



**NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Meeting Number 2
Wednesday 19 October 2016**

1. MEETING

The Assembly met at 10.00. The Speaker, the Honourable Kezia Purick, presided.

2. PRAYERS

3. SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

The Speaker made a statement regarding Open Day at Parliament House held on 17 September 2016 and the use of a suggestion box inviting the general public to propose new laws.

Paper Tabled: Speaker tabled a list of suggestions for proposed new laws provided by the general public on Open Day (Paper 36).

Madam Speaker made a statement regarding National Carer's Week 16 to 22 October 2016.

4. MOTION: APPOINTMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE OPENING PARLIAMENT TO THE PEOPLE AGREED TO

Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business), pursuant to notice, moved:

1. That a Select Committee on the subject of Opening Parliament to the People be appointed comprising the Members for Fong Lim, Stuart, Sanderson, Karama, Daly, Nelson and Araluen.
2. The Committee is to inquire into options for parliamentary reform, particularly increased participation in the legislative process and policy debates and improving the effectiveness of Question Time, having regard to, among other things, the Parliamentary Reform - Opening Parliament to the People (Labor Policy Discussion Paper) and Restoring Integrity to Government – Trust and Integrity Reform Discussion Papers published by the then Opposition ahead of the Northern Territory Election and the Discussion Paper on Assembly Committee Reform tabled by the Speaker on 25 August 2015 and other proposals which the 12th Assembly Standing Orders Committee deferred for consideration of the 13th Assembly.
3. The Committee is to report to the Assembly by 31 March 2017.

Debate ensued.

Paper Tabled: Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business) tabled Territory Labor - Restoring Integrity to Government Trust and Integrity Reform Discussion Paper (Paper 33).

Debate continued.

Paper Tabled: Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business) tabled Parliamentary Reform: Opening Parliament to the People – Labor Policy Discussion Paper (Paper 34).

Debate continued.

Paper Tabled: Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business) tabled Discussion Paper on Assembly Committee Reform – February 2015 (Paper 35).

Debate continued.

Question put and passed.

5. MOTION: ADOPT COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS AGREED TO

Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business), pursuant to notice, moved that this Assembly adopts the Committee of Members' Interests Report recommendation to the 12th Assembly, so that an annual return of the Register of Members' Interests is placed on the Legislative Assembly website after tabling during the second sitting period each year and that this practice commences in 2017.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

6. MOTION: ADDRESS IN REPLY

Resumption of debate on the question that the Address in Reply be agreed to.

Debate resumed.

Debate suspended.

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 12.00 and 14.00.

7. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Ms Manison (Treasurer) will present on the next meeting day a Bill entitled Stamp Duty Amendment Bill 2016 (Serial 1).
2. Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business) will move on Tuesday 25 October 2016 that the Assembly adopts a Sessional Order in the following terms:

Notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders, during the conduct of Question Time on each Wednesday when the Assembly meets, no Government Member will ask a Minister or a Committee Chair a question without notice, but no single Minister may be asked consecutive questions without an intervening question being asked of a different Member who is a Minister, Committee Chair, Speaker or other Member who is able to be asked a question without notice pursuant to Standing Orders.

3. Mrs Finocchiaro (Shadow Minister for Health) will move on the next General Business day:

That this Assembly

- Recognises that the abuse of alcohol is at the centre of the most devastating social issues in our community including domestic violence; child neglect; violent crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Works together co-operatively and in partnership with the community to tackle this critical issue through policies, laws and other measures to the benefit of all Territorians.
- Calls on the Territory Government:
 - To set politics aside and not discard current measures where they are having a positive impact; and
 - To work with the Parliament as a whole to develop real and lasting solutions to this entrenched social problem.
- Requests that the Territory Government reports to this Parliament every 6 months regarding the effectiveness of alcohol abuse reduction measures including as a minimum with regard to:
 - Sale of Alcohol
 - Domestic Violence
 - Child Neglect
 - Violent Crime; and
 - Anti-social behaviour

8. PETITIONS

Mr Higgins presented Petition Number 1 from 354 petitioners conforming to Standing Orders praying that transport be provided for Coomalie District residents to attend medical treatments in Darwin (Paper 37).

Petition read.

Mr Higgins presented Petition Number 2 from 32 petitioners not conforming with Standing Orders relating to relating to access to hospital treatment in Darwin for Coomalie residents (Paper 38).

Petition read.

9. RESPONSES TO PETITIONS

The Clerk, pursuant to Standing Order 123, tabled Responses to Petition Number 60 presented on 24 May 2016 and Petition Number 64 presented on 23 June 2016 (Paper 39).

10. VISITORS

The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the Speaker's gallery of Mr John Lucas, General Manager Hilton Hotels, Darwin as well as Mr Shanaka Perera, Manager Hilton Hotels accompanied by a former Speaker of the Assembly the Honourable Roger Steele.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker extended a warm welcome to the visitors.

11. QUESTIONS

14:03 Mr Higgins to Chief Minister

14:06 Ms Nelson to Chief Minister
14:10 Mrs Finocchiaro to Minister for Education
14:14 Mrs Finocchiaro to Minister for Education – Supplementary
14:15 Mr Collins to Treasurer
14:19 Mrs Finocchiaro to Minister for Trade, Business and Innovation

Visitors: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of former Chief Minister the Honourable Stephen Hatton.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker extended a warm welcome to the visitor.

14:22 Mr Paech to Chief Minister
14:25 Mr Mills to Minister for Education
14:29 Mrs Finocchiaro to Minister for Education
14:32 Mr McConnell to Minister for Territory Families
14:35 Mrs Lambley to Chief Minister

Paper Tabled: Mrs Lambley, by leave, tabled Member for Araluen's Key Priorities for Alice Springs 2016 - 2020, 19 October 2016 (Paper 42).

14:38 Mrs Worden to Attorney-General and Minister for Justice
14:42 Mr Wood to Chief Minister
14:45 Mr Kirby to Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources
14:49 Mr Higgins to Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics
14:52 Ms Nelson to Minister for Primary Industry and Resources
14:55 Mr Mills to Minister for Education
14:59 Ms Uibo to Minister for Housing and Community Development

Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business) asked that further questions be placed on the Written Question Paper.

12. MOTION: ADDRESS IN REPLY

Resumption of debate on the question that the following Address in Reply be agreed to.

Debate ensued.

Extension of Time: On the motion of Ms Fyles, Ms Manison was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Extension of Time: On the motion of Ms Fyles, Mr Mills was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Extension of Time: On the motion of Ms Fyles, Mr Wood was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Extension of Time: On the motion of Mr McCarthy, Ms Fyles was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Debate adjourned.

13. PAPERS TABLED

The Deputy Speaker tabled the following papers:

1. Travel Report, Member for Johnston, Mr Ken Vowles travelled to Melbourne to attend meetings with relevant environment and transport stakeholders 28–30 June 2016, dated 25 August 2016 (Paper 43).
2. Travel Report, Member for Nightcliff, Ms Natasha Fyles travelled to Maningrida to attend meetings with members of the community in relation to Shadow Portfolios between 19–22 July 2016, dated 24 August 2016 (Paper 44)
3. Travel Report, Member for Nightcliff, Ms Natasha Fyles travelled to Alice Springs to attend Shadow minister meetings on 9 August 2016, dated 24 August 2016 (Paper 45).
4. Travel Report, Member for Araluen, Mrs Robyn Lambley travelled to Darwin for Professional Development and met with various Parliamentary colleagues between 4–7 September 2016, dated 12 September 2016 (Paper 46).
5. Travel Report, Member for Araluen, Mrs Robyn Lambley travelled to Darwin for Professional Development and met with various Parliamentary colleagues between 25-27 September 2016, dated 12 September 2016 (Paper 47).
6. Travel Report, Member for Namatjira, Ms Alison Anderson travelled to Darwin to attend an Independents meeting held by the Speaker between 17-19 June 2016, dated 23 August 2016 (Paper 47).
7. Travel Report, Member for Arafura, Mr Francis Kurrupuwu travelled to Darwin to meet with staff and receive briefings on issues relevant to my electorate between 29-30 May 2016, dated 1 August 2016 (Paper 48).
8. Travel Report, Member for Arafura, Mr Francis Kurrupuwu travelled to Darwin to attend a Boosting in the Bush workshop in Noonamah and other meetings on 8 June 2016, dated 1 August 2016 (Paper 49).

14. PAPERS TABLED: NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORY'S ENERGY FUTURE'S REPORT

The Clerk tabled the Northern Territory Government response to the Committee on the Northern Territory's Energy Future's Report (Paper 51).

15. ADJOURNMENT

Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business) moved that the Assembly adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 18.48 until 20 October 2016 at 10.00.

DEEMED PAPERS

Pursuant to Standing Order 239 the following papers were deemed to have been tabled:

Annual Report 2015-2016

Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services (Paper 40).

Estimates Committee –

Estimates Committee Answers to Questions Taken on Notice – (Paper 41)

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended the meeting.

MICHAEL TATHAM
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly