



**NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Meeting Number 34
Thursday 24 August 2017**

1. MEETING

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

2. PRAYERS

3. VISITORS

The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Year 8 students from Darwin Middle School accompanied by their teachers, Cathy Deans and Cathy Hood.

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

4. SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

The Speaker made a statement regarding Daffodil Day.

5. ASSEMBLY MEMBERS AND STATUTORY OFFICERS (REMUNERATION AND OTHER ENTITLEMENTS) AMENDMENT BILL 2017 (SERIAL 27)

Mr Gunner (Chief Minister), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Gunner moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Paper Tabled: Mr Gunner tabled the Explanatory Statement (Paper 383).

On the motion of Mr Higgins debate was adjourned.

6. CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (DANGEROUS NAVIGATION OF VESSELS) BILL 2017 (SERIAL 28)

Ms Fyles (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Criminal Code.

Bill read a first time.

Ms Fyles moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Paper Tabled: Ms Fyles tabled the Explanatory Statement (Paper 384).

On the motion of Mr Higgins debate was adjourned.

7. MOTION: CONDOLENCE DR YUNUPINGU AGREED TO

The Speaker informed the Assembly of the death on 25 July 2017 of Dr Yunupingu.

The Speaker advised Members of the presence in the Speaker's Gallery of family, friends and distinguished visitors.

Mr Gunner (Chief Minister), by leave, moved that this Assembly express its condolences at the passing of Dr Yunupingu, and extend deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

Mr Gunner, Mr Higgins, Mr Mills, Mr Guyula, Mr Costa, Mr Vowles, Ms Ah Kit, Ms Fyles, Ms Moss.

Question put and passed.

As a mark of respect Members stood in their places in silence for one minute.

8. SUPREME COURT AMENDMENT (ASSOCIATE JUDGES) BILL 2017 (SERIAL 26): BILL AGREED TO

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

Mr Higgins.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On the motion of Ms Fyles (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) by leave the Bill was read a third time and was passed to be a propose law.

9. VISITORS

The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Year 8 students from Darwin Middle School, accompanied by their teachers, Nelly Labiche and Catherine Packham.

And Year 8 students from Darwin Middle School, accompanied by their teachers, Seema Jaitly and Cathy Hood.

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

10. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: INVESTING IN JOBS – MINING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRY. MOTION TO NOTE

Resumption of debate on the question that the Assembly take note of the Statement.

Ms Lawler, Mr Sievers.

Debate suspended.

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

11. VISITORS

The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Rhonda Higgins, wife of the Leader of the Opposition, Eileen Brierley, Keith Brierley, and Mary and Larry Conway.

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

12. PERSONAL EXPLANATION: MR HIGGINS

Pursuant to Standing Order 26, having obtained leave from the Chair, Mr Higgins explained matters of a personal nature.

Paper Tabled: Mr Higgins, by leave, tabled Extracts from the Answers to Written Questions to the Minister for Education, 27 July 2017 (Paper 387).

13. QUESTIONS

14.01 Mr Higgins to Ms Fyles

14.03 Ms Uiibo to Mr Gunner

Papers Tabled: Mr Gunner (Chief Minister) tabled the following papers:

1. Letter, Senator Hon. Nigel Scullion, Minister for Indigenous Affairs, re letter dated 8 December 2015 from the former Northern Territory Minister for Lands and Planning, Mr David Tollner advising that the Northern Territory Government had decided to discontinue any Negotiations for the future tenure arrangements township of Jabiru, from Michael Gunner, dated 1 December 2016 (Paper 388).
2. Letter to Mr Samuel Bush-Blanasi, Chairman, Northern Land Council, re Territory's position on the future arrangements for land tenure in Jabiru, Commonwealth Government owns freehold title to all land in Jabiru, vested in the Director of National Parks (DNP) from Mr David Tollner, dated 8 December 2015 (Paper 389).
3. Letter to Mr Justin O'Brien, Chief Executive Officer, Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation, (GAC) requesting a meeting to discuss important issues relating for the future tenure arrangements township of Jabiru, from Michael Gunner, dated 7 December 2016 (Paper 390).
4. Letter to Mr Samuel Bush-Blanasi, Chairman, Northern Land Council, The Territory position on future arrangements for land tenure in Jabiru, Commonwealth Government owns freehold title to all land in Jabiru, vested in the Director of National Parks (DNP) David Tollner, dated 8 December 2015 (Paper 391).
5. Letter to Senator Hon. Nigel Scullion, Territory position on future arrangements for land tenure in Jabiru, Commonwealth Government owns freehold title to all land in Jabiru, vested in the Director of National Parks (DNP) David Tollner, dated 8 December 2015 (Paper 392).
6. Letter to Mr Samuel Bush-Blanasi, Chairman, Northern Land Council, Opportunity to attend the Northern Land Council Full Council meeting in Timber Creek on 16 November 2016, from Michael Gunner, dated 1 December 2016 (Paper 393).

14.08 Mr Higgins to Mr Gunner

14.09 Mr Kirby to Ms Fyles

14.11 Mr Higgins to Ms Fyles

Paper Tabled: Mr Higgins, by leave, tabled Extract, To mark the passing of BDR (version 2) legislation and the introduction of ICAC, Attorney-General, Natasha Fyles invites you to post-parliament media drinks (Paper 394).

14.13 Mr Sievers to Ms Moss

14.17 Mr Guyula to Mr Gunner

14.21 Mr Costa to Ms Manison

14.24 Mr Mills to Mr Gunner

14.28 Ms Ah Kit to Ms Fyles

14.31 Mr Wood to Ms Wakefield – Referred to Manison

14.33 Ms Nelson to Ms Lawler

14.36 Mrs Lambley to Mr Gunner

- 14.41 Ms Uiibo to Mr McCarthy
- 14.46 Mr Higgins to Mr Gunner
- 14.49 Mr Paech to Mr Vowles
- 14.52 Mr Guyula to Ms Moss
- 14.56 Mr Kirby to Ms Moss

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

14. CONDOLENCE MOTION: MR LESTER AGREED TO

The Speaker informed the Assembly of the passing on 21 July 2017 of Mr Lester.

The Speaker advised Members of the presence in the Speaker's Gallery of family, friends and distinguished visitors.

Mr Gunner (Chief Minister), by leave, moved that this Assembly express its condolences at the passing of Mr Lester, and extend deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

Mr Gunner, Mr Higgins, Mr Paech, Ms Ah Kit, Mr Vowles.

Question put and passed.

As a mark of respect Members stood in their places in silence for one minute.

15. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: INVESTING IN JOBS – MINING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRY. STATEMENT NOTED

Resumption of debate on the question that the Assembly take note of the Statement.

Mr Wood, Ms Nelson, Mr McCarthy, Mr McConnell.

Visitor: The Deputy Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Dr Iain Spiers.

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

Ms Uiibo, Mr Paech, Ms Ah Kit, Mrs Worden, Ms Purick, Ms Moss, Mr Vowles.

Question put and passed.

16. PAPER TABLED: AUDITOR-GENERAL FOR THE NORTHERN TERRITORY, AUGUST 2017, REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr Paech (Deputy Speaker) tabled the Auditor-General for the Northern Territory, August 2017, Report to the Legislative Assembly (Paper 395).

Ms Fyles moved that the Assembly take note of the report.

Leave was granted for Ms Fyles to continue her remarks at a later time.

17. PAPERS TABLED

The Deputy Speaker tabled the following papers:

1. Study report for the Member for Blain (Paper 396).
2. Travel report for the Member for Arafura (Paper 397).
3. Travel report for the Member for Arnhem (Paper 403).
4. Quarterly Fuel Report, June Quarter 2017 (Paper 398)

18. PAPER TABLED: STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE, REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO RECOMMENDATIONS REFERRED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON 9 MAY 2017 REPORT ADOPTED

Ms Fyles (Chair of Standing Orders Committee) tabled Standing Orders Committee, Report of the Standing Orders Committee Inquiry into Recommendations referred by the Assembly on 9 May 2017 as a consequence of the Assembly's Consideration of the Report of the Select Committee on Opening Parliament to the People (Paper 399) and made a statement.

Ms Fyles moved that the Assembly adopt the report.

Question put and passed.

19. MOTION: APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES AGREED TO

Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business), by leave, moved that the Members for Karama, Katherine, Namatjira, Araluen and Spillett be appointed to the Social Policy Scrutiny Committee and the Members for Brennan, Arnhem, Fong Lim, Nelson and Daly be appointed to the Economic Policy Scrutiny Committee.

Question put and passed.

20. MOTION: REFER INDEPENDENT COMMISSIONER AGAINST CORRUPTION BILL TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGREED TO

Ms Fyles (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice), by leave, moved that the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Bill 2017 be referred to the Social Policy Scrutiny Committee (Serial 30).

Question put and passed.

21. PAPER TABLED: STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE, REPORT ON CONSIDERATION OF REFORM TO STANDING ORDER 23A

Ms Fyles (Chair of Standing Orders Committee) tabled Standing Orders Committee, Report on Consideration of Reform to Standing Order 23A (Speaking of Languages other than English during proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory) (Paper 400) and made a statement.

Ms Fyles moved that the Assembly take note of the report.

Question put and passed.

Leave was granted for Member's Name to continue her remarks at a later time.

22. PAPER TABLED: PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017 AND MINUTES

Mrs Worden (Chair of Public Accounts Committee) tabled Public Accounts Committee, Annual Report 2016-2017 (Paper 401) and Minutes (Paper 402) and made a statement.

Ms Worden moved that the Assembly take note of the report.

Debate adjourned.

23. MOTION: NOTE PAPER - TRAVEL REPORT AGREED TO

Ms Uiibo, Member for Arnhem, pursuant to notice, moved that the paper be noted.

24. ADJOURNMENT

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

Ms Uibo, Mr Wood.

The Assembly adjourned at 20.00 until Tuesday 10 October 2017 at 10.00.

DEEMED PAPERS

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

Annual Reports 2016: National Trust of Australia (Northern Territory) (Paper 385)

Remuneration Tribunal: Northern Territory of Australia Remuneration Tribunal - Report and Determination of Entitlements, No.1 of 2017 Local Court Judges (Paper 386)

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended the meeting, except Mrs Finocchiaro on leave.

MICHAEL TATHAM

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly