Northern Territory of Australia
Legislative Assembly

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting Number 24
Wednesday 21 May 2025

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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. **MOTION: LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
Pursuant to Standing Order 224, Mr Brown moved that a leave of absence be granted to Mr Paech today for personal reasons.

Question put and passed.

3. **VISITORS**
On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed participants from the Darwin Skills Development Scheme and their educators present in the gallery.

4. **ATTORNEY-GENERAL LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2025 (SERIAL 19)**
Order of the day read for moving the second reading of the Attorney-General Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 19).

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

Mr Young, Dr Rahman, Ms Boothby (in reply).

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

5. **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 Carlson, Mr Kerle, Mr Brown, Mr Young.

Debate interrupted.

6. VISITORS

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

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

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7. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Mrs Finocchiaro will present on the next meeting day a Bill titled Public Information Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 29).

2. Ms Boothby will present on the next meeting day a Bill titled Racing and Wagering Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 27).

3. K McNamara will move on the next General Business day:

   That this Assembly calls upon the Government to develop an evidence-based crime prevention framework that:
   1. Adopts a public health approach.
   2. Is developed in consultation with relevant peak bodies, experts and organisations on the ground.
   3. Recognises the systemic racism prevalent in the Northern Territory and its impacts upon the criminal justice system.

4. K McNamara will move on the next General Business day:

   That this Assembly:
   1. Acknowledge the overwhelming scientific evidence on anthropogenic global heating which is changing the climate and global weather patterns.
   2. Recognises that in this climate crisis, the Northern Territory will increasingly be impacted by more extreme weather patterns, including increased severity and length of heatwaves, prolonged droughts, sea level rise, more intense cyclones and flooding, as well as a broader distribution of tropical diseases and species habitat reduction.
   3. Recognise that the Northern Territory Government has an obligation to its citizens to work to mitigate the impacts of the changing the climate, actively create resilient communities and develop an overarching climate change adaptation strategy for the NT that focuses on:
      a) Consulting widely across sectors, our urban and rural communities, government, peak organisation and business.
      b) Identifying key climate risks to our communities, our economy, our infrastructure and our environment.
      c) Analysing risks and impacts, costing adaptation and mitigation measures.
      d) Identifying the best ways to use funding, prioritise actions, and advocate for federal money.
      e) Ensuring those most vulnerable to heatwaves are supported to adapt to a hotter climate, including housing upgrades to improve energy efficiency and ensuring access to reliable and free air-conditioned public spaces.
      f) Ensure consideration of climate risks is embedded in planning for all large projects that include significant public investment.
      g) Create a Climate Risk Adaptation framework for all future government budgets.

8. QUESTIONS

2.03 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.07 Mrs Carlson to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.11 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.15 Mr Patel to Mr Yan
2.19 Mr Young to Mrs Hersey
2.23 Mr Young to Mrs Hersey – Supplementary
2.24 Mrs Zio to Mrs Hersey
2.28 Mr Young to Mrs Hersey
2.31 Dr Rahman to Mr Yan
2.35 Mr Brown to Mr Charls
2.37 Mr Mackay to Mr Maley
2.41 K McNamara to Mr Yan
2.45 Mr Kerle to Mr Yan
2.49 J Davis to Mr Burgoyne
2.53 Mr O'Gallagher to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.57 Mr Young to Mr Edgington
3.01 Mr Howe to Mr Edgington

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

9. MOTION: ERADICATING RACISM

Mr Guyula, pursuant to notice, moved:

That the 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.

Paper Tabled: Mr Guyula, by leave, tabled: Report, Australian Human Rights Commission, The National Anti-Racism Framework: A roadmap to eliminating racism in Australia, November 2024 (Paper 286).

Ms Boothby moved the following amendment:

That this Assembly:

1. Acknowledges the harm caused by all forms of racism whether based on race, ethnicity, culture or religion across the Northern Territory.
2. Recognises the Government's role in preventing discrimination and supporting the Territory's harmonious multicultural community.
3. Calls on all Territorians to stand up and call out racism when it occurs.

J Davis, Mr Charls, Mr Young, Dr Rahman, Mr O'Gallagher.

Ms Cahill moved the following amendment to the amendment:

To insert after "that", the following words:
the motion be amended to Omit all words after "That" and insert instead that

K McNamara, Mr Patel, Mr Brown, Mrs Carlson, Mr Kerle.

Ms Uibo moved:

That the Member for Port Darwin's amendment be amended to omit the words "omit all words and that and insert instead" and insert instead "insert after".

Mrs Hersey.

Mr Young moved that the question be put.

Question, that the question be put, put and the Assembly divided:

Ayes 6

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

Noes 15

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

Motion negatived.

It being 7.00 pm, debate interrupted.

10. PAPER TABLED

Mr Edgington (Leader of Government Business) tabled: Letter to the Leader of Government Business, re Indigenous Employment Provisional Sum Inquiry Referral, dated 22 October 2025, from Mr Clinton Howe MLA (Paper 287).

11. NOTICE: AMENDMENT TO MOTION ON THE COMMITTEE REFERRAL REGARDING THE INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT PROVISIONAL SUM

Mr Edgington, by leave, gave notice that he will move on the next meeting day:

> That the committee referral regarding the Indigenous Employment Provisional Sum as agreed to by the Assembly on 14 May 2025, be amended by:
>
> Omitting clause c
>
> And inserting new clause c:
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> "Implementation of the Auditor-General's recommendations by the former Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics and the outcomes delivered to date".

12. ADJOURNMENT

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

Mr Guyula, J Davis.

Paper Tabled: J Davis, by leave, tabled: Open Letter to the Northern Territory Government, from NT Health Workers and Healthcare Students (Paper 288).

Mrs Lambley, Ms Uibo.

Paper Tabled: Ms Uibo, by leave, tabled: Letter to Mr Clinton Howe MLA, Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, concerning senior representatives of the Darwin Waterfront Corporation, dated 21 May 2025, from the Leader of the Opposition, Ms Selena Uibo MLA (Paper 289).

Dr Rahman, K McNamara, Mr Yan.

Question put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 7.54 pm until Thursday 22 May 2025 at 10.00 am.

ATTENDANCE
All members attended the meeting, except Mr Paech on leave.



RUSSELL KEITH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly