

The Hon Kezia Purick MLA Speaker Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory By email: <u>LA.Speaker@nt.gov.au</u>



Dear Madam Speaker

Basic Allowance Travel: Perth 31 August -4 September, 2017

On 31 August 2017 I travelled to Perth to attend the Liberal Party State Conference held at the Rendezvous Hotel, Scarborough. I returned on 4 September 2017, staying four nights.

I heard speeches from the Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull MP, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Julie Bishop MP and former Premier of NSW, The Hon Nick Greiner AC, amongst others. Having the opportunity to speak with Mr Greiner, ahead of his planned visit to Darwin in September, was extremely beneficial.

I met with Dr Mike Nahan MLA, WA Leader of the Opposition and discussed a range of issues including the Productivity Commission's Review of Horizontal Fiscal Equalization and the important matter of GST distribution by the Grants Commission going forward.

I also met with Lisa Harvey MLA, Deputy Leader of the Opposition to discuss the youth curfew that had been successfully introduced at Northbridge in the city in 2003 and to hear firsthand the specific measures implemented. I subsequently visited Northbridge at night. Ms Harvey was previously Police Minister and we discussed a range of similar issues facing WA and NT police and the reforms put in place by the outgoing government in that state.

There was a large contingent of Federal Government Ministers, Members of the House of Representatives and Senators in attendance at the conference and they included Senators Michaelia Cash, Senator Mathias Cormann, Ken Wyatt, AM, MP, Michael Keenan MP and Christian Porter MP, as well as many others.

The conference and subsequent meetings presented an ideal opportunity to discuss matters of importance to the Northern Territory and discuss ways in which the Country Liberals' Opposition can continue to work in partnership with Federal and State colleagues.

Yours sincerely

Gary Higgins

Member for Daly

Noted.



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