NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting Number 30
Wednesday 16 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 7 Rosebery Middle School students accompanied by their teachers.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker welcomed the visitors.

4. SPEAKER'S STATEMENT
The Speaker made a statement regarding an Australian Red Cross Publication.

5. MOTION: COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES CHANGES AGREED TO
Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business), pursuant to notice and in accordance with Standing Order 179, moved that the Assembly discharge the Member for Wanguri from the Committee of Privileges and appoint the Member for Drysdale to the Committee of Privileges.

Question put and passed.

6. ALCOHOL HARM REDUCTION BILL 2017 (SERIAL 25)
Resumption of debate on the question that the Bill be read a second time.

Mrs Lambley.

Visitors: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Year 7 Rosebery Middle School Students accompanied by their teachers

The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of the parents of Ms Uibo, Michael and Didamain Uibo.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker welcomed the visitors.

Mr McCarthy, Mr Mills, Ms Uibo, Ms Ah Kit.

Debate suspended.

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

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7. QUESTIONS

14.00 Mr Higgins to Mr Gunner
14.04 Mr Higgins to Ms Manison
14.07 Mr Higgins to Mr Gunner

Paper Tabled: Mr Higgins, by leave, tabled a chart, NT Police Force by Numbers (Paper 363).

14.11 Mr Higgins to Ms Fyles
14.15 Mrs Lambley to Mr Gunner
14.17 Mr Wood to Ms Fyles
14.21 Mr Wood to Mr McCarthy
14.24 Mr Guyula to Ms Fyles
14.28 Mrs Lambley to Mr Gunner
14.31 Mr Guyula to Ms Moss
14.34 Mr Higgins to Mr Gunner
14.37 Mr Higgins to Ms Fyles

Visitor: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of a young girl named Bronte.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker welcomed the visitor.

14.41 Mr Wood to Ms Wakefield
14.45 Mrs Lambley to Mr Gunner
14.47 Mrs Lambley to Ms Fyles
14.50 Mr Higgins to Mr Gunner
14.54 Mr Higgins to Ms Manison
14.57 Mr Wood to McCarthy

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

Mr Higgins, pursuant to Standing Order 114, asked the Speaker to write to the Chief Minister seeking reasons for the delay in responding to written questions.

8. MOTION: WHOLE OF PARLIAMENT APPROACH TO GROWING THE POPULATION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY AGREED TO

Mr Higgins (Leader of the Opposition), pursuant to notice, moved:

That this Assembly:

1. Recognises that growth in the population of the Northern Territory is essential for a strong economy and prosperous community.
2. Calls on the Government to work with the Parliament as a whole to develop strategies and initiatives to grow the population of the Northern Territory.

Ms Wakefield, Mr Wood, Ms Manison, Mr McCarthy, Mr Higgins.

Question put and passed.

9. MOTION: GOVERNMENT SUBMISSION TO THE PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION INQUIRY NOT AGREED TO

Mr Higgins (Leader of the Opposition), pursuant to notice, moved that:

1. The Assembly refers to the Public Accounts Committee for inquiry and report the process by which the Government made its submission to the Productivity Commission's inquiry into Horizontal Fiscal Equalisation, and in particular:
   - why the submission was not made by the due date;
   - who determined when the submission was made;
   - who composed the draft and final submissions;
   - who authorised a draft submission made public on 13 July 2017; and
   - whether a draft was submitted prior to the final.
2. The Committee will hold its hearings for this inquiry in public unless the Committee agrees to a request from the witness to go into private session to deal with a matter of a confidential nature.
3. The Assembly requires any Ministers who the Committee asks to appear before it to answer questions to do so.

Ms Manison.

Papers Tabled: Ms Manison (Treasurer) tabled:

1. Northern Territory Government Submission to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Horizontal Fiscal Equalisation No.1, Letter, Mr P Harris, Chairman Productivity Commission, Canberra, from Mr Tony Ferrall, Secretary, Department of Treasury and Finance, dated 26 May 2017 (Paper 364).
2. Northern Territory Government Submission to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Horizontal Fiscal Equalisation No. 2, Letter, Mr Tony Ferrall, Secretary, Department of Treasury and Finance, Hobart, from Karen Chester, Acting Chair, dated 5 June 2017 (Paper 365).
3. Email, dated 30 June 2017, from Mr Craig Graham, Under Treasurer, Department of Treasury and Finance, Northern Territory Government, to hfe@pc.gov.au No. 3, Northern Territory Government Submission to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Horizontal Fiscal Equalisation, July 2017 (Paper 366).
4. Email, dated 26 July 2017, from Mr David Braines-Mead, Acting Under Treasurer, Department of Treasury and Finance, Northern Territory Government, to hfe@pc.gov.au No. 4, Northern Territory Government Submission to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Horizontal Fiscal Equalisation, attaching final Northern Territory Government Submission, dated July 2017 (Paper 367).

Mr Mills, Mr Wood, Mr Higgins.

Question put.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 4	**Noes 17**
Mr Guyula	Ms Ah Kit
Mr Higgins	Mr Collins
Mrs Lambley	Mr Costa
Mr Mills	Ms Fyles
	Mr Gunner

Ms Kirby
Ms Lawler
Ms Manison
Mr McCarthy
Mr McConnell
Ms Moss
Ms Nelson
Mr Paech
Mr Sievers
Mr Vowles
Ms Wakefield
Mrs Worden

Pairs: Mrs Finocchiaro and Ms Uibo.

Motion not agreed to.

10. MOTION: NT HORTICULTURE AND HOSPITALITY INDUSTRIES

Mr Mills, pursuant to notice moved:

- that this Assembly calls upon the Northern Territory Government to recognise the importance of the NT horticulture and hospitality industries and their contribution as important economic growth drivers in the north; and
- to work with the local horticulture and hospitality sector and other stakeholders; including the Commonwealth Government to develop new models to address a labour shortfall at these critical times by developing improved models to access these labour markets of ASEAN.

Mr Vowles.

Mr Vowles moved the following amendment.

Remove all words after 'that' and replace with:

this Assembly calls upon the Northern Territory Government to recognise the importance of the NT horticulture and hospitality industries and their contribution as important economic growth drivers in the north; and

to, as a continuing priority, work with the local horticulture and hospitality sectors and other stakeholders; including the Commonwealth Government to address labour shortfalls in the first instance, developing strategies to employ Territorians in jobs that are available in these industries and in the second instance, developing strategies to attract staff from outside of the Territory where Territorians are not able to fill available jobs.

Debate suspended.

11. PAPER TABLED

The Deputy Speaker tabled:

1. Travel Report, Member for Araluen, Mrs Robyn Lambley, travelled to Darwin to attend an official Government function on 4 July 2017, dated 11 August 2017 (Paper 368).

12. ADJOURNMENT

Mr Vowles (Minister for Primary Industry and Resources) moved that the Assembly adjourn.

Mr Higgins, Ms Lawler, Mr Guyula, Ms Nelson, Ms Purick, Mr Kirby.

The Assembly adjourned at 19.36 until Thursday 17 August 2017 at 10.00.

DEEMED PAPERS
There were no deemed papers.

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

MICHAEL TATHAM
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly