Northern Territory of Australia
Legislative Assembly

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting Number 23
Tuesday 20 May 2025

---

1. MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY

The Assembly met at 10.00 am. The Speaker, the Honourable Robyn Lambley, took the Chair, read the prayer and delivered the acknowledgement of country on behalf of the Assembly.

2. SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

The Speaker advised that nominations had been received appointing the Members for Arafura, Drysdale, Fannie Bay, Johnston, and Karama to the Estimates Committee.

3. DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE AND VICTIMS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2025 (SERIAL 22)

Order of the day read for moving the second reading of the Domestic and Family Violence and Victims Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 22).

Ms Boothby (Attorney-General) moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

Ms Uibo, Mr Mackay, Mrs Carlson, Mr Paech, J Davis.

Visitors: On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed students and teachers from YouthWorX NT present in the gallery.

Mr Kerle, Mr Howe.

Debate interrupted.

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 12 noon and 2.00 pm.

---

4. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Mr Guyula informed the Assembly of the amendment to the General Business Notice No. 1, Eradicating Racism:

   That the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly:

   1. Affirms the NT's obligation to prevent racism and racial discrimination under the positive duty law, and calls for system-wide action aligned with the Aboriginal Justice Agreement.

2. Urges the co-design of an NT Anti-Racism Strategy grounded in the National Anti-Racism Framework in full alignment with the Aboriginal Justice Agreement.

2. Mr Paech will move on the General Business day:

That the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly:

- Negotiate in good faith with employee representatives and finalise outstanding public sector enterprise agreements.
- Honour its commitment not to sack public servants.
- Amend its wages policy so that workers are not forced to trade entitlements for wage increases.

3. Mr Young will move on the General Business day:

That the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly:

1. Recognise the importance of individual choice in accessing public and private healthcare services across the Northern Territory, and the critical role choice plays in ensuring timely, quality, and accessible care for Territorians.
2. Recognise that preserving and expanding choice between public and private providers allows Territories to make decisions that best suit their medical needs, financial circumstances, and personal preferences.
3. Urge the Finocchiaro CLP Government to:
   - Work with healthcare stakeholders and the Federal Government to maintain and encourage access to private healthcare options across the Northern Territory; and
   - Support the growth and sustainability of private healthcare providers in the Territory.

4. Ms Uibo will move on the next General Business day:

That the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly:

1. Urgently invest in renewable energy infrastructure and technology to support the Territory sustainable energy future.
2. Recommit to the 50 per cent renewable target by 2030, in recognition of the importance of progressing our renewable energy capabilities.
3. Continue to commit to the Remote Power System Strategy so that 70 per cent of the combined electricity consumed in 72 remote Territory communities serviced by Indigenous Essential Services (IES) comes from renewable energy by 2030.

5. PETITION

Petition Number 11: J Davis presented Petition Number 11 from 363 petitioners, not conforming with Standing Orders, praying for the protection and strengthening of the film industry (Paper 283).

Petition read.

J Davis moved that Petition Number 11 be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

Question put and passed.

6. QUESTIONS

2.05 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.09 Mr O'Gallagher to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.12 Mr Young to Ms Boothby
2.16 Mr Mackay to Mr Yan
2.20 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.24 Mr Patel to Mr Maley
2.29 Ms Uibo to Ms Cahill
2.32 Mrs Zio to Mr Yan
2.37 Mr Young to Mr Edgington
2.41 Mrs Carlson to Mrs Hersey
2.44 J Davis to Ms Cahill
2.49 Mr Kerle to Mr Burgoyne
2.53 K McNamara to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.57 Dr Rahman to Ms Cahill
3.01 Mr Paech to Mr Burgoyne, redirected to Mr Yan
3.05 Mr Paech to Mr Yan – Supplementary
3.07 Mr Howe to Mr Edgington

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

7. DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE AND VICTIMS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2025 (SERIAL 22)

Order of the day read for the resumption of debate on the question that the Bill be now read a second time.

K McNamara, Mr Guyula, Mrs Hersey, Ms Cahill, Ms Boothby (in reply).

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly considered the Bill in detail.

Clause 1 stands as printed.

Clause 2.

Ms Boothby moved the following amendment:

Clause 2

omit (all references)

21

insert

14

Amendment agreed to.

Clause 2 stands as amended.

Clauses 3 and 4 stand as printed.

Clause 5.

On the question that Clause 5 stands as printed, the Assembly divided:

Ayes 17

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey
Mr Howe	Mr Kerle	Mr Mackay	Mr Maley
Mr O'Gallagher	Mr Patel	Dr Rahman	Mr Yan
Mrs Zio			

Noes 7

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr Guyula	K McNamara
Mr Paech	Ms Uibo	Mr Young	

Question agreed to.

Clause 6

On the question that Clause 6 stands as printed, the Assembly divided:

Ayes 17

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey
Mr Howe	Mr Kerle	Mr Mackay	Mr Maley
Mr O'Gallagher	Mr Patel	Dr Rahman	Mr Yan
Mrs Zio			

Noes 7

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr Guyula	K McNamara
Mr Paech	Ms Uibo	Mr Young	

Question agreed to.

Clauses 7 to 12 stand as printed.

Clause 13.

Ms Boothby moved the following amendment:

Clause 13(2)

omit, insert

(2) The Director may, in writing, appoint a person to be an assessor for the financial assistance scheme if the Director is satisfied that the person has the appropriate skills, training and experience to perform the functions of an assessor.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause 13 stands as amended.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Ms Boothby moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

8. WATER AMENDMENT (ABORIGINAL WATER RESERVES) BILL 2025 (SERIAL 21)

Order of the day read for moving the second reading of the Water Amendment (Aboriginal Water Reserves) Bill 2025 (Serial 21).

Mr Burgoyne (Minister for Water Resources) moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr Paech, Mr Yan, Mr Guyula, K McNamara, J Davis, Mr Burgoyne (in reply).

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly considered the Bill in detail.

Clauses 1 to 6 stand as printed.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

Bill agreed to.

Mr Burgoyne moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and the Assembly divided:

Ayes 17

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey
Mr Howe	Mr Kerle	Mr Mackay	Mr Maley
Mr O'Gallagher	Mr Patel	Dr Rahman	Mr Yan
Mrs Zio			

Noes 7

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr Guyula	K McNamara
Mr Paech	Ms Uibo	Mr Young	

Motion passed.

Bill read a third time

9. PAPER TABLED

The Speaker tabled: Quarterly Members' Fuel Transaction Report, Quarter 1, January to March 2025 (Paper 284).

10. MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: SUPPORTING THE WORK OF RANGERS AND RANGER PROGRAMS

The Speaker advised the Assembly that Ms Uibo had proposed a Matter of Public Importance in the following terms:

> Importance of investing in and supporting the work of rangers and ranger programs throughout the Territory.

Having received the necessary support, discussion ensued.

Paper Tabled: Ms Uibo, by leave, tabled: Report, Northern Territory Aboriginal Ranger Grant Program, Independent Review of Program Outcomes Report, prepared by Ninti One, October 2020 (Paper 285).

Mr Burgoyne, Mr Guyula, K McNamara, Mr Brown, J Davis, Mr Young, Mr Paech.

Discussion concluded.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mr Edgington (Leader of Government Business) moved that the Assembly do now adjourn.

Mr Maley, Mrs Hersey, Ms Cahill, K McNamara, Mrs Zio, Mrs Finocchiaro, Mr Mackay, Mrs Carlson, Mr Paech, Mr Howe, Mr Patel, Mr Burgoyne, Dr Rahman, Mr Kerle, Mr Charls, Ms Uibo.

Question put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 10.50 pm until Wednesday 21 May 2025 at 10.00 am.

ATTENDANCE

All members attended the meeting.



RUSSELL KEITH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly