



Minutes of the 2006 Annual General Meeting

Present: Attachment 1 (Delegates and Proxies)

Apologies: As above

The President opened the Annual General Meeting at 10.00 a.m., formally welcomed those present, noted the apologies and recognized those carrying proxies.

Item 1 MINUTES

1.1 Minutes of 2005 Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the 2005 Annual General Meeting, held at the Darwin Plaza Hotel, on Sunday May 1st, were *confirmed* as a true and correct record.

Steve Carter/Sydney Robinson

2. RETURNING OFFICER

Ms Roberta Smith was nominated and elected unopposed to the position of Returning Officer.

Wendy Pelizzo/Steve Carter

3. REPORTS

3.1 President's Report

Council *received* the President's verbal report, *noting* it would be recorded in Council Minutes.

The President's Report was *accepted* as tabled.

Julie Donohue/Wendy Pelizzo

3.2 Treasurer's Report

Council *received* the Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was *accepted* as tabled.

Julie Donohue/Kirsten Cridland

It was noted that:

Ms Wendy Pelizzo's name was not included in dual representation for the Palmerston and Rural Region COGSO Council (p.2., Committee Members), at the report.

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4 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

4.1 Election of President

Mr Peter Garrigan, was *elected* unopposed for the position of President.

4.2 Election of Vice President

Ms Wendy Pelizzo withdrew her nomination for the position of Vice President.

Mr Sydney Robinson and Mr Michael Duffy were nominated for the position of Vice President. Both nominees were requested to address Council following which a secret ballot was held.

Mr Michael Duffy was *elected* to the position of Vice President.

Council *resolved* that the ballots be destroyed.

4.3 Election of Treasurer

Ms Julie Donohue was *elected* unopposed for the position of Treasurer.

4.4 Regional Chairs

Council was advised that the Regional Chairs and Representatives to Executive for 2006 are:

Barkly	Jo Rush
Darwin	Michael Duffy (Chair)
East Arnhem	Lisa Rothwell (Chair)
Katherine	Vacant
Palmerston & Rural	Wendy Pelizzo
Southern	Matt Skoss

5. Auditor

Nomination of Auditor for 2006

Council agreed to retain Lowry and Associates as its Auditors for 2006.

Julie Donohue/Sydney Robinson

There being no further business the President thanked members for their attendance at the Annual General Meeting and declared the meeting closed at 10.40a.m.

Attachment 1

Delegates and Proxies

Delegate	School	Proxy
Steve Carter	Vice President	Darwin High School (1244 students)
Wendy Pelizzo	Hwd. Springs Primary School 330 students	
Julie Donohue	Wanguri Primary School	Alice Springs High School (438 students)

	(M Duffy carries votes)	Nhulunbuy Primary School (532 students) Acacia Hill Primary School (33 students)
Michael Duffy	Wanguri Primary School (263 students)	
Sydney Robinson	Berry Springs Primary School (275 students)	
Brenda Heilig	Moulden Park Primary School (476 students)	
Tracy Bond	Girraween Primary School (307 students)	
Tracy Bester	Hwd. Springs Primary School (W. Pelizzo carries votes)	
Paul Clarke	Stuart Park Primary School (508 students)	
Ros Ther	Dripstone Primary School (709 students)	Moil Primary School (384 students)
Justine Ward	Bakewell Primary School (686 students)	
Dee Haine	Bees Creek Primary School (407 students)	
Fiona Courtney	Nightcliff Primary School (582 students)	
Marilyn Cabaes	Batchelor Area School (147 students)	
Kirsten Cridland	Wulagi Primary School (224 students)	
15 delegates representing 20 schools – representing 7,600 students in NT Government education		
COGSO President Peter Garrigan	Darwin High School	Chair
COGSO Secretariat Lesley Hosking	Executive Officer	Meeting organiser/Minute taker
Roberta Smith	Administrative Officer (as at May 8 th)	Observer
Apologies		
Annie Black	Hwd.Springs Primary School	
Kerrie Sankey	Acacia Hill Primary School	
Lisa Rothwell	Nhulunbuy Primary School	
Matt Skoss	Alice Springs High School	

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Attachment 2

Address to nomination for Vice President

Mr Sydney Robinson

I have had four children complete their education in the Northern Territory education system, and one child currently enrolled in year 4 at Berry Springs Primary School. I consider this gives me a broad background in the system. There are many areas I am dissatisfied with as a result of the experiences of my children, and I feel I can contribute a great deal to the furthering of public education if I am elected to the position. I have been involved for a number of years with the Council of Government School Organisations, and have been fairly active politically in the last twelve months as Chair of Taminmin High School. I also been developing a political report in circles recently which would stand me in good stead should I be successful in this nomination to the position of Vice President. Thank you.

Mr Michael Duffy

I have two boys at Wanguri Primary School, where I am Chairperson of the School Council. I was also recently elected Chair of the Darwin Region of NT COGSO. Earlier I was President of the Management Committee of the Top End Early Learning Centre and an active committee member over some years.

I am currently working part-time and freelancing as a writer-editor. I was a journalist and I have worked as a ministerial advisor and speechwriter in Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales. I have a strong education, health and environment background and for much of the past 20 years have worked specifically in Indigenous policy. I continue to maintain links with Aboriginal people and organizations in the Territory and throughout Australia. Although I have worked for the Australian Labour Party I am not a party member and assert no conflict of interest in nominating for this position. I have lived continuously in the Territory since 1995 and lived in Darwin for some years in the late 1980's. I am standing for this position because I believe in public education as both a reflection and a major prop of the diversity of our community. I believe NT COGSO is a vitally necessary contributor to continuing debate about the nature of schooling in the Territory. I also believe NT COGSO needs to engage Indigenous interests particularly since the ASSPA's were denied funding, a move which wiped out a real and successful focus for Indigenous parent involvement.

The recent manipulation by the Government of a necessary debate on Middle Schooling into an endorsement of Middle Schools has illustrated succinctly the continuing need for grass roots advocacy of the public education system and the significance of COGSO as a voice for school communities. This significance is further underlined by the Territory Government's proposals for managing school councils by eroding their autonomy and by the Federal Government's ill-informed interventions into the shape of local schooling. I believe government's exploit parent expectations and fears at their peril and this exploitation should be exposed and mitigated by skillful and intelligent advocacy. Like any parent, I have stake in my children's education; and I have a stake in the Northern Territory. It is in my interests as a parent and citizen that both live up to my high expectations. My strengths are in communication, in a sophisticated understanding of the way government works, in my appreciation of the need to engage Indigenous interests and in my desire to advocate the parent-student-school partnership as the basis of the way public education works. I also have the time to pursue these. With your support I will apply my strengths and skills to support NT COGSO and to further the interests of all the school communities in the public education system. Thank you.

Signed as a true and correct record of the Minutes of the April 22nd AGM, accepted by the Annual Council at the Annual Conference of the Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations, at the Airport Resort, Darwin NT, September 17th 2006.

Peter Garrigan _____

President 2006-2007

Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations Inc.

Darwin NT September 17th 2006.

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