

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

No. 73

Wednesday 29 October 2014

1. MEETING

The Assembly met at 10am. The Speaker, the Honourable Kezia Purick took the Chair.

2. PRAYERS

3. VISITORS

The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of the Probus Club of Darwin.

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

4. QUESTIONS

10.01 Ms Lawrie to Chief Minister

10.06 Mrs Finocchiaro to Chief Minister

Paper Tabled: Mr Giles (Chief Minister) laid upon the Table – Media Release, TIO addresses the Parliamentary Joint Select Committee on Northern Australia dated 29 October 2014 (Paper 1074).

10.09 Ms Lawrie to Chief Minister

10.13 Mr Barrett to Chief Minister

10.16 Ms Lawrie to Chief Minister

10.21 Mr Higgins to Chief Minister

10.25 Ms Anderson to Minister for Local Government and Regions

10.29 Mr Kurrupuwu to Minister for Lands, Planning and the Environment

10.32 Mr Vowles to Chief Minister

10.33 Mr Kurrupuwu to Minister for Housing

Visitors: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of a year 11 history class from Kormilda College.

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

10.36 Mr Gunner to Chief Minister

Withdrawal from Chamber: The Speaker ordered Ms Lawrie (Member for Karama) to withdraw from the Assembly for one hour pursuant to Standing Order 240A.

10.41 Mr Gunner to Chief Minister (supplementary question)

Withdrawal from Chamber: The Speaker ordered Mr McCarthy (Member for Barkly) to withdraw from the Assembly for one hour pursuant to Standing Order 240A.

10.43 Mrs Finocchiaro to Minister for Health

10.45 Mr Gunner to Chief Minister

10.51 Mr Kurrupuwu to Minister for Infrastructure

10.54 Mr Wood to Minister for Local Government and Regions

10.57 Mr Barrett to Chief Minister

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

5. INFORMATION AMENDMENT BILL 2014 (SERIAL 101)

Mr Elferink (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Information Act*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Elferink moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Paper Tabled: Mr Elferink laid upon the Table the Explanatory Statement (Paper 1075).

On the motion of Mr Gunner (Member for Fannie Bay) debate was adjourned.

6. VISITORS

The Deputy Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of the former Member of the Legislative Assembly Mr Denis Burke accompanied by his wife Mrs Annette Burke and interstate guests.

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

7. PAROLE AMENDMENT BILL 2014 (SERIAL 96) – BILL AGREED TO

Resumption of debate on the question - That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Papers Tabled: Mr Elferink (Attorney-General) laid upon the Table:

1. Graph, NT Prisoner Number Projection September 2014, Prisoners Projections for the Northern Territory (Paper 1076); and
2. Letter, to Hon. John Elferink, MLA, re: First Report under section 43(2) of the *Children's Commissioner Act 2013* relating to Youth Detention Practices, Dr Howard Bath, Children's Commissioner, dated 24 October 2014 (Paper 1077).

Question - put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On the motion of Mr Elferink, by leave, the Bill was read a third time and was passed to be a proposed law.

Suspension of sittings: The sitting of the Assembly was suspended between 12 noon and 2.00pm.

8. NOTICES

The following notice was given:

1. Mr Giles (Chief Minister) will move on the next sitting day - That this House acknowledges:
 1. The Territory Insurance Office (TIO) is facing significant future challenges in the rapidly changing world of insurance.

2. That if the right criteria are met, now may be the appropriate time to realise our value in the TIO and re-invest in building the Territory for future generations.

9. REORDER OF BUSINESS – MOTION AGREED TO

Mr Elferink (Leader of Government Business) moved – pursuant to Standing Order 89 the re-ordering of the Routine of Business so that the Assembly immediately considers Ministerial Statements and at the conclusion of Ministerial Statements the Assembly resumes consideration of Government Business.

Question – put and passed

10. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT – BUILDING INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES – MOTION TO NOTE

Mr Giles (Chief Minister) made a statement regarding the growing international investment opportunities being created in the Territory.

Mr Giles moved – That the Assembly take note of the Statement.

Debate ensued.

Extension of Time: On the motion of Mr Higgins (Member for Daly), Mr Styles (Member for Sanderson) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Extension of Time: On the motion of Mr Higgins, Mr Chandler (Member for Brennan) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Extension of Time: On the motion of Mr Chandler, Mr Westra van Holthe (Member for Katherine) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Extension of Time: On the motion of Mrs Finocchiaro (Member for Drysdale), Mr Elferink (Member for Port Darwin) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Debate suspended.

General Business: The time being 5.30pm, General Business commenced.

11. SALE OF PUBLIC ASSETS – MOTION NOT AGREED TO

Ms Lawrie (Member for Karama) pursuant to notice, moved – This Legislative Assembly condemns the Chief Minister and the Government for their actions to sell public assets: the Territory Insurance Office, PowerWater and the port, without a mandate, in order to fund their unfunded election commitments.

And that the Legislative Assembly asserts that the Government must halt any actions to sell public assets and must take their policy to sell public assets to the 2016 Territory election.

Debate ensued.

Extension of Time: On the motion of Mr McCarthy (Member for Barkly), Mr Wood (Member for Nelson) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Extension of Time: On the motion of Mr Chandler (Member for Brennan), Mr Giles (Member for Brainting) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Question – put

The Assembly divided:

Ayes - 9

Ms Fyles
Mr Gunner
Ms Lawrie
Mr McCarthy
Ms Manison
Ms Moss
Mr Vowles
Ms Walker
Mr Wood

Noes - 12

Mr Barrett
Mr Chandler
Mr Conlan
Mr Elferink
Mrs Finocchiaro
Mr Giles
Mr Higgins
Mr Kurrupuwu
Mrs Lambley
Mrs Price
Mr Styles
Mr Westra van Holthe

Motion not agreed to.

12. FUNDING AND RESOURCING TERRITORY SCHOOLS

Ms Fyles (Member for Nightcliff) pursuant to notice, moved – That this Legislative Assembly condemns the CLP Government for failing to properly fund and resource Territory schools by:

- Slashing \$125 million from the education budgets
- Forcing global school budgets onto schools which is cost shifting resource burdens onto our schools

The Legislative Assembly calls on the government to reinstate teachers, teacher assistants and properly resource our Territory schools.

Debate ensued.

The time being 9.00pm, debate was suspended at the completion of General Business.

13. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT - BUILDING INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES – STATEMENT NOTED

Resumption of debate on the question – That the Assembly take note of the Statement.

Debate resumed.

Question – put and passed.

14. PAPERS

The Speaker laid upon the Table - Quarterly Members Fuel Transaction Report (Paper 1084).

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mr Elferink (Leader of the Opposition) moved - That the Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 9.50pm until Thursday 30 October 2014 at 10.00am.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been Tabled on 29 October 2014 -

Annual Reports 2013/2014:

Department of Children and Families, 2013/2014 (Paper 1078)

Department of Correctional Services, 2013/2014 (Paper 1079)

Department of Housing, 2013/2014 (Paper 1080)

Department of Local Government and Regions, 2013/2014 (Paper 1081)

Department of the Attorney-General and Justice, 2013/2014 (Paper 1082)

Mental Health Review & Lands, Planning and Mining Tribunals Northern Territory, 2013/014
(Paper 1083)

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended the sittings, except Mr Tollner.

MICHAEL TATHAM

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly