then 2mins to fill out.
Leave it alone.
Always been FeNacle weekend always will be
Keep it FeNaCkle weekend
Keep in august and also while I have you I reckon just get a bunnings.
Thats what we really would like to vote for aswell
Everyone please take the time to VOTE and keep it the same weekend !
Couldnt even respect the decision of the community when we voted on the poll. now you's want to change the date, leave it alone!!!!
I like that we do our own thing in Karratha
Keep it in August
KEEP IT AUGUST!!!
Keep August and worry about other community issues
Keep the same
To hard to decide, let's do both!
How many people clicked the link and saw the join now etc button and immediately swiped back. Can't we just have our say without getting spammed
Leave it alone
nah make it normal and hold fenacl on a more viable public holiday so the rest of us plebs can come visit and not have to rush home
haha more reason to keep her rolling as is
it's not that simple you will not get the carnival operators FeNaCING is incorporated on a show circuit and nor would you get the stall holders as the majority go on that circuit too.
when's his birthday, might start celebrating my birthday same day as yours.
Fill in the form people as your comments don't count
don't ever change it for gods sake
Don't mess with tradition, please leave it as the FeNaCling weekend, it's part of the towns history.
Bring the festival back to Dampier!
Needs to stay. I like having a public holiday / long weekend for my birthday
Keep in August.
FenacIng weekend.... Or make both public holidays like most other places do for their local show day
Please don't change it. Leave it as is.
Keep it on fenacle weekend ffs
Fenacle weekend

Fenacle weekend
The same as the queen
wtf noooo why is this even a question
AFL grand final weekend long weekend.
No need to have a vote COK if you have look at the responses, an overwhelming decision already made.....
What's the point of another survey, they don't listen anyway, only look after their business interests.
August