Northern Territory of Australia
Legislative Assembly

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting Number 22
Thursday 15 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 the Public Accounts Committee has received an inquiry referral from the Treasurer into the Darwin Ship Lift Project and tabled the letter from the Chair (Paper 271).

3. VISITORS

On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed students and teachers from St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School present in the gallery.

4. APPROPRIATION (2025-2026) BILL 2025 (SERIAL 25) AND REVENUE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2025 (SERIAL 26)

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

Mrs Hersey (continuation of remarks), Ms Boothby, Ms Cahill, Mr Mackay, Mr O'Gallagher, K McNamara, J Davis, Mr Howe, Mrs Zio.

Debate interrupted.

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

---

5. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Mr Brown will move on the General Business day:

   That the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly:

   - Recognise the importance of providing a highly accessible safe place for young people to connect with each other, engage in fun activities and access the support they need; and
   - Condemn the Finocchiaro CLP Government for relocating the Youth Hub without proper consultation and without adequately considering the needs of young people of the Northern Suburbs.

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

That the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly:

1. Note that secure, affordable housing is essential for the wellbeing of all Territorians;
2. Recognise the Northern Territory faces a housing crisis, with shortages in urban areas and severe overcrowding in remote communities;
3. Express concern about the Government's cuts of over $100 million from housing, including urban, remote, government employee housing, and housing in homelands and town camps;
4. Calls on the Government to urgently restore and increase investment in housing infrastructure, ensuring funding for new builds, upgrades, and maintenance;
5. Calls on the Government to deliver on Commonwealth housing programs in full, including the Housing Australia Future Fund and National Housing Accord;
6. Urges the Government to fulfil its commitments to provide safe, sustainable, and culturally appropriate housing across the Territory.

6. VISITORS

On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed students and teachers from Darwin High School present in the gallery.

7. QUESTIONS

2.02 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.06 Mr Howe to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.10 Mr Paech to Ms Boothby
2.14 Mr Paech to Ms Boothby – Supplementary
2.16 Mr Kerle to Mr Yan
2.20 Mr Young to Ms Boothby
2.21 Mr O'Gallagher to Ms Boothby
2.25 Mr Paech to Ms Cahill
2.30 Dr Rahman to Mr Maley
2.34 Mr Brown to Mrs Hersey
2.36 Mr Mackay to Mr Burgoyne
2.40 J Davis to Ms Boothby, redirected to Ms Cahill
2.44 Mr Patel to Ms Boothby
2.48 K McNamara to Ms Cahill
2.51 Mrs Carlson to Mr Charls
2.55 Mr Brown to Mr Burgoyne
3.00 Mrs Zio to Mr Edgington

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

8. STATEMENT BY MR YAN

Mr Yan, by leave, made a short statement regarding National Road Safety Week.

9. APPROPRIATION (2025-2026) BILL 2025 (SERIAL 25) AND REVENUE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2025 (SERIAL 26)

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

Mrs Zio (continuation of remarks), Mr Patel, Mr Paech.

Paper Tabled: Mr Paech, by leave, tabled: Extract from a News Article, The Centralian Today, Rangers are Firm, published 15 August 2024 (Paper 277).

On the motion of Mr Edgington the debate was adjourned.

10. NORTHERN TERRITORY ABORIGINAL SACRED SITES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2025 (SERIAL 23)

Order of the day read for moving the second reading of the Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 23).

Mr Burgoyne (Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment) moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr Brown, Mr Guyula, Mr Paech.

Paper Tabled: Mr Paech, by leave, tabled: Letter addressed to the Hon. Joshua Burgoyne MLA, Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Legislation Amendment Bill 2025, dated 14 May 2025, from Warren William, Chair of the Central Land Council (Paper 278).

Mr Young, Ms Uibo, K McNamara, J Davis.

Visitors: On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed the Howard Springs Scouts Group present in the gallery.

Mr Burgoyne (in reply).

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly considered the Bill in detail.

Clauses 1 to 13 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 15

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

Noes 6

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

Motion passed.

Bill read a third time.

11. RESPONSES TO PETITIONS

The Clerk, pursuant to Standing Order 123, tabled responses to:

1. Petition Number 3, requesting effective action to protect Litchfield National Park from the spread of gamba grass (Paper 279).
2. Petition Number 6, calling for the return of Lee Point and Casuarina Coastal Reserve to Larrakia people (Paper 280).
3. Petition Number 7, requesting improvements to the Humpty Doo School Crossing (Paper 281).
4. Petition Number 8, requesting upgrades to Port Keats Road (Paper 282).

12. MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: OUTCOME OF THE 2025 AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL ELECTION

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

> Recognising the outcome of the 2025 Australian Federal Election and the opportunities it brings for the Northern Territory.

Having received the necessary support, discussion ensued.

Mr Mackay, Mr Paech, Mr O'Gallagher, Mr Young, Mr Howe, Mr Brown.

Discussion concluded.

13. ADJOURNMENT

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

Question put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 10.04 pm until Tuesday 20 May 2025 at 10.00 am.

DEEMED PAPERS

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

Coroners Act 1993

Report to the Legislative Assembly, In the matter of Coroner's Findings and Recommendations regarding death of Glen Dooley, pursuant to *Coroners Act 1993*, section 46B (Paper 273)

Report to the Legislative Assembly, In the matter of Coroner's Findings and Recommendations regarding death of Tyrell Tami, pursuant to *Coroners Act 1993*, section 46B (Paper 274)

Report to the Legislative Assembly, In the matter of Coroner's Findings and Recommendations regarding death of Richard Ken Roe, pursuant to *Coroners Act 1993*, section 46B (Paper 275)

Financial Management Act 1995

Statement Under Section 19(4) of the *Financial Management Act 1995* (Paper 272)

Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Act 1989

Annual Report, Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board, year ended 30 June 2024, *Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Act 1989* (Paper 276)

ATTENDANCE
All members attended the meeting



RUSSELL KEITH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly