

# Terms of Reference

## ALICE SPRINGS PASTORAL INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Alice Springs Pastoral Industry Advisory Committee (ASPIAC) was established in 1987 and is one of 3 pastoral industry advisory committees serving in the Northern Territory. ASPIAC incorporates the Central Australia Beef Research Committee.

### ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE

The role of the committee is to:

- Advise the Northern Territory Minister responsible for agriculture and the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade (the department) on technical issues facing the cattle industry in the Alice Springs Region.
- Advise the Minister and the department on priority areas of research, development, extension and adoption, and other services that will improve the productive efficiency of the pastoral industry in the Alice Springs Region.
- Receive and review the result of pastoral research carried out by the department in the Alice Springs Region, and to act as a body through which research results may be communicated to industry.
- Participate in planning of the department's programs that support and service the Pastoral Industry in the Alice Springs Region.
- Represent the Alice Springs Region on the North Australia Beef Research Committee (NABRC) and Meat and Livestock Australia's (MLA) National Beef Industry Council (NBIC).

### ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE

- The committee will meet (face-to-face, or by telephone / video conference) at least twice a year, prior to NABRC / NBIC meetings. A minimum of 4 producer members will be required for a meeting quorum.
- The standing agenda item "Ministerial Item Call" will document any urgent or important issues that need to be communicated to the Minister.
- The committee will concentrate on issues of a research, development, and extension and adoption nature. Issues concerning Northern Territory Government policy will be dealt with through the Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association (NTCA).
- The committee will review research, development, extension and adoption activities undertaken by the department to ensure that they fit in with the region's priorities; that they address the questions that producers want answered; that the projects are carried out in a timely and competent manner; and that all information is promptly and clearly communicated to industry.
- The committee will work in partnership with department staff to decide research priorities and strategic direction for the Alice Springs Region, and to submit regional priorities to NABRC.
- The Committee may be required to consider issues out-of-session (between meetings) when urgent matters arise.
- Issues will be raised by email and or phone calls from the Secretary (or other delegated department staff) or through the Chairperson. A non-response to any requested feedback from Members to Secretariat by the due date will be regarded as support or approval of the request.

## MEMBERSHIP

The membership of ASPIAC is specified in the following table and is governed by the following points:

Chairperson	Chair to be a cattle producer from the region appointed for a 3 year term (renewable).
Deputy Chairperson	A cattle producer from the region, appointed for a 3 year term (renewable).
Producer members	Maximum of 9 and minimum of 5 producer members from the region appointed for a 3 year term (renewable).
Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade	Regional Director or nominated senior regional Livestock Industry Development (LID) representative.
Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security	Where applicable, one representative (senior member of Pastoral Branch).
NT Rural College (Charles Darwin University)	Where applicable, one representative (Director or nominated senior representative).
Non-producer representative	Where applicable, an individual who is not a producer but has strong links to the industry may be nominated to sit on the committee as either a proxy or a full member. This representative should have significant knowledge of the Alice Springs pastoral industry and appointed on their individual merit, e.g. exporter or processing sector, stock agent or land management group (e.g. Centralian Land Management Association).
Community representative without close links to the pastoral industry	Where applicable, an individual without close links to the pastoral industry but who would add value or provide balance to the committee's deliberations may be nominated as either a proxy or full member. This representative would be appointed on their individual merit (e.g. CSIRO representative).
Ex-Officio and Non-members (Visitors)	NTCA Regional Chairperson; DITT Section Head LID; Other LID staff as required; MLA or NABRC representatives; Any person providing information to value add to agenda discussions.

- The Chairperson and members are appointed by the Minister with the approval of the NT Cabinet.
- The Chairperson is recommended to the Minister by the Regional Director DITT in consultation with members of the committee.
- New members are recommended to the Minister by the Regional Director DITT, in consultation with the Chairperson and nominations from members of the committee.
- All members sit on the committee to represent the whole of the Alice Springs pastoral industry. When proposing new members, consideration will be given to achieving a diversity of gender, age, ownership and district.
- Non-members may attend meetings only at the invitation of the Chairperson.
- Members who fail to attend 2 consecutive meetings may receive a letter from the Chairperson inquiring as to whether they are still able to commit the necessary time to the committee, and may be offered the opportunity by the Minister to resign, if they can no longer do so.
- Non-Response to requested feedback from Members – a non-response to Secretariat by the due date will be regarded as support or approval of the request.
- The appointed Chairperson, where applicable, will represent the committee on NABRC.