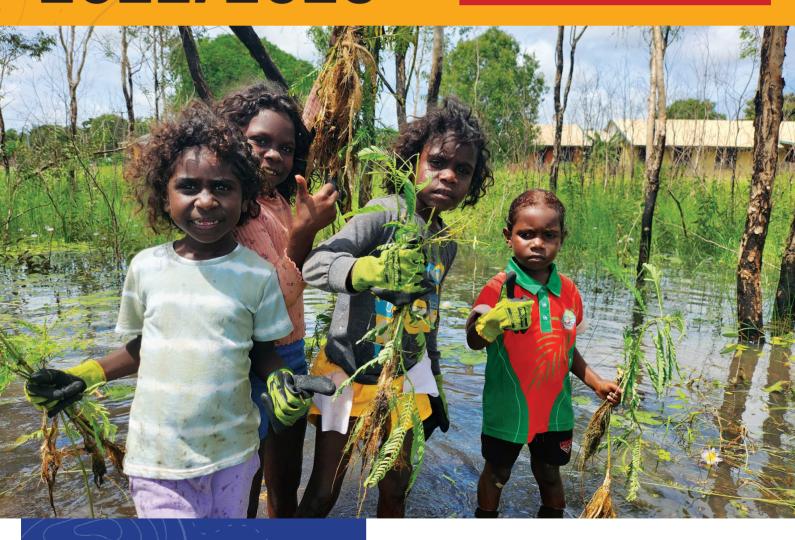
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NORTHERN TERRITORY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOL ORGANISATIONS





ACKNOWLEDGMENT

NTCOGSO respectfully acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Nations people of this country.

We acknowledge their continuing connection to lands, waters and communities, and the evolving cultures of all our First Nations peoples.

We pay our respects to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, and to their leaders – past and present.

We respectfully acknowledge the past and present Traditional Custodians of this land on which we work, the Larrakia people. It is a privilege to have our office based on Larrakia Country.

Set your goals high, and don't stop till you get there."

-BO JACKSON



Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations

enquiries@ntcogso.org.au www.ntcogso.org.au www.facebook.com/NTCOGSQ



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WITH ALMOST 33,000 STUDENTS IN PUBLIC EDUCATION, THE NORTHERN TERRITORY HAS MANY GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS WITH UNIQUE CHALLENGES.

* Data as at Term 1, 2023





FROM THE PRESIDENT





I am delighted to present the Annual Report of the Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations (NTCOGSO) for the year ending 30 June 2023.

This comprehensive report is prepared in accordance with the reporting requirements outlined in our Operational Base Funding Agreement, reflecting our commitment to transparency and accountability.

For over five decades, NTCOGSO has been the leading advocate for families, students, and school communities throughout the Northern Territory. This Annual Report serves as a testament to our organisation's accomplishments and demonstrates our unwavering dedication to fulfilling our accountability obligations to the department and our valued affiliates.

OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Our Strategic Plan 2021–2024 guides us towards our vision of 'Students and Families Thriving in Government Schools.' Our Executive and staff remain dedicated to delivering quality services, addressing emerging issues, and meeting requests for support.

Be sure you put your feet in the right place, then stand firm."

- ABRAHAM LINCOLN

OUR GOVERNANCE

The Annual General Meeting and Full Council 2022, held at the Mercure Darwin Airport Resort in October, saw the successful adoption of nine motions. We welcomed the appointment of Regional Representatives for 2022-23, and I am honored to have been re-elected as President. Tanya McKenna was elected Vice President and Richelle Kent re-elected as Treasurer.

Audit 22-23 Special Purpose Financial Reports (SPFR) conclude that the financial statements of the organisation present fairly its affairs in all material aspects.

OUR SERVICES

NTCOGSO continues to successfully provide support and expertise to our School Representative Bodies through training and mentoring. This important work is made possible through a funding agreement with the NT Department of Education.

OUR COLLABORATION

Our collective efforts aim to enhance the capacity of every family to actively participate in partnership with their school, ensuring that all students receive the support they need to reach their full potential. We collaborate with stakeholders and each other to achieve the best outcomes for students, championing their education and overarching well-being.

OUR ADVOCACY

We launched advocacy campaigns aimed at addressing crucial issues affecting our students wellbeing. These included the retention of school-based counsellors, and recognising the vital role these invaluable relationships play, as well as requesting youth e-smoking information for schools and families.

We welcomed the Federal Government announcement of \$40.4 million in funding for Central education. This significant investment holds tremendous promise in effecting positive and transformative changes within the region, and we eagerly await witnessing the tangible impact it will have on our students' educational journey and overall development.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Minister, Chief Executive, department staff, our students, families, and school communities for their ongoing support. Without their active involvement, our achievements would not have been possible.

Lastly, I would like to express my appreciation to our Executive members and staff for their unwavering dedication in actively supporting public education.

TABBY FUDGE PRESIDENT

Students and families thriving in government schools.

MISSION

We strengthen public education by encouraging continual improvement in the provision of quality education for all students.

ABOUT NTCOGSO

WHO WE REPRESENT

The Northern Territory **Council of Government School Organisations** Inc. (NTCOGSO) serves as the principal parent organisation for public education in the Northern Territory. We represent and provide services to **Government Schools and** their School Representative Bodies at both the Territory and Federal levels. NTCOGSO plays a vital role in shaping the direction of public education for the benefit of our students.

BASIS FOR AUTHORITY

The NT Council of Government School Organisations (NTCOGSO) is bound by our Constitution in line with the Northern Territory Associations Act.

NTCOGSO has all of the usual obligations of an incorporated association.

WHO WE ARE

NTCOGSO is a large volunteer organisation, which includes a representative from each educational region in the Northern Territory. Regional Representatives attend four formal Executive meetings each year, where they discuss issues relevant to families and students in public education.

The governing authority of NTCOGSO is the NT Full Council, comprising all affiliated schools. The NT Full Council conference is held annually in Semester 2, where school representatives discuss and determine the direction and policies for the organisation.

EXECUTIVE

The management of the Northern Territory Full Council is vested in the Executive, which has power to do all things necessary to achieve the objectives of the Full Council.

The Executive consists of:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- · Representatives from each region

The Executive may invite an additional three (3) persons whom the Executive considers to have special qualifications, knowledge, or experience that will assist the Executive in the exercise and performance of its functions by providing information or advice to become a member of the Executive.



MANAGEMENT

Our office is located in Palmerston City on Larrakia Country, where the Executive Officer is responsible for ensuring that our organisation's Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are met in accordance with funding agreements.

Executive Officer

Our Executive Officer is accountable for the execution and realisation of NTCOGSO's Strategic Plan, overseeing personnel, and managing the organisation's physical and financial assets. Additionally, the Executive Officer holds responsibility for the overarching governance of corporate planning, budgetary matters, and external relationships.

Executive Coordinator

The Executive Coordinator is responsible for exercising independent judgment and considerable initiative to provide a wide range of managerial support to the Executive Officer and overall senior administration for the organisation.

Governance and Community Engagement Manager (GCEM)

The GCEM is the central point of contact for all NT government schools and school representative bodies for governance advice, support and training. They are responsible for building the governance capacity of school representative bodies through best practice & strategic planning for school improvement.

Governance, Mentoring and Training Officers

Training Officers deliver flexible, high-quality training and mentoring on governance and community engagement throughout the Northern Territory. They educate Members and potential Members in the governance requirements outlined in the relevant legislation, guidelines, and policies.

Cultural Advisor

The Aboriginal Cultural Advisor develops culturally appropriate and responsive governance training resources and materials for School Representative Bodies in urban, rural, remote, and very remote areas. They also provide guidance and support to staff, enabling the implementation of best practice cultural awareness in their interactions and collaborations with Aboriginal people.



TABBY FUDGE

President

Oct 2015 to Jun 2023

Tabby is committed to improving public education and is a strong advocate to the Northern Territory and Australian governments on behalf of families.

"A properly resourced 'needs based' public education system would greatly benefit our communities, both socially and economically. For every dollar we invest in public education, we save at least ten dollars in our health and welfare budgets."

At the 2022 AGM Tabby was re-elected President for a seventh year. Prior, Tabby held the position of Treasurer and Vice Chair of the Palmerston and Rural Regional Council.

With one daughter in senior school, Tabby is a Parent Member of the Taminmin College Board. In addition, Tabby sits on the Northern Territory Board of Studies (NTBOS) as the Parent representative, term of office 30 December 2017 to present.



TANYA MCKENNA

Vice President & Top End Region

Oct 2022 to Jun 2023

Tanya is an advocate for continual improvement of public education on behalf of families. Tanya previously held Office Bearer positions on Girraween Primary School Council from 2011 to 2020 with a very collaborative group of parents, teachers and the principal on the team. This team was successful in working with government stakeholders to improve school infrastructure and resources, providing more classrooms for learning, upgrading play areas and implementing wellbeing programs to improve student outcomes. When Tanya's children moved on to middle school she then nominated for, and received, a Parent Member position in their new school.

Tanya considers it crucial that children, parents, and the wider community have a strong voice within the public schooling system, working collaboratively to achieve excellent educational outcomes, free from discrimination.



SARAH RHEINBERGER

Vice President

Sep 2021 to Oct 2022

Sarah is an Occupational Therapist, currently working as the State
Social Inclusion Coordinator for
Goodstart Early Learning and is a
business owner. Sarah's clinical,
leadership and advocacy work
over the last 15+ years has centred
around supporting families to create
better life outcomes, particularly
for those living in remote locations,
experiencing vulnerability, and those
with children with additional needs.

Sarah understands that in order for children to learn academically, they first need to feel connected, valued and safe so works with schools, educators and families to create those environments and relationships.

Sarah is a Parent Member of Parap Primary School Council and has two children in primary school.



RICHELLE KENT

Treasurer

Nov 2018 to Jun 2023

Richelle has three children who attend government schools and is a born and bred Territorian. Commencing a School Council journey in 2013 at Driver Primary School as a Parent Member, later holding the position of Treasurer on Karama Primary School Council and Batchelor Area School Council. Richelle is Treasurer of Sanderson Middle School Council, a Parent Member of Casuarina Senior College and a Parent Member of Nemarluk School. In her fifth year as NTCOGSO Treasurer, Richelle ensures compliance with all financial reporting obligations. Richelle considers parent and community involvement in schools is critical to achieving better outcomes for students.



WAYNE GREEN

Barkly Region

Nov 2016 to Jun 2023

Wayne is a Parent Member on the Tennant Creek High School Council and has served there for a total of eleven years. Previously Wayne served on Tennant Creek Primary School Council for over ten years. Wayne and wife Karyn have four children and two have completed their entire primary and high school education in Tennant Creek, while two remain at Tennant Creek High School.

Wayne is a strong believer in the need for parent and community involvement within schools for better and broader outcomes for students. He is also a proud advocate for the Barkly region and ensures Barkly voices are heard by those shaping education in the Territory.





NATASHA O'KEEFE & NOELA ANDERSON

Big Rivers Region

Mar 2018 to Jun 2023

Natasha is an Invited Member on Borroloola School Council and is studying Certificate III in Early Childhood Education at Batchelor College. Having worked at Borroloola School for several years, Natasha believes education is the key for all children to learn and become independent life-long learners.

In July 2022 Natasha commenced in a key role at NTCOGSO as Cultural Advisor, to develop culturally appropriate and responsive governance training resources for urban, rural, remote and very remote School Representative Bodies. Noela is a Parent Member on the Borroloola School Council and comes from two language groups; Garrwa and Yanyuwa and has spent her entire life in and around Borroloola. Having worked for three years at Borroloola School as a Tutor/Assistant Teacher, Noela has now spent nineteen years in her current role of Home Liaison Officer, in addition to being an active participant of the School Council.

Noela loves her role of assisting and supporting more than 200 students, from helping them engage in the classroom to helping plan the schools Weekly Culture days.



LAUREN WINTER Central Region Oct 2019 to Jun 2023

Lauren has been involved with various schools in Alice Springs since 1995 when her first child commenced in preschool.

Having served on School Councils, committees and fundraising bodies, Lauren currently holds the position of Parent Member on Centralian Senior College Council.

With a large family of 6 children with the youngest currently at school, Lauren is passionate about public education both Territory and Australia wide.



TABETHA BAKUNOWICZ Darwin Region

Oct 2021 to Jun 2023

Tabetha was an active student in both the public and private sectors within the Darwin Region and currently has a child in middle school. Tabetha has a strong passion for the importance of parental involvement and voice within the public schooling sector. Tabetha is an advocate for ongoing support for children with special needs, understanding the necessity for inclusion within schools, working towards the best outcomes for all students, and positively encouraging children to never stop trying.



NOEL CARPENTER East Arnhem Region Nov 2021 to Jun 2023

Noel resides in the Yirrkala community and presently serves on both the Nhulunbuy Primary and Nhulunbuy High School Councils. He actively engages with community members and places a strong emphasis on collaborative efforts to improve educational outcomes for all students. Additionally, Noel serves as a pilot for Mission Aviation Fellowship, providing air operations from Gove across Northeast Arnhem and the Top End regions. This role also enables him to establish inperson connections with schools throughout the East Arnhem region.



NAOMI HUNTER Top End Region Aug 2021 to Oct 2022

Naomi has three children ranging from year 1 to year 7. She has been a member of the Berry Springs Primary School Council since 2017.

Naomi is a strong believer in families being involved in their children's school, as she believes this will help build the foundations for success.



FRED RICHARDSON

Invited Member Public Officer

Apr 2016 to Jun 2023

Fred has been a resident and professional in the Northern Territory since 1973. He has dedicated 32 years to Adult Education, specialising in the development and delivery of adult IT skills in remote areas. Fred was elected as the Central Regional Council Representative in 2015 and 2016 while having a son attending Centralian Senior College. Since 2017, he has served as an Invited Member on the Executive, where he is highly valued for his critical thinking and creative, innovative approach to curriculum improvement.

Fred firmly believes that wellinformed families, actively engaged in discussions and decisions that influence and shape their children's educational experiences and achievements, play a crucial role in nurturing the potential within each student.

Furthermore, Fred is a member of the Northern Territory Board of Studies (NTBOS) as an Expert, with a term of office extending from December 30, 2017, to the present.



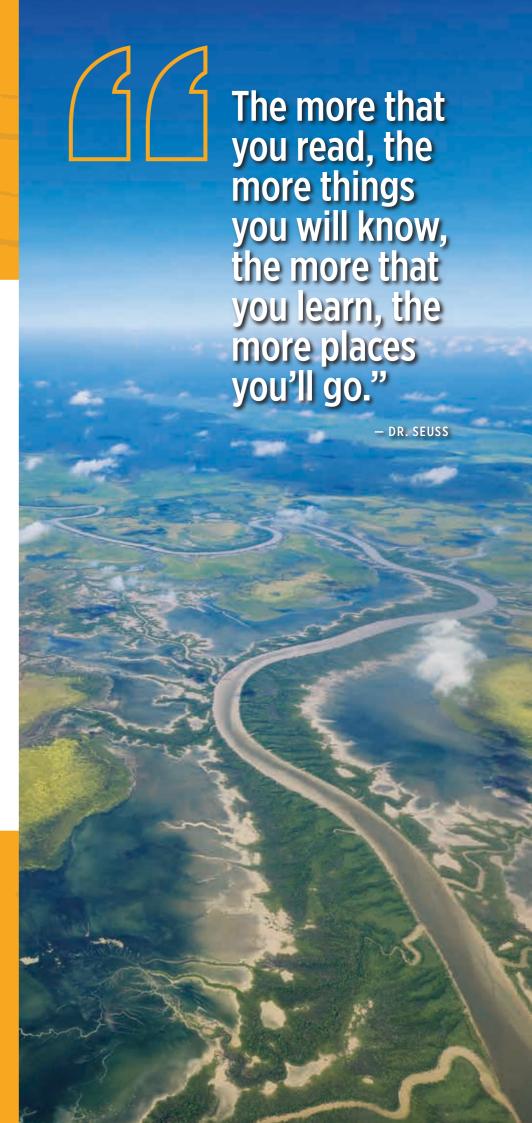
GAVIN MORRIS

Invited Member

Oct 2021 to Oct 2022

Dr. Gavin Morris has a teaching career which spans two decades in primary, secondary and tertiary educational sectors. He has completed a Master of Education, and a PhD into the impacts of colonisation in remote Aboriginal communities.

Gavin is a strong advocate for community engagement in promoting full and equal access to quality public education across the Northern Territory.



VISION

Students and families thriving in government schools.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2021–24

MISSION

We strengthen public education by encouraging continual improvement in the provision of quality education for all students.

VALUES



COURAGE

We are committed, innovative and resilient as a voice for our children.



COLLABORATION

We work with stakeholders and each other to achieve the best outcomes for students to learn and thrive.



EQUITY

We pursue fairness in opportunity, outcomes and rights for school communities to achieve genuine partnerships for families.



RESPECT

We engage professionally with our affiliates and school communities. We believe genuine partnerships are fundamental to achieving positive change.



INCLUSION

We embrace diversity and respect differences including gender and gender expression, culture, race, religion, age, sexuality, abilities, political beliefs and socioeconomic status.



RECONCILIATION

We support the selfdetermination and selfmanagement of Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islanders and proactively support communities in their decision making.



RESPONSIBILITY

We are open, accountable and manage resources and risks to ensure the sustainability of the organisation. We are forward thinking and we value innovation so that our work results in positive outcomes for the school communities that we support.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

We support students, families and school communities through our services and advocacy.



We build capacity in school communities through our training, leadership mentoring and support.



We create change by engaging with families, school communities, governments and their departments, informed by the motions of the NT Full Council.



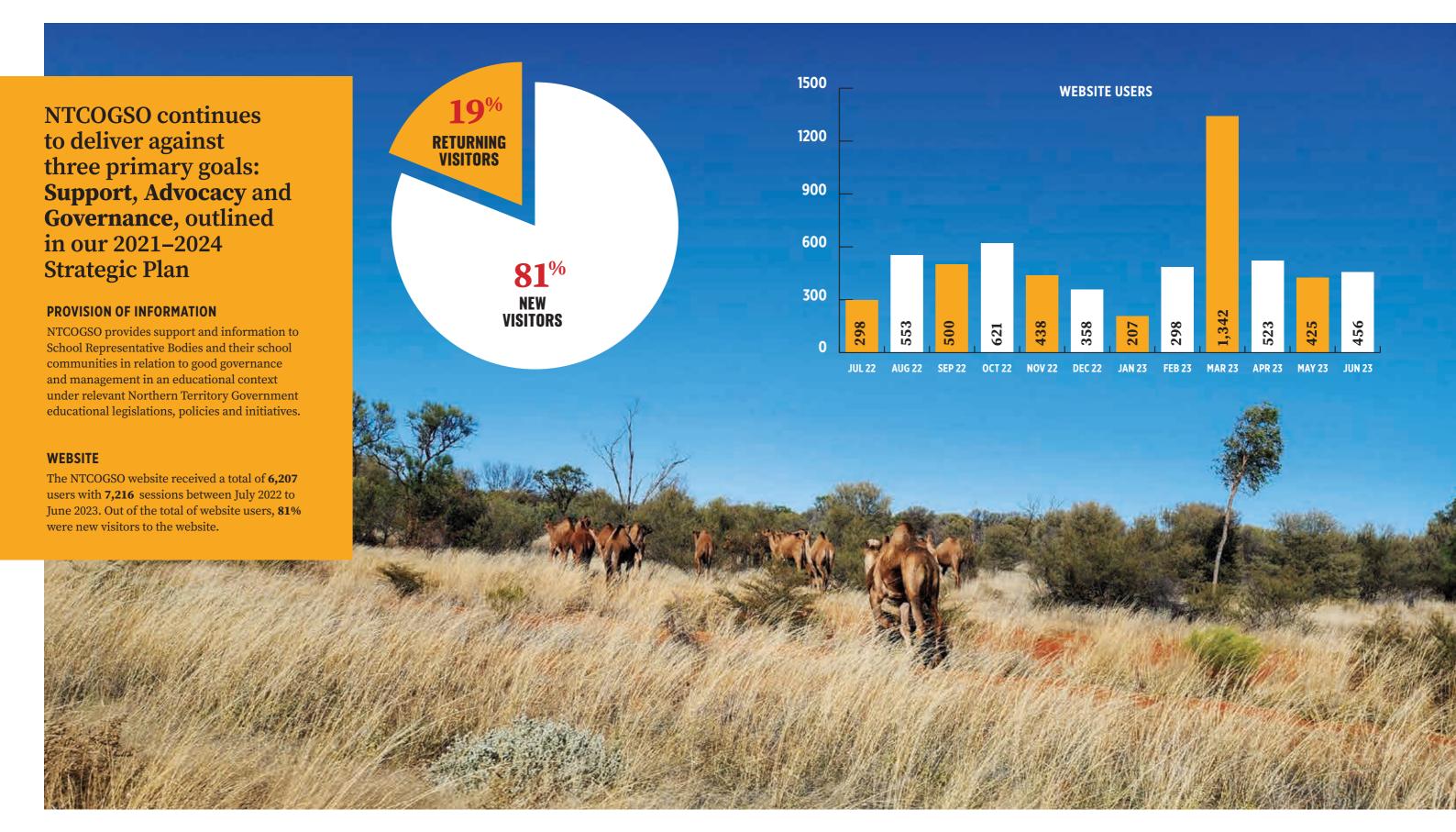
We use our governance structures to support School Representative Body decision making and member led priorities.

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We ensure sustainable, transparent and accountable practices through our strong governance, management, service delivery and partnerships.

OUR REACH





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OUR IMPACT: REPRESENTATION & ADVOCACY

FUNDED ACTIVITY: Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations Incorporated (NTCOGSO) - Operational Funding for a Peak Parent Body for Northern Territory Government Schools and Public Education.

NTCOGSO was established in 1971 to represent the interests of families of children attending Northern Territory Government schools and work in partnership with:

- 1. all school representative bodies for Government schools in the Northern Territory (as defined in the Education Act 2015) and their respective school communities; and
- 2. key Northern Territory public education stakeholders to provide high level representation and advocacy in regard to the rights of all children to full participation in an equitable and just public education system.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE 1

NTCOGSO to maintain a ratio of 95% school representative bodies, by region, affiliated with NTCOGSO.

PERFORMANCE OUTCOME 1

		ACHIEVED
3	3	100%
22	22	100%
13	13	100%
27	27	100%
13	13	100%
28	28	100%
	27 13	27 27 13 13

^{*}In addition to the above performance achievement, it is worth noting that every Northern Territory government school, without a school representative body, is also proudly affiliated with NTCOGSO.

	SCHOOLS WITH NO SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE BODY	NUMBER AFFILIATED WITH NTCOGSO
Barkly	10	10
Big Rivers	5	5
Central	23	23
Darwin	N/A	
East Arnhem	N/A	
Top End	6	6
1 N A - / B		1 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

PERFORMANCE MEASURE 2

NTCOGSO TO MAKE FORMAL CONTRIBUTIONS OR RESPONSES ON BEHALF OF SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE **BODIES IN ALL GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS IN THE** NORTHERN TERRITORY TO RELEVANT EDUCATIONAL POLICIES AND INITIATIVES (dependent on opportunity).

PERFORMANCE OUTCOME 2

NTCOGSO remains committed to voicing the perspectives of School Representative Bodies from all government schools in the Northern Territory. Our contributions and responses to educational policies and initiatives are contingent upon opportunities presented.

Our contributions and responses over the reporting period encompassed the following:

Contributions to Northern Territory Government Department of Education POLICIES -

- Naming of Northern Territory Government Schools and Places in Schools Policy and Procedure NTCOGSO provided feedback on the naming conventions and criteria for schools and specific areas within schools.
- **Financial and Resource Management for Schools** (FARMS) Policy and Manual NTCOGSO reviewed and provided feedback on the financial policies and resource management manual for schools. In addition, we assisted with communications out to members on department scheduled feedback sessions and widely promoted these.
- Parent and Community Involvement in Schools Policy NTCOGSO has long championed for updated School Representative Body Policy and Guidelines and were pleased to provide our input to initial drafts. We support the proposed name change for the policy which will align to Part 6, NT Education Act 2015.
- School Representative Body Guidelines In addition to the Parent and Community Involvement in Schools Policy, we have provided initial, detailed feedback prior to the next stage of our recommended additions to the guidelines.
- School Representative Body Induction Program NTCOGSO was sought by the Department to evaluate a new and innovative induction approach for School Representative Body members. This included providing recommendations on school representative bodies for participation in video recordings of their meetings. In addition, we provided feedback on the produced videos and evaluated the web page content.

Contributions to Northern Territory Government Department of Education INITIATIVES -

Throughout 2022-23, NTCOGSO was highly sought after by the Northern Territory Government and the Department of Education for our expertise and feedback, reflecting the trust placed in our organisation with the breadth of initiatives we contributed to.

- Occupational Violence and Aggression (OVA) in **Schools Reform Committee**
- NTCOGSO was an active member on the 2021-22 Positive Behaviour and Occupational Violence in Schools Taskforce. Following on from the taskforce recommendations, the department established the 'OVA Committee' to monitor implementation of the recommendations. We are committed to the importance of safety in schools for all students and adults. We advocate for parents of students with disabilities who report behaviour issues in schools, often resulting in punitive actions such as suspension and exclusion, a concern especially prevalent among students with Autism Spectrum Disorder, ADHD, and ODD.
- School Based Policing Consultative Group NTCOGSO is grateful for the Minister for Education's endorsement of our continued participation in the consultative body overseeing the School Based Police Program.
- · Secondary Review Committee NTCOGSO identified and discussed reform options to improve student engagement and outcomes for all secondary students in the NT.
- Complaint Resolution Review Committee NTCOGSO provided feedback to the Department of Education on their new suite of documents, aiming to encourage an open environment where feedback and complaints from any member of the school community are seen as opportunities for learning, growth, and improved educational outcomes for children and students.
- · Supporting Diversity of Sexuality Gender Identity and **Gender Expression in Education Expert Reference** Group
- NTCOGSO is committed to the development of resources and policies that foster an inclusive and respectful educational environment in the NT. This group provided expert advice on contemporary practices, evidence-based research, and effective strategies to ensure education settings are supportive and understanding of diverse sexuality, gender identities, and gender expressions.
- Inclusive Education Support Grant Selection Panel NTCOGSO was invited to participate as a panel member in the grant selection process focused on promoting inclusive education.

REPRESENTATION & ADVOCACY (CONT.)

- Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)
 Program Management Committee
 NTCOGSO was invited as a guest to the management committee to discuss and provide feedback on relevant, new policy positions.
- NTCOGSO actively engaged in an evaluation of the current school resourcing model, offering recommendations to enhance fairness and equity.
- NTCOGSO engaged in discussions surrounding the review of Part 7 of the Education Act 2015. This section of the Act pertains to the regulation of nongovernment schools in the Northern Territory. The review aimed to ensure that all schools in the NT adhere to standards that best serve the interests of students and the broader community.
- Exposure Draft Bill Part 6 Parent and Community Involvement in Government Schools
 NTCOGSO emphasised the importance of parental and community engagement in schools, offering initial insights on future enhancements.
- DoE Structural Alignment Evaluation
 NTCOGSO was consulted regarding the NT
 Department of Education's structural alignment
 project through Nous Group (Nous) who conducted
 an independent evaluation on the processes and
 outcomes, based on the NT Government Program
 Evaluation Framework.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE 3

NTCOGSO TO MAINTAIN ITS MEMBERSHIP ON NORTHERN TERRITORY REPRESENTATIVE AND ADVOCACY-BASED GROUPS, DESCRIBED BY CATEGORY (dependent on opportunity).

PERFORMANCE OUTCOME 3

NTCOGSO continues to maintain memberships on representative and advocacy-based groups to ensure the perspectives of School Representative Bodies and parent voice are included.

- · Northern Territory Council of Social Service (NTCOSS)
- United Nations Association of Australia (UNAA) NT Division

- Teacher Representative Board (TRB). Under the Teacher Registration Board (TRB) legislation, Part
 7, NT Education Act, composition of the board is to include 1 person nominated by the Northern Territory Council of Government School organisations.
- Northern Territory Board of Studies (NTBOS). The NTCOGSO President sits on the board as the Parent stakeholder representative and has held the position since 2017.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE 4

NTCOGSO TO MAINTAIN ITS PUBLIC PROMOTION OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

PERFORMANCE OUTCOME 4

PROMOTION

At NTCOGSO, our unwavering mission is to promote public education in every aspect of our work. We believe that every child deserves a quality education, and this belief is the driving force behind all our endeavours. We are dedicated to advocating for and championing the cause of public education, actively promoting it as the best choice for families.

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM

The NTCOGSO Facebook page remains a dynamic platform, with page 'likes' growing from 2,230 to 2,322 between July 2022 and June 2023. Over the past year, our posts reached an impressive 170,513 people. This vital hub keeps parents informed about events and highlights the excellent work happening in government schools.

WEBSITE AND WEB PORTAL

Our website has been a cornerstone of our digital presence, acting as a comprehensive resource for all things related to public education in the Northern Territory. Over the past year, we've made several updates to ensure the content remains relevant, user-friendly and user engagement has increased.

 User Engagement: NTCOGSO saw a 15.7% increase in website traffic compared to the previous year, indicating heightened engagement and a growing interest in our initiatives.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE 5

NTCOGSO TO MAINTAIN ITS PROMOTION OF THE POSITIVE OUTCOMES ARISING FROM NTCOGSO AND THE TERRITORY WORKING COLLABORATIVELY.

PERFORMANCE OUTCOME 5

NTCOGSO shares a unified goal with the Northern
Territory government (the Territory) through the
Department of Education: the advancement of public
education in the NT. NTCOGSO deeply values the benefits
of working collaboratively to produce positive results. As
detailed under Performance Measure 2, NTCOGSO will
continue to fortify its partnership with the Department
of Education, by actively responding to opportunities
to contribute to Northern Territory Government |
Department of Education policies and initiatives.

- Annual Report: This yearly summary provides a
 comprehensive account of what has been achieved
 and our ongoing strategic priorities. The report is a
 reflection of our dedication to transparency and offers
 an in-depth look at our teamwork within the Territory.
 Our Annual report reaches directly to over
 1,200 members, as well as key stakeholders, our
 counterparts in every Australian jurisdiction, and
 members of the NT Legislative Assembly.
- Annual Full Council: This event provides an opportunity for all members to come together, discuss and reflect on the collaborative journey with the Territory over the past year. This pivotal gathering is where positive outcomes are celebrated, and future directions are set. The Minister for Education and the Chief Executive, Department of Education are active participants with members each year. This underscores their regard for NTCOGSO as a crucial stakeholder and reinforces our positive partnerships.

- Regional Councils: NTCOGSO has actively supported the six (6) Regional Councils and their Representatives, including offering mentoring and meeting support. These Councils play a vital role in ensuring that the collaboration with the Department of Education is effective at the grassroots level.
- NTCOGSO updates the Regional Councils on its engagements with the Minister and the department, the progress of motions being addressed, and the Department policies currently under review for feedback. This reciprocal communication ensures that the Regional Councils are actively informed of outcomes.
- School Representative Bodies: These bodies act as a bridge between individual schools and NTCOGSO.
 They ensure that the voice of every school is heard and that the collaborative efforts within the Territory resonate at the school level.
- Schools: Direct feedback from schools is invaluable. It provides us with a ground-level perspective on how the collaborative initiatives within the Territory are being received, and where improvements can be made. Our schools also provide us with a direct opportunity to promote positive outcomes.



SCHOOL EDUCATION ADVISORY GROUP (SEAG)

- **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**
- NTCOGSO
- AEUNT
- NT PRINCIPALS ASSOCIATION

QUARTERLY MEETINGS

DATE	DESCRIPTION
27 Jul 22	Teacher attraction and retention COVID-19 update School funding including cash balances Framework for Inclusion update
21 Oct 22	Teacher recruitment and workforce planning Occupational Violence and Aggression Education opportunities for home tutors Effective enrolment Financial and Resource Management for Schools (FARMS) Manual Quality Standards Framework for Flexible Education Programs National Schools Reform Agreement funding
16 Feb 23	Teacher recruitment and workforce planning Engagement Strategy update Finance update Government Employment Housing (GEH)
31 May 23	2023-24 Budget, Including Alice Springs \$40m Commonwealth Investment Student Wellbeing and Inclusion Programs and Services (SWIPS) National School Reform Agreement Unique Student Identifier Finance update



NTCOGSO CHIEF EXECUTIVE DOE MEETINGS

DATE	DESCRIPTION
11 Nov 22	CE Update Naming of Northern Territory Government Schools and Places in Schools Policy and Procedure Full Council Motions 2021 & 2022 Groote Archipelago Local Decision Making Agreement (GALDMA) Barkly Region – Tennant Creek Primary and High Schools Years 6 and 7 enrolments
	Full Council Motions 2021 & 2022

SWAN Funding Ways of Working | CE-NTCOGSO Meeting Communique for School Representative Bodies Groote Archipelago Local Decision Making Agreement (GALDMA) Student Advocacy Project | Save the children | Support for families MOTION 1.10/2021 NORTHERN TERRITORY ROAD SAFETY GUIDELINES

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS 2022–23

POSITION	EXECUTIVE MEETINGS (4)	TELE-MEETINGS (6)
President	3	6
Vice-President / Top End Regional Representative	2*	4*
Treasurer	4	2
Barkly Regional Representative	3	3
Big Rivers Regional Representatives	3	1
Central Regional Representative	3	5
Darwin Regional Representative	2	2
East Arnhem Regional Representative	3	4
Invited Member / Public Officer	3	6
mivited Member / Public Officer	3	6

position filled Oct 22

PROVISION OF GOVERNANCE TRAINING AND ADVICE

NTCOGSO | Department of Education FIVE YEAR FUNDING AGREEMENT

We are extremely proud to demonstrate our strong performance against the agreed Governance Training Milestones for an eleventh consecutive year.





far left: Katherine South Primary School Council

> left: Meeting in Maningrida

MILESTONE 1: DRAFT GOVERNANCE TRAINING SCHEDULE

NTCOGSO provides the department with draft training schedules for each Semester.

Draft schedules include all confirmed sessions and training topics to be delivered. We ensure we are responsive to meeting the requests of members and are committed to proportional delivery to government schools across the regions (urban, remote and very remote locations).

MILESTONE 2: GOVERNANCE TRAINING DELIVERED

NTCOGSO is required to deliver a minimum of 40 face to face training sessions, per officer, per year.

Our newly recruited Training Officers continue to undertake professional learning supported by the Project Manager through attendance and co-delivery at governance training sessions.

Our Project Manager is to be commended for personally meeting and exceeding the required number of training sessions.

Our annual achievement continues to excel, with a total of 109 sessions delivered in 2022-23, once again surpassing the requirement.

Governance Training and Meeting Support has been delivered and facilitated to a total of 1,206 participants across all educational regions of the Northern Territory.

Training delivery provides participants with increased awareness and comprehension of the NT Education Act and Regulations and an opportunity to gain knowledge of their roles and responsibilities.

Meeting Support provides collective and individual mentoring opportunities to empower participants to be actively involved in school governance decision making.

NTCOGSO is pleased to have ongoing opportunities to build relationships, enhance community capacity and support parents, families and schools to work in genuine partnerships.

MILESTONE 3: PROVISION OF ADVICE

NTCOGSO is required to provide advice on school governance queries.

We have responded to and resolved **394*** individual governance queries on a wide range of topics encompassing Governance, Parent and Community Engagement, Finance and Industrial Relations.

NTCOGSO is pleased to have ongoing opportunities to provide Parents, Teachers, Principals, Business Managers and school community members with tailored advice and practical support.

MILESTONE 4: RESOURCE REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT

NTCOGSO is required to review and refine all Governance Training resources.

We have partnered with the Department of Education to review current resources and we continue to develop new resources and governance training materials that are culturally responsive and reflective of the relevant Education Act, Regulations and departmental polices and guidelines.

NTCOGSO continues to devote significant time and resourcing into providing expert advice and feedback into the Departments comprehensive review of the School Representative Body:

- Policy
- Guidelines
- · Induction program
- · Video series scripts and,
- · FARMS Policy and Manual.

NTCOGSO values our positive working relationships and ongoing opportunities for collaboration across the Department.

^{*} Most enquiries are resolved in less than 15 minutes and are not included in this total.

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE BODIES ENGAGED IN 2022-23

- Alice Springs School Of The Air
- Alyangula Area School
- Angurugu School
- Anula Primary School
- Bakewell Primary School
- Barunga School
- Berry Springs Primary School
- Borroloola School
- **Braitling Primary School**
- 10. Casuarina Street Primary School
- 11. Centralian Middle School
- 12. Centralian Senior College
- 13. Darwin High School
- 14. Darwin Middle School
- 15. Dripstone Middle School
- 16. Jabiru Area School
- 17. Jingili Primary school
- 18. Karama Primary School
- 19. Katherine School of the Air
- 20. Katherine South Primary School
- 21. Lajamanu School
- 22. Larrakeyah Primary School
- 23. Malak Primary School
- 24. Maningrida School
- 25. Mataranka School
- 26. Middle Point School
- 27. Milingimbi School
- 28. Millner Primary School
- 29. Milyakburra School
- 30. Minyerri School
- 31. Nemarluk School
- 32. Nganambala School
- 33. Nhulunbuy High School
- 34. Nhulunbuy Primary School
- 35. Nightcliff Primary School
- 36. Ntaria School
- 37. Numbulwar School

- 38. Palmerston College
- 39. Papunya School
- 40. Parap Primary School
- 41. Pine Creek School
- 42. Rosebery Primary School
- 43. Ross Park Primary School
- 44. Sanderson Middle School
- 45. Taminmin College
- 46. Ti Tree School
- 47. Warruwi School
- 48. Woolianna School
- 49. Yarralin School
- 50. Yuendumu School



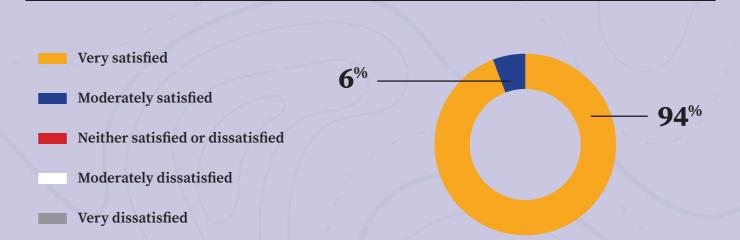


above: Borroloola School Council

EVALUATION OF OUR TRAINING SERVICES

Analysis of feedback from School Representative Body members on training delivered.

HOW WOULD YOU RATE YOUR SATISFACTION WITH THE QUALITY OF THE **CONTENT DELIVERED?**



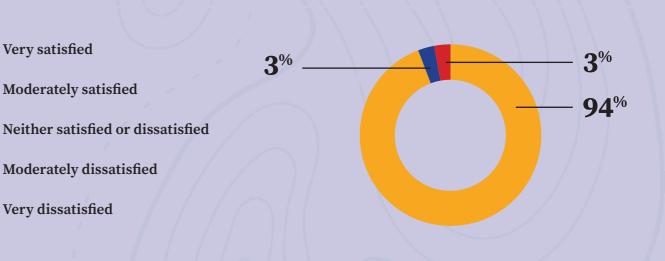
HOW WOULD YOU RATE YOUR SATISFACTION WITH THE QUALITY OF THE **RESOURCES?**

Very satisfied

Moderately satisfied

Moderately dissatisfied

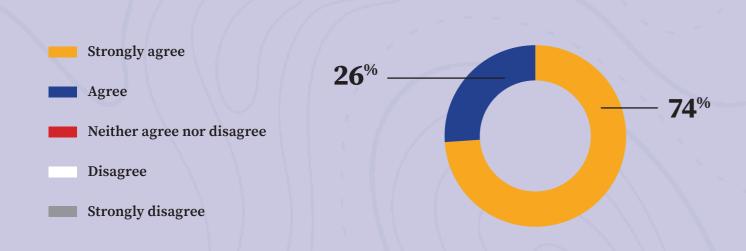
Very dissatisfied



PLEASE RATE THE RELEVANCE OF THE INFORMATION DELIVERED DURING THE TRAINING.



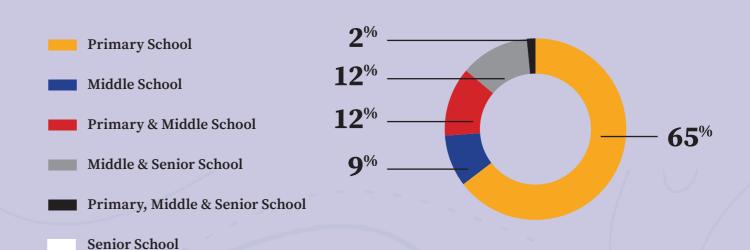
FOLLOWING THE TRAINING, DO YOU FEEL YOU HAVE MORE AWARENESS OF SCHOOL GOVERNANCE?



HOW KNOWLEDGEABLE WAS THE TRAINER?



PLEASE SELECT THE OPTIONS THAT BEST DESCRIBE YOUR SCHOOL (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY).





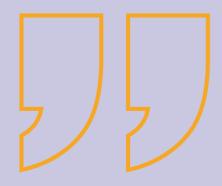




above: Milingimbi School Council members

above: Nganambala School

FEEDBACK ON GOVERNANCE TRAINING



- "Great course & good to really cement policy and our rights as well as that of the school."
- "Very engaging and relevant information. Especially enjoyed having a better understanding of the financial responsibilities of the Council."
- "Great level of information, would be great to have another session later in the year."
- "Really well facilitated prompting some great discussion. Very much appreciated the training and support. Still a few items to cover and discuss but looking forward to further sessions in the near future."
- "Clear, concise and easy to understand. Great information, delivered very well. Thank you."
- "Thank you so much for sharing all your knowledge."
- "Very relevant package and well presented. Thank you!"
- "Excellent and concise presentation Thank you!"
- "Great pace and information was easy to access."
- "Thank you for delivering the training in layman's terms."
- "Content matched personal and Council needs."
- "Presenter was able to give detailed answers and give examples where needed."
- "The information on effective meetings was great."



above: Nganambala School Council

above: Lajamanu School Council

PROVISION OF ADVICE

NTCOGSO has responded to enquiries associated with school Governance, Financial Governance, Industrial Relations, Local Decision Making and Community Engagement by providing tailored advice to individual members. NTCOGSO provided via telephone, email, Teams and face to face, a total of 90 hours and 45 minutes of advice to Parents, Teachers, Principals, Business Managers and school community members on a wide range of enquiries encompassing Governance, Parent and Community Engagement, Finance and Industrial Relations.

NTCOGSO has enjoyed working with School Representative Bodies to resolve enquiries relating to school governance.

NTCOGSO RESOLVED

INDIVIDUAL ENQUIRIES RELATING TO SCHOOL **GOVERNANCE**

* The majority of enquiries are resolved in less than 15 minutes, these are not included in the total.



above: Barunga School Interim Council

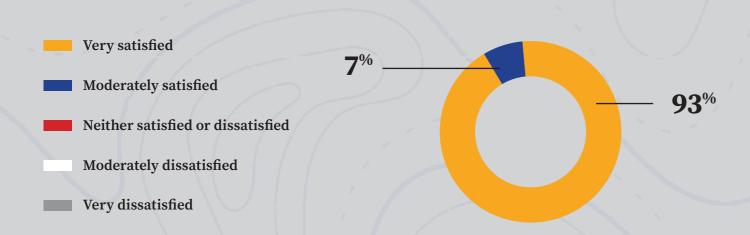




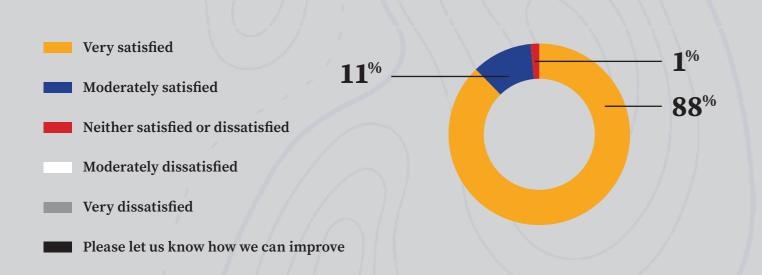
EVALUATION OF OUR ADVISORY SERVICE

Analysis of feedback on your experience in contacting us regarding School Governance advice.

HOW WOULD YOU RATE YOUR SATISFACTION OF THE QUALITY OF THE SUPPORT AND ADVICE PROVIDED?



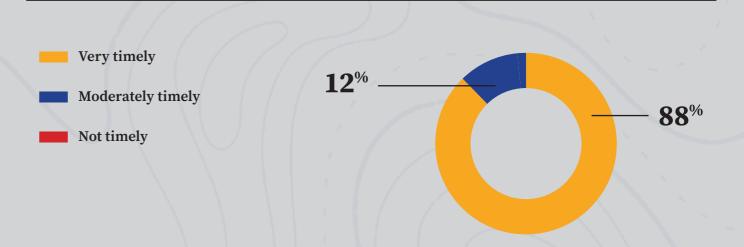
HOW WOULD YOU RATE YOUR SATISFACTION WITH THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCES PROVIDED? (TEMPLATES/FACT SHEETS/HANDBOOKS)



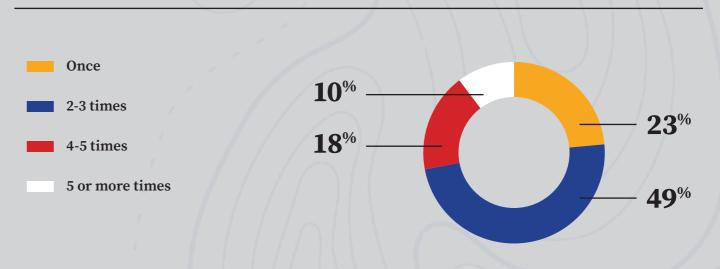
HOW KNOWLEDGEABLE WAS THE STAFF MEMBER PROVIDING ADVICE?



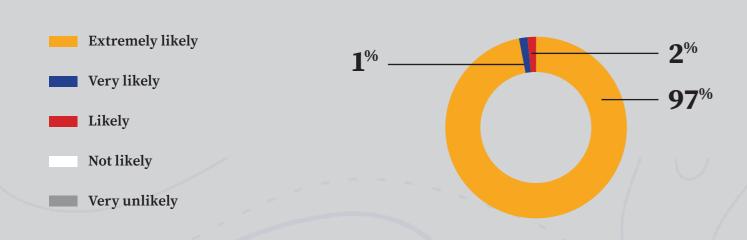
HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE TIMELINESS OF THE ADVICE RECEIVED?



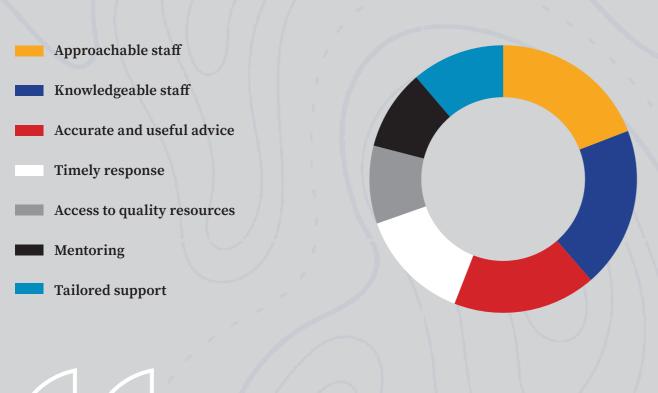
HOW OFTEN DID YOU SEEK ADVICE FROM NTCOGSO?



WOULD YOU RECOMMEND SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE BODY MEMBERS CONTACT NTCOGSO FOR SCHOOL GOVERNANCE ADVICE IN THE FUTURE?



WHEN ENGAGING NTCOGSO SERVICES, WHAT HAVE YOU VALUED MOST FROM THE EXPERIENCE? PLEASE SELECT ALL THAT APPLY.



If you can't yet do great things, do small things in a great way."

- NAPOLEON HILL

FEEDBACK ON THE STANDARD OF OUR



"NTCOGSO has been extremely helpful with resources and the protocols for amending our school constitution and we have appreciated their help."

"Thank you for the support this year; it is truly appreciated."

"Thank you for always going above and beyond to answer questions and provide great examples to help us improve."

"The NTCOGSO team is very knowledgeable and will get back to you in a very timely manner, always happy to support us whenever we need assistance with the Council and have helped our Chair on several occasions."

"NTCOGSO are a wonderful team who provide expert service. I have requested their help on a number of topics over a number of years that I have been on a school council(s). Each time their assistance has been invaluable to me and my volunteer colleagues. I cannot thank them enough!"

"NTCOGSO is just excellent. Our school does not hesitate to pick up the phone to clarify about any matter in regard to governance and the school board. They are an asset and highly valuable to schools. They have always provided accurate and timely communication and are very knowledgeable. They provide outstanding support."

"NTCOGSO are our go-to for all School Council business. They are supportive, informative and reliable. Thank you."

"I cannot speak highly enough of the support that we as a school have received over the past six years. All of the NTCOGSO team members are very approachable. knowledgeable and supportive of the needs of our school council and its members regarding governance."

"NTCOGSO is a great resource for Business Managers to seek guidance and advice when required."

"NTCOGSO is one of the most useful resources for the Principal and School Councils/ Boards - highly valuable."

REVIEW OF PUBLICATIONS

We develop adaptable and culturally appropriate training presentations to support School Representative Body members in understanding school governance under the NT Education Act (2015) | Part 6, Parent and community involvement in government schools.

NTCOGSO has developed a range of resources to assist Parents, Teachers, Principals, Student and Invited Members.

"I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR **GUIDANCE AND COMMITMENT IN CONTRIBUTING TO** WHAT WE ARE ASPIRING TO ACHIEVE. THANK YOU FOR WORKING WITH US TO ADAPT THE GOVERNANCE **TEMPLATES TO OUR SCHOOL CONTEXT."**

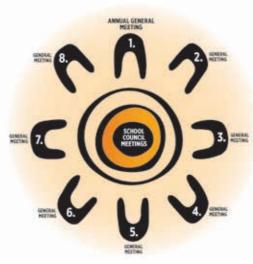
Our templates are designed to assist members to ensure best practice governance procedures are in place for meetings, decision making and records management.

Members can register and login to https://www.NTCOGSO.org.au/ for unlimited access to School Representative Body resources. We support members to contextualise our resources to meet their individual school community needs.

We are committed to supporting schools and their communities to ensure strong decisions are made in the best interests of all students today, tomorrow and into the future.









STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS 2022-23

NT BOARD OF STUDIES AWARDS 2022

These awards are given alongside the Northern Territory Board of Studies Student Awards to publicly recognise the achievements of the year's outstanding students.

Chief Minister's Most Outstanding Student Award Recipient:

ALISHBA SAEED DARWIN HIGH SCHOOL

Chief Minister's Most Outstanding Distance Education Student Award **Recipient:**

METHNI ALTENDORFF NORTHERN TERRITORY SCHOOL OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

Administrator's Medal Award **Primary Years Recipient:**

MATILDA BLOKLAND KATHERINE SCHOOL OF THE AIR

Administrator's Medal Award Middle Years Recipient:

SAMARA MODRA SANDERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

NTCOGSO acknowledges the following student achievements in 2022-23:

FRED HOLLOWS HUMANITY AWARD

The Award recognises junior ambassadors who show compassion, integrity and kindness in their everyday lives, just as Fred Hollows did.

The Fred Hollows Humanity Award highlights inspirational students making a positive difference in their communities.

In 2022, Zoe shaved her head at school to raise money for the Leukemia Foundation, raising almost \$5,000. Her selfless act of kindness was inspirational to her school community.

Region: Central

ZOE RYAN ROSS PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL



left: Zoe Ryan from Ross Park

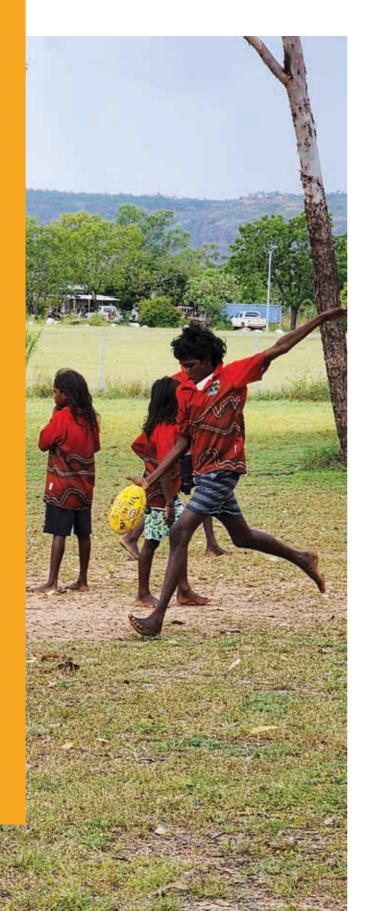


left: Education Minister Eva Lawler with 2022 Top NTCET Student Alishba Saeed from Darwin

SCHOOL BIRTHDAY MILESTONES



SCHOOL	REGION	2023 BIRTHDAY
ACACIA HILL SCHOOL	Central	40
ALYANGULA AREA SCHOOL	East Arnhem	55
ANULA PRIMARY SCHOOL	Darwin	45
AREYONGA SCHOOL	Central	50
BATCHELOR AREA SCHOOL	Top End	70
BEES CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL	Top End	25
CASUARINA SENIOR COLLEGE	Darwin	50
CASUARINA STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL	Big Rivers	25
DUNDEE BEACH SCHOOL	Top End	25
DURACK PRIMARY SCHOOL	Top End	25
KATHERINE HIGH SCHOOL	Big Rivers	35
KINTORE STREET SCHOOL	Big Rivers	35
LARAPINTA PRIMARY SCHOOL	Central	25
LARRAKEYAH PRIMARY SCHOOL	Darwin	60
LEANYER PRIMARY SCHOOL	Darwin	40
MATARANKA SCHOOL	Big Rivers	55
MILLNER PRIMARY SCHOOL	Darwin	55
NAKARA PRIMARY SCHOOL	Darwin	45
PARAP PRIMARY SCHOOL	Darwin	65
SADADEEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	Central	40
TAMINMIN COLLEGE	Top End	40
WAGAMAN PRIMARY SCHOOL	Top End	50
WOOLIANNA SCHOOL	Top End	25
YURRWI (MILINGIMBI) SCHOOL	East Arnhem	50







Juno Centre students

School students at the opening of the Henbury Precinct Café

Primary School

left: Tipperary Station



Education is the key that unlocks the golden door to freedom."

- GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER





NTBOS ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS 2022

The Northern Territory Board of Studies offers Academic Excellence awards to students in their final years of primary, middle and senior schooling. The **Academic Excellence** award consists of a certificate of merit and a monetary prize of \$50.

We pay tribute to the tremendous work of students in our Government schools and recognise the efforts and support of their teachers, school leaders and staff assisting students to achieve their best.

Year 12 Students

NAME	SCHOOL
JAMAL HERRE	Batchelor Area School
BRIDGET JACKSON	Casuarina Senior College
MOLLY TEEFY	Centralian Senior College
CAROL NUNGIRAYI	Centralian Senior College
ALISHBA SAEED	Darwin High School
KIESHA NAGURRGURRBA	Gunbalanya Community School
TOBY REYNOLDS	Henbury School
TESS OUSEY	Katherine High School
GYPSY SHMIDT	Katherine High School
SALOME YIKIPANGI	Milingimbi School
ERIN MILES	Nhulunbuy High School
METHNI ALTENDORFF	NT School of Distance Education
ABIGAIL TIDALGO	Palmerston College
JONE GARAWIRRTJA	Shepherdson College
MILLER GARRETT	Taminmin College
ROBELYN LANAS	Tennant Creek High School

Year 12 Aboriginal Students

NAME	SCHOOL
JAMAL HERRE	Batchelor Area School
DJAMARLIA DARR-SEGEYARO	Casuarina Senior College
DANAE MOORE	Centralian Senior College
RIANE MCCOLM- MONAGHAN	Darwin High School
JEMIMAH DJOGIBA	Gunbalanya Community School
LEAKOTA GALLAGHER	Henbury School
SHARNIKWA BROWN	Katherine High School
JEREMIAH MUDAKADA	Milingimbi School
ZEKAHLIA YIBARBUK	Nhulunbuy High School
TRINESSA WUNUNGMURRA	NT School of Distance Education
ARIYANA CARNE	Palmerston College
JETHRO LACEY	Shepherdson College
CALEB HAYCRAFT	Taminmin College
JAI RENFREY-CARROLL	Tennant Creek High School
NAKAYLAH PLUMMER	Tennant Creek High School

Year 12 – Personal Learning Achiever

NAME	SCHOOL
LYNDON TUMALA	Casuarina Senior College
JOSHUA HAYES	Centralian Senior College
HOLLY SHUGG	Darwin High School
KIA ANDERSON	Gunbalanya Community School
JEREMY JAPE	Henbury School
DAVID NOYCE	Katherine High School
LEONIE LOMBURR	Milingimbi School
JAKE TWOMEY	Nhulunbuy High School
ROMIE GARAWIRRTJA	Shepherdson College
LANI EATON	Taminmin College
STANLEY WAISTCOAT	Tennant Creek High School



above: Kalkaringi School

Year 9 Students

NAME	SCHOOL
RILEY STANLEY	Alice Springs School of the Air
PAD PROMSU	Alyangula Area School
CARLA BRISENIO	Batchelor Area School
ELI CONNOP	Borroloola School
AMINA ACUB	Centralian Middle School
RUHAN SUN	Darwin Middle School
ELIJAH LANE	Dripstone Middle School
DEACON HIGGINS	Dripstone Middle School
DIONICA COOPER	Gunbalanya Community School
RYAN HODGES	Henbury School
JOSEPH LAURIE	Katherine High School
LILY HOLLISTER	Katherine School of the Air
KARNISHA SCOTT-NAWIA	Milingimbi School
RILEY WILKS	Nhulunbuy High School
MATILDA CROWE	Nightcliff Middle School
HOANG QUYNH CHI NGUYEN	Palmerston College
ANMY NGUYEN	Sanderson Middle School
KAITLYN PAVLOU	Taminmin College
ALYIA WALLIS	Tennant Creek High School



above: Casuarina Senior College students

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Year 6 Students

NAME	SCHOOL
NICHOLAS KERR	Adelaide River Primary School
JESSE DAVEY	Alawa Primary School
NOAH CROSSINGHAM	Alice Springs School of the Air
BONNIE DORNAN	Alyangula Area School
RAZI VAN HAEFTEN	Anula Primary School
RHYTHM ALMOHALLAS	Bakewell Primary School
MAHLEY BRAIN	Batchelor Area School
CHLOE MCDONNELL	Bees Creek Primary School
SKYE-RAY ANDERSON	Borroloola School
PRYCE ESTRADA	Braitling Primary School
LEILANI MACHIN	Casuarina Street Primary School
MITCHELL SANDERS	Driver Primary School
CONNOR BROWN	Durack Primary School
KITISHA DOUGLAS	Finke School
GEMMA NIDDRIE	Girraween Primary School
AYLA MCKENZIE	Gray Primary School
MARLINA LAWRANCE	Gunbalanya Community School
MAXZALEAH JIGILI	Haasts Bluff School
PENNY RALPH	Humpty Doo Primary School
STEPHEN MCCORMACK	Jingili Primary School
GWENLYN ROSS	Kalkaringi School
MATILDA BLOKLAND	Katherine School of the Air
RUBY PRIME	Katherine South Primary
BREEANNA GLEESON-HILL	Larapinta Primary School
HALLE WATSON	Leanyer Primary School
MANDY JONG	Malak Primary School
IENTAKE CHRISTOPHER	Manunda Terrace Primary School
NEVAEH HOOK	Middle Point School
LEWIS DHURRKAY	Milingimbi School







creating hand-made Christmas trees

bottom: Casuarina Street Primary School

middle: Henbury School students expanding their woodwork skills by



I am not a teacher, but an awakener."

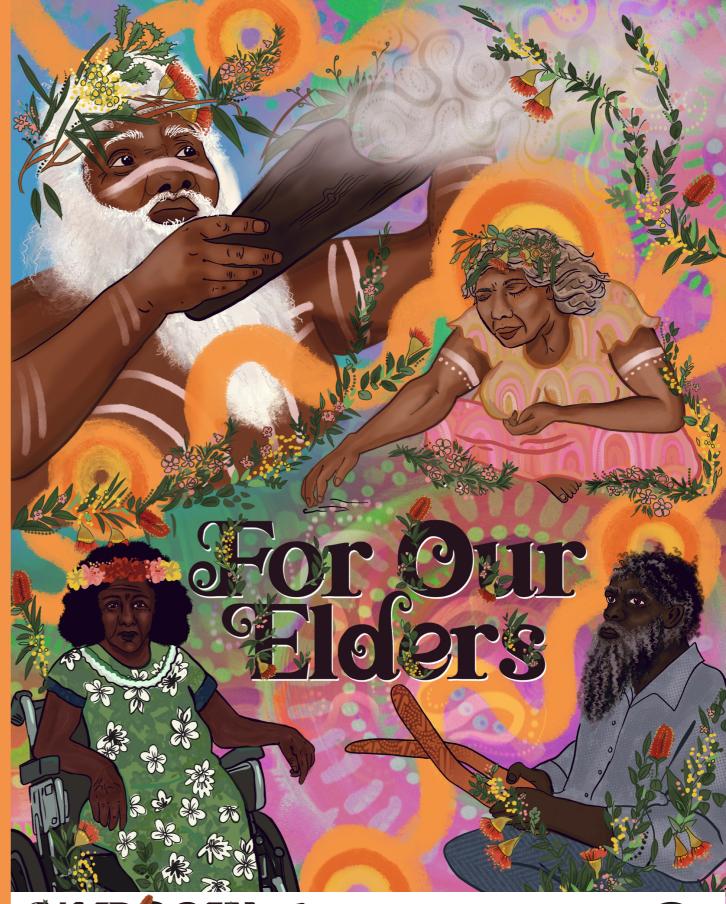
NAME	SCHOOL
VINCENT LEI	Moil Primary School
CHRISTIAN CLARA	Moulden Primary School
JACK FRANCIS	Nakara Primary School
LINC RICHES-MURTON	Nhulunbuy Primary School
ADRIAN RIONATA	Rosebery Primary School
ROHIN SRIVASTAVA	Ross Park Primary School
OBI ASPIN	Sadadeen Primary School
ALYNAH HENRIKSEN	Shepherdson College
JACE BARNES	Stuart Park Primary School
HARRY GREEN	Tennant Creek Primary School
ZAEEM JAHAN	Wagaman Primary School
HUDSON STODDART	Wanguri Primary School
RON CENA	Woodroffe Primary School
SKYLER GERSCH	Wulagi Primary School
WHESELY JOSEPH	Zuccoli Primary School



above: Braitling Primary School students

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NAIDOC Week

2-9 JULY 2023

#NAIDOC2023 #ForOurElders







For Our Elders, Bobbi Lockyer

Where there is knowledge there are our Elders. Our Elders paved the pathways for us, taught us our knowledge, our history, they passed down their art, stories and wisdom. Our Elders are the foundation of our communities and role models for our children. With this poster I wanted to showcase how important our Elders are in passing down traditions and culture to our children and future.





