



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2023–24

NORTHERN  
TERRITORY  
COUNCIL OF  
GOVERNMENT  
SCHOOL  
ORGANISATIONS



YOUR VOICE FOR NT PUBLIC EDUCATION

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

NTCOGSO respectfully acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Nations peoples 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.

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**2023–24**

**NTCOGSO.ORG.AU**

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**“If a child can’t  
learn the way  
we teach,  
maybe we  
should teach  
the way they  
learn.”**

IGNACIO ‘NACHO’  
ESTRADA

NORTHERN TERRITORY COUNCIL OF  
GOVERNMENT SCHOOL ORGANISATIONS

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# 2023-24

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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, 2024

# NT SCHOOL STATISTICS

**71%**

**...of NT government schools are in remote or very remote locations.**

**44%**

**...of students in NT government schools are Indigenous, compared to 5.7% nationally.**

**40%**

**...of all NT government students are in remote or very remote locations, compared to 2.5% nationally.**



I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations (NTCOGSO) for the year ending 30 June 2024.



# FROM THE PRESIDENT

This report underscores our commitment to transparency and accountability, as required by our Operational Base Funding Agreement.

For over five decades, NTCOGSO has been a strong advocate for families, students, and school communities across the Northern Territory. This report highlights our achievements and our dedication to meeting our obligations to our affiliates and the department.

## Strategic Direction

Guided by our Strategic Plan 2021-24, we strove for "Students and families thriving in government schools." Our team remains focused on delivering quality services and addressing emerging issues.

## Governance

At our Annual General Meeting and Full Council in October 2023, we successfully adopted fourteen motions and welcomed new Regional Representatives. I was honoured to continue as President, with Tanya McKenna as Vice President and Richelle Kent re-elected as Treasurer.

## Financial Overview

The 2023-24 Special Purpose Financial Reports confirm that our financial statements accurately reflect our affairs.

## Services

NTCOGSO remains committed to supporting School Representative Bodies through training and mentoring, facilitated by the





'Provision of governance training and advice' funding agreement with the NT Department of Education.

### **Collaboration**

Our collaborative efforts empower families to engage with schools, ensuring every student receives the support needed to thrive. We work closely with various stakeholders to promote positive outcomes for all students.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Minister, Chief Executive, department staff, students, families, and school communities for their ongoing support. Your involvement is crucial to our success.

Lastly, I thank our Executive members and staff for their unwavering commitment to public education.

**TABBY FUDGE**  
**PRESIDENT**



# FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I am proud to present the Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations (NTCOGSO) Executive Officer report for 2023-24.



This year has been marked by meaningful advocacy, robust governance initiatives, and a shared commitment to elevating the voice of parents across the Territory. Our focus has been on addressing critical issues facing government school communities while ensuring that parents' and students' perspectives remain central to decision-making processes.

## Advocacy and Parent Voice

In alignment with our 2021-24 Strategic Plan priorities, we have continued to elevate the voice of parents and school communities, amplifying their concerns and aspirations within the education sector. The NTCOGSO Executive Committee and School Representative Bodies (SRBs) are comprised of volunteers contributing their skills, life experience, time, and expertise to both their schools and the broader Territory community. This positive parental engagement makes a significant difference in educational outcomes at all levels of schooling.

Research consistently shows that positive parental engagement enhances students' cognitive development, academic achievement, motivation for learning, and social behaviour.

For parents, it fosters a stronger sense of community and enriches their lives through active involvement in education. Whether advocating for fairer funding or inclusion in education, NTCOGSO serves as a critical bridge between parents, schools, and the Department of Education. Our focus on inclusion continues as we drive conversations around educational equity, pushing for improvements to support students of all abilities.

## Fairer Funding in Public Education

One of NTCOGSO's longstanding priorities has been advocating for fairer funding for public education. Since 2018, we have engaged with successive Federal governments and Opposition members seeking to secure equitable financial support for government schools in the Northern Territory. That commitment was finally obtained and in-principal support by the Federal and Territory governments was agreed to in March 2024.

This breakthrough is a testament to our persistence and dedication in ensuring that Territory students receive the resources they need to thrive. We also extend our gratitude to previous Minister for Education, Eva Lawler and Chief Executive Karen Weston for their tireless joint advocacy.

2018 NTCOGSO Meeting Schedule

Minister for Education	Mr	Tanya
Shadow Minister for Education and T	The Hon.	Andrew
Shadow Assistant Minister for Schools	Senator the Hon.	Linda
Shadow Minister for Families and Social Services	Mr	Mitch
Minister for Communications and the Arts	The Hon.	Stephen
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure	The Hon.	Michael
Minister for Indigenous Health		
Shadow Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health		
Minister for Indigenous Affairs		
Shadow Minister		

ame



Monday 18 Feb 2019	
Time	Meeting
10:00:00 AM	Peter Arnaudo Indigenous Affairs Group Prime Minister & Cabinet
10:15:00 AM	
10:30:00 AM	
10:45:00 AM	
11:00:00 AM	
11:30:00 AM	Dr. Lyndal Groom Branch Manager, Student Participation, Department of Education & Training
11:45:00 AM	
12:00:00 PM	
12:15:00 PM	
12:30:00 PM	

## Governance and Leadership

NTCOGSO's strategic focus remains on enhancing governance, particularly through the support we provide to School Representative Bodies (SRBs). Priority has been placed on strengthening school governance frameworks and mentoring new Chairs, particularly in remote schools.

Our commitment to strong school governance lies at the heart of ensuring SRBs remain compliant with legislative requirements, by working closely with principals to bolster these efforts.

We also acknowledge the commitment of parents and members of SRB's across the Territory, whose efforts drive positive change.

## Collaboration with the Department

Collaboration with the Department of Education has been central to NTCOGSO's efforts this year. Through regular communication and advocacy, the needs of students and schools have been addressed, with a particular focus on funding and governance support. Despite the challenges, strong professional relationships and continued dialogue with department officials have led to meaningful progress.

## Leadership Transitions in NT Education

2023–24 marked a significant leadership change in NT education, as Minister for Education Eva Lawler transitioned to Chief Minister on 20 December 2023, with Mark Monaghan MLA stepping into the education portfolio. While this change required additional work to establish rapport and brief the new Minister on our ongoing advocacy priorities, it also presented opportunities for further collaboration.

## Staff Dedication and Achievements

**People Are Our Superpower!** Our achievements would not be possible without the passionate dedication of our team and their commitment to advancing NTCOGSO's mission.

Special recognition goes to Governance Project Manager, Alice Gawler, for the tireless support of school communities throughout

the Territory, and to Executive Coordinator, Annabel Fletcher, for the exceptional support of my role and assistance in furthering our advocacy efforts.

## Looking Ahead

As our focus shifts to 2024–25, NTCOGSO remains committed to consolidating the gains made in advocacy, collaboration and governance. Our focus continues on parent engagement, inclusive education and fair funding for schools.

We will continue to advocate for an equitable and quality education system for all students in the Northern Territory, no matter where they live.

Together, we will continue to drive positive change.

**MICHELLE PARKER**  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Tuesday 19 Feb 2019	
Time	Meeting
11:30:00 AM	Tanys Plibersek Bronwyn Taylor, Chief of Staff David McElra, Education Policy Advisor  Andrew Giles, Shadow Assistance Minister for Schools
11:45:00 AM	
12:00:00 PM	
12:15:00 PM	
12:30:00 PM	
12:45:00 PM	Question Time
1:00:00 PM	
13:15:00 PM	
4:00:00 PM	
4:15:00 PM	
4:30:00 PM	Alistair Webster Senior Policy Advisor Bill Shorten

Surname
Tehan MP
Plibersek MP
Giles MP
Burney MP
Fifield
Jones MP
M. G.

# A LEGACY OF ADVOCACY

NTCOGSO was established in 1971 as the single representative body to give NT parents a unified and direct voice to the government.

We have a long and proud history of collaboration with the Australian Commonwealth and Northern Territory governments. Our partnership with the Commonwealth began during the 1970 Gorton government and continued with the 1971 McMahon government, both of which sought to establish a unified voice for parents in the Northern Territory. This collaboration was further strengthened with the establishment of the Commonwealth Department of Education in 1972 under the Whitlam government, which aimed to implement a comprehensive education reform agenda.

In 1970, Commonwealth Department of Education and Science Director, John Steinle, invited representatives from various NT parent groups to consider the formation of a Northern Territory parent organisation. The aim was *"to develop a single representative body to give parents a collective voice, one that would have a direct line of communication with government, the Education Department (Cth), and schools. Conversely, it would give the Australian Government direct contact with NT parents."*

**On 9 August 1971, the Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations (NTCOGSO) was officially established.**

Subsequently, in 1972, Dr. Hedley Beare assumed the position of the first Director of Education in Darwin. His tenure coincided with the visit of Dr. Bill Radford and Dr. Wal Neal, whose Radford-Neal report to the Australian Government included recommendations from NTCOGSO. This report, alongside Dr. Beare's support for community involvement, paved the way

## School council has active plans

The NT Council of Government School Organisations will hold their annual conference at the Anula School on August 12 and 13.

Council president Mr Martin Jacob said the seventh conference could be one of the liveliest ever.

"With the changeover of education due on July 1 next year COGSO has an active role to play in helping to shape the Territory's future in education."

"We are expecting about 40 delegates from all over the Territory to attend the conference."

"Following discussions we've had with Education Minister Mr Jim Robertson and Chief Minister Mr Everingham we are hopeful COGSO can play a major part on the Education Advisory Council."

7-7-78

## Consultation urged on future school control

The Minister for Education, Senator Carrick, has been urged to set up an education commission in the NT, to prepare the way for future local control of schools.

The call has been made by the NT Council of Government School Organisations.

Council president, Mr Martin Jacob, said the NT would not get an education system appropriate to the needs of the Territory without some sort of local education authority.

With current publicity being given to local control of NT statutory authorities, parents were asking about the future control of the NT education system.

Mr Jacob said many decisions affecting NT children were still being made by Canberra politicians and public servants.

There was insufficient delegation to the NT Di-

rector of Education, Dr Jim Eedle.

And there was no machinery which enable the decision makers to judge public reaction to their decisions.

Proposals to form an advisory committee on education in the NT, made by the previous Minister for Education, had been shelved indefinitely by Senator Carrick.

"Until such a committee or a local education

authority is formed with parent, teacher and community representation, we will not get an education system appropriate to the needs of NT children," Mr Jacob said.

Parents were aware that the Minister for Health, Mr Hunt, is to set up a health commission in the NT.

They were hoping that the Minister for Education, Senator Carrick, could be persuaded to follow this lead and set up an education commission.

STAR 30-9-76

## We pay more for less in our schools

STUDENTS in the NT are educated to a lower level under better conditions for a much higher cost in the NT than anywhere else in Australia.

### National report

By TERESA MANNIX

Although teaching and school conditions in the NT are by far the best in Australia, the proportion of students sitting for matriculation has decreased markedly since 1974. And the proportion of high school dropouts in the Territory is easily the highest in Australia. This is revealed in Australian Schools — a statistical report released this month by the Australian Schools Commission. Figures for students completing for high school were more than 26 per cent in 1974, compared with 19 per cent in 1975.

There are 10.3 students to every teacher in high schools.

The next lowest ratio is Victoria with 11.5.

Conversely, in private high schools in the Territory there are 14.2 students to every teacher.

Other figures reveal that our government schools are administratively top heavy compared with the national average.

There is an ancillary staff member for every 39 students here, and the next lowest ratio is Tasmania with as few as one ancillary staff member for every 60 students.

In NSW the average is one to 109.

### Recognition for COGSO

THE Council of Government School Organisations has received a letter from the Minister for Education, Mr Jim Robertson, praising the work of the Council in improving conditions in schools. The council held its annual conference over the weekend and Mr Ian Pontillas was elected president. COGSO is a parent pressure group, established in 1971. The Chief Minister, Mr Everingham, in his opening address, praised the level of funding for education in the NT. A spokesman for the council said he felt they had "entered a new era" since the handover.

9.5m. INCREASE IS NOT ENOUGH  
PARENTS should not be misled by the \$9.5 million increase given to education in the NT. The Council of Government School Organisations says the increase is not enough.



## for adoption school report

Council of Government School Organisations has  
ent to implement recommendations contained in the  
Professional Staffing for ACT and NT Schools.

Among recommenda-  
tions were the upgrading  
of senior positions in  
smaller schools and, in  
particular, that only  
teachers with several  
years' experience be sent  
to one-teacher schools.  
In their report, Dr Neal  
and Mr Hird said they  
would like to reiterate  
their deep concern over  
the staffing needs for  
education in the Terri-  
tory.

only broad generalities,"  
they said.

"There is an urgent  
need for detailed studies  
of the possible future de-  
velopment of education  
in the Territory."

A submission by the  
council, stressing the spec-  
ial needs and, in partic-  
ular, the need for better  
backup resources by way  
of advisory staff both in  
the office and in the field,  
were taken up in the re-  
port.

"We have examined

## Forum on parental involvement in education

A forum at the  
Darwin Community  
College next Wednes-  
day night will discuss  
all aspects of parental  
involvement in the  
education system of the  
NT.

It will be the first  
open forum of this size  
ever conducted in Dar-  
win and has taken almost  
three months to organise.

A panel formed by the  
Director of Education,  
Dr J. Eedle, Executive  
member for Education,  
Miss Liz Andrew, the  
president of the NT  
Council of Government  
School Organisations, Mr  
M. Jacob and the secre-  
tary of the NT Teachers  
Federation, Mr Terry  
Smith, will answer ques-  
tions.

Mr Peter Turnbull, of  
the Community College,  
will be chairman.

The forum was organ-  
ised by a steering com-  
mittee of parents headed  
by Mr Ian Pontifex.

He said many people

were worried about the  
differences between the  
education structure of the  
NT and southern States  
and the forum would give  
them opportunity to ask  
questions about aspects  
they might be worried  
about.

The main worries ap-  
peared to be different  
teaching methods, differ-  
ent curriculum and the  
lack of an inspector's  
system in the NT.

He suggested parents  
may not be prepared to  
become involved with  
their children's schooling  
because they were here  
only for a year or two.

"The Executive Member  
for Education, Miss  
Andrew said we should  
have a review of the  
system in the NT.

"But I don't think  
parents know how the  
system works.

"Even the Director  
hasn't the degree of con-  
trol his southern coun-  
terparts have."

Mr Pontifex said if  
parents were concerned  
and active enough they  
could change policy on  
education.

There was also ample  
opportunity for them to  
become totally involved  
in their children's edu-  
cation.

The forum will be video  
taped for showing on  
closed circuit television  
in outlying centres,  
Nhulunbuy, Tennant  
Alice Springs and Kath-  
erine.

NEWS 14-10-76

## Recognition for COGSO

THE Council of Government  
School Organisations has re-  
ceived official recognition after  
working for eight years to im-  
prove conditions in schools.

The council held its annual  
conference over the weekend,  
and Mr Ian Pontifex was elected  
president.

COGSO is a parent pressure  
group, established in 1971.

The Chief Minister, Mr Ever-  
ingham in his opening address,  
praised the level of funding for  
education in the NT.

A spokesman for the council  
said he felt they had "entered a  
new era" since the handover.

**"Start  
where  
you are.  
Use what  
you have.  
Do what  
you can."**

ARTHUR ASHE

for increased parental engagement in school decision-  
making processes.

In 1974, parents gained representation through the  
newly formed NT Executive, Member for Education  
and Community Services, Elizabeth Andrew. This was  
a few years prior to the Federal Northern Territory (Self-  
Government) Act 1978.

In response to a submission by NTCOGSO, the NT  
Executive established the 'Education Advisory Group'  
(EAG) to advise on transferring education to the  
Northern Territory. The EAG played a crucial role  
in designing a system that incorporated ministerial  
oversight, structured input from teachers and parents,  
and decentralised administration, ultimately leading  
to the Territory Government assuming control of  
education.

Throughout the late 1970s and into the 1980s, significant  
strides were made in legislation and regulation  
through the collaboration of NTCOGSO and the  
newly established NT government. This included the  
incorporation of school councils in the inaugural NT  
Education Act (1979). This legislative development  
was described as an extremely complex legal exercise  
that involved extensive public consultation by our  
organisation.

The Northern Territory government embraced the  
school council model proposed by NTCOGSO to foster  
stronger collaboration with parents and encourage  
increased community engagement in children's  
education and school management.

For fifty-three years, NTCOGSO has played a vital role  
and been a cornerstone of support for the Northern  
Territory's public education community.

As we embark on our fifty-fourth year of service, we  
recognise the evolving needs of our organisation and  
the many stakeholders we serve.

We remain steadfast in our mission of representing  
parents and improving educational outcomes for all  
children in the Northern Territory.

13/8/19  
NEWS.



# ABOUT NTCOGSO

## WHO WE REPRESENT

**We represent every NT government school and have a long and proud history of collaboration with the Australian and Northern Territory governments.**

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

The Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations (NTCOGSO) is the peak parent body in public education throughout the Northern Territory.

Based in Palmerston City on Larrakia Country, NTCOGSO includes a representative from each region across the Northern Territory.

The NT Full Council, comprising all affiliated schools, is the governing authority of NTCOGSO. Each year, during Semester 2, the NT Full Council Conference convenes to discuss and set the strategic 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

### Executive Officer

Our Executive Officer leads the execution of NTCOGSO's Strategic Plan, ensuring its effective implementation while overseeing staff and managing the organisation's physical and financial resources. This role also includes governance in corporate planning, financial management, and maintaining key external relationships. Additionally, the Executive Officer ensures that our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are met in line with funding agreements.

### Executive Coordinator

Our 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

### Project Manager

This role 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 Officers

Governance Officers deliver flexible, high-quality training and mentoring on governance and community engagement throughout the Northern Territory. They educate school representative body members and potential members on the governance requirements of relevant legislation, guidelines, and policies.



# NTCOGSO EXECUTIVE



## TABBY FUDGE

### President

Oct 2015 to Jun 2024

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 2023 AGM Tabby was re-elected President for a ninth year. In the 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.



## TANYA MCKENNA

### Vice President & Top End Region

Oct 2022 to Jun 2024

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 Council successful in improving school infrastructure, providing more classrooms, upgrading play areas and implementing wellbeing programs to improve student outcomes. Tanya then went on to hold the position of Taminmin Chair.

Tanya considers it critical that children, parents and wider community have a strong voice within the public schooling system, all working in collaboration to achieve excellent educational outcomes, without discrimination. Together we can do so much.





## **RICHELLE KENT**

### **Treasurer**

Nov 2018 to Jun 2024

Richelle has two children who attend government schools and is a born and bred Territorian. Commencing a School Council journey in 2013 at Driver Primary School as Parent Member, later holding the position of Treasurer on Karama Primary School Council and Batchelor Area School Council. Richelle holds the position of Treasurer at Namarluk School Council, and Parent Member of Henbury School Council.

In her sixth 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 2024

Wayne served as a Parent Member on the Tennant Creek High School Council for twelve years. Previously Wayne served on Tennant Creek Primary School Council for over ten years. Wayne and wife Karyn have four children who have completed or are undertaking their education in Tennant Creek.

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 Territory education.



## **NOELA ANDERSON**

### **Big Rivers Region**

Mar 2018 to Jun 2024

Noela is a Parent Member on the Borrooloola School Council and comes from two language groups; Garrwa and Yanyuwa and has spent her entire life in and around Borrooloola. Having worked for three years at Borrooloola School as a Tutor/Assistant Teacher, Noela has now spent twenty-one 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.

# NTCOGSO EXECUTIVE



## **LAUREN WINTER**

### **Central Region**

Oct 2019 to Jun 2024

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 six children with the youngest currently at school, Lauren is passionate about public education both Territory and Australia wide.



## **JACQUELINE O'REILLY**

### **Darwin Region**

Oct 2023 to Feb 2024

Jacqueline holds the position of Chair at Henbury School and is passionate about promoting quality education, fostering an inclusive learning environment, and advocating for student wellbeing.

Jacqueline is dedicated to ensuring that all students, regardless of their background, have access to the resources and opportunities they need to succeed.





## **SIMON NIBLOCK**

### **Darwin Region**

May 2024 to Jun 2024

Simon has served on the Darwin High School Board since 2021 and previously served on the Nightcliff Primary School Council for six years.

With a background in educational publishing, Simon has made significant contributions to education, including developing bilingual teaching materials in Arnhem Land and founding Niblock Publishing. Simon has also served as an Alderman on the City of Darwin and on various committees, including the Risk Management and Audit committee and the Chief Minister's Activate Darwin Advisory Board.



## **NOEL CARPENTER**

### **East Arnhem Region**

Nov 2021 to Jun 2024

Noel lives in the Yirrkala community in north-east Arnhem Land with his family. He has served as a parent member and Chair on both the Nhulunbuy Primary and Nhulunbuy High School Councils, as well as NTCOGSO's East Arnhem Regional Representative. Noel is active in engaging with others in north-east Arnhem Land communities and has a focus on working together to build education outcomes for all students.



## **FRED RICHARDSON**

### **Invited Member**

### **Public Officer**

Apr 2016 to Jun 2024

Fred has lived and worked in the Northern Territory since 1973, including thirty-two years in Adult Education where Fred specialised in the development and delivery of adult IT skills in remote locations. Fred served as Central Regional Representative in 2015 and 2016 and from 2017 as an Invited Member.

Fred firmly believes that well informed families, engaged in the discussions and decisions that affect and chart their children's experiences and accomplishments at school, are a crucial part of the work to nurture the potential each student has.

# NTCOGSO EXECUTIVE



## **NATASHA O'KEEFE**

### **Invited Member**

Mar 2018 to Jun 2024

Natasha is an Invited Member on Borrooloola School Council and served as the Big Rivers Regional Representative from 2018 – 2023.

With extensive experience previously working at Borrooloola School for several years, Natasha firmly believes education is the key for all children to learn, grow, and become independent life-long learners, contributing to their communities and achieving personal success.

---

**“If you  
can't yet  
do great  
things,  
do small  
things in  
a great  
way.”**

NAPOLEON HILL



# EXECUTIVE MEETINGS 2023-24

POSITION	EXECUTIVE MEETINGS (4)	TELE-MEETINGS (7)
President	4	6
Vice-President / Top End Regional Representative	3	7
Treasurer	4	5
Barkly Regional Representative	3	3
Big Rivers Regional Representatives	2	1
Central Regional Representative	4	5
Darwin Regional Representative	3 (3)*	3 (3)*
East Arnhem Regional Representative	4	6
Invited Member / Public Officer	4	5

\* Position vacant Jul-Oct 23 & Feb-Apr 24

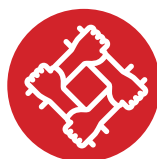
# STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-24

## 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 self-determination and self-management 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.

## VISION

**Students and Families Thriving in  
Government Schools**





# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

---

1

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

2

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

3

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

4

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

5

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

## MISSION

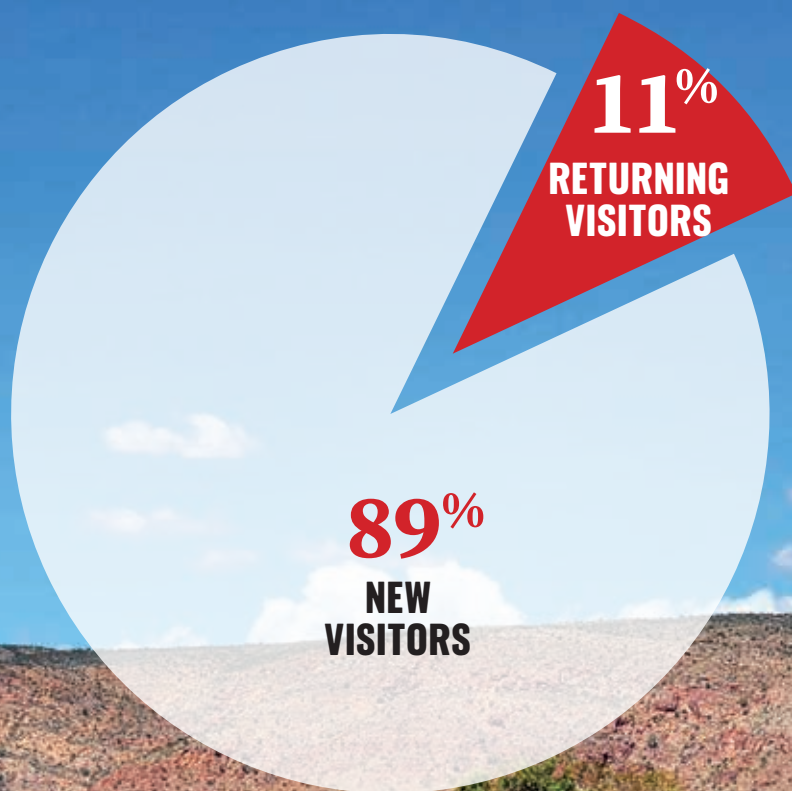
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To strengthen public education by encouraging continual improvement in the provision of quality education for all students.



**NTCOGSO** continues to deliver against three primary goals: **Support, Advocacy and Governance**, outlined across our 2021-24 Strategic Plan.

# OUR REACH



## PROVISION OF INFORMATION

NTCOGSO provides support and information to School Representative Bodies and their school communities in relation to good governance and management in an educational context under relevant Northern Territory Government educational legislations, policies and initiatives.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

The NTCOGSO Facebook page continues to thrive with our audience increasing from 2,322 to 2,412 from July 2023 to June 2024. In the past year, our posts reached an impressive 104,563 users, generating 8,676 link clicks.

This essential hub keeps families and schools informed and highlights the excellent work happening in government schools.

## WEBSITE

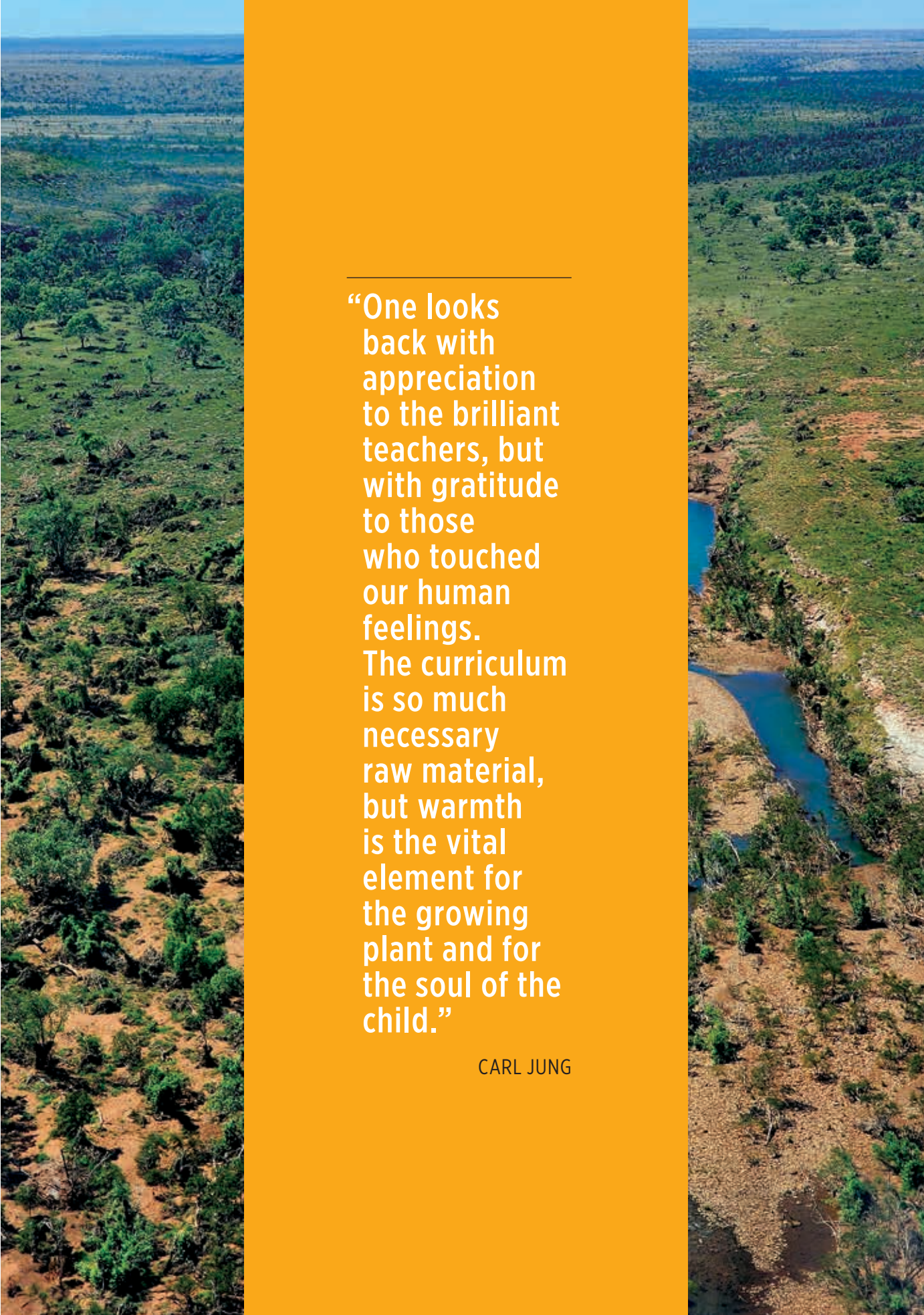
The NTCOGSO website received a total of 4,555 users with 5,718 sessions between July 2023 to June 2024.

## NTCOGSO AUDIENCE OVERVIEW

**89%** new visitors to NTCOGSO's website.

(Google Analytics 2024)



The image is a full-page spread with a central orange vertical band. On either side of this band are vertical panels showing an aerial view of a vast, flat landscape. The landscape is covered with sparse green vegetation, likely scrub or low-lying trees, interspersed with patches of brownish-yellow earth. A winding river or waterway is visible in the lower right panel, flowing through the landscape. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

“One looks back with appreciation to the brilliant teachers, but with gratitude to those who touched our human feelings. The curriculum is so much necessary raw material, but warmth is the vital element for the growing plant and for the soul of the child.”

CARL JUNG

“Alone, we can  
do so little;  
together we  
can do so  
much.”

HELEN KELLER

**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.

# OUR IMPACT: REPRESENTATION & ADVOCACY

*“The Operational grant is provided to NTCOGSO to continue engagement with all school communities, and represent their voices to the NT Government.”*

By working 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 regarding 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.

## OUTCOME 1

	NUMBER OF SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE BODIES	NUMBER AFFILIATED WITH NTCOGSO	MEASURE ACHIEVED
Barkly	3	3	100%
Big Rivers	22	22	100%
Central	13	13	100%
Darwin	27	27	100%
East Arnhem	13	13	100%
Top End	28	28	100%

\* Alongside the above performance outcome, it's important to highlight that every Northern Territory government school that does not have a school representative body is still proudly affiliated with NTCOGSO.



	SCHOOLS WITH NO SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE BODY	NUMBER AFFILIATED WITH NTCOGSO
Barkly	10	10
Big Rivers	4	4
Central	21	21
Darwin	0	
East Arnhem	0	
Top End	7	7

	SCHOOLS WITH NO SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE BODY	NUMBER AFFILIATED WITH NTCOGSO
Barkly	10	10
Big Rivers	4	4
Central	21	21
Darwin	0	
East Arnhem	0	
Top End	7	7

## 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).



## OUTCOME 2

NTCOGSO continues to champion the voices of School Representative Bodies and all Northern Territory government schools through our formal contributions to educational policies and initiatives.

This year marked another period of significant work at the request of the Northern Territory Department of Education.

### 1. Contributions to Northern Territory Government | Department POLICIES

- Financial and Resource Management for Schools (FARMS) Policy and Manual

Over many years, NTCOGSO has consistently called for practical support to assist School Representative Bodies meet their legal responsibility under the

Education Act NT, to expend the funds allocated to schools from the department. The FARMS Policy and Manual provides these bodies with clear guidelines to fulfil their responsibilities.

The Chief Executive formally thanked NTCOGSO for the ongoing support, partnership and valuable contributions made in the development of the FARMS manual.

#### • School Representative Body Guidelines

NTCOGSO has been actively engaged in the development of the School Representative Body Guidelines since 2020. In addition to our contributions to the Parent and Community Involvement in Schools Policy, we

have consistently provided detailed feedback to support the refinement of these guidelines.

We look forward to the final stage of development and remain committed to ensuring that the guidelines effectively meet the needs of School Representative Bodies.

#### • Educational Facilities Design Guidelines 2024

NTCOGSO was invited to contribute to the inaugural development of NT Educational Facilities Design Guidelines. This collaborative effort between the Departments of Education and Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics aimed to ensure future school facilities meet the evolving needs of students and communities.



# OUR IMPACT: REPRESENTATION & ADVOCACY (CONT.)

- **Road Safety Guidelines 2024**

NTCOGSO has long advocated for updated road safety guidelines. We recently reviewed the draft Road Safety Guidelines 2024 for schools, developed by DIPL. We raised significant concerns regarding the document's lack of clarity on its purpose, audience, and intended use. The guidelines place an unfair burden on parents, teachers, and students to manage road safety.

## **2. Contributions to Northern Territory Government | Department INITIATIVES:**

In 2023-24, NTCOGSO continued to be recognised as a valuable resource by the Northern Territory Government and the Department of Education, who sought our insights and membership on various initiatives.

This engagement highlights the confidence in our organisation and underscores our ongoing commitment to contributing meaningfully to educational advancements.

- **External Review and Reform Committee (formerly ICAC Program Committee)**
  - School Governance Policy and School Representative Body Guidelines
  - Options for a preferred school body record management system.

At our first meeting with the incoming Chief Executive in March 2020, NTCOGSO raised the need for this critical piece of work to be undertaken. Subsequently recommended by the ICAC Commissioner, we eagerly await the final draft of the School Representative Body Guidelines.

- **Occupational Violence and Aggression (OVA) in Schools Reform Committee**

NTCOGSO is committed to the importance of safety in schools for all students, families and staff.

As a member of this committee, NTCOGSO provides input on the implementation of 17 recommendations aimed at reducing incidents of occupational violence and aggression in Northern Territory government schools.

- **School Based Policing Consultative Group**

NTCOGSO continued to have the Northern Territory Government's endorsement for our ongoing participation in the consultative body overseeing the School Based Police Program.

- **Supporting Diversity of Sexuality Gender Identity and Gender Expression in Education Expert Reference Group**

NTCOGSO remains committed to the development of resources and

policies that foster an inclusive and respectful educational environment in the NT.

In this reporting period the practice guides were developed to ensure education settings are supportive and understanding of diverse sexuality, gender identities, and gender expressions.

- **Review of Secondary Education in the Northern Territory**

NTCOGSO identified and discussed reform options to improve student engagement and outcomes for secondary students with Review consultants, Deloitte Access Economics.

We were particularly pleased to see the key findings and recommendations included a guaranteed standard of local secondary school provision regardless of geographic location.

- **Governance and Implementation Committee (GIC)**

NTCOGSO participates in this committee, which oversees the implementation of the Education Engagement Strategy 2022-2031 to ensure it effectively meets its objectives.

We contribute meaningfully to discussions, offering valuable insights from our unique perspective, on critical initiatives that impact schools across the Northern Territory.



## PERFORMANCE MEASURE 3

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

### 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.

- 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 sat on the board as the Parent stakeholder representative and held the position from 2017 to 31 December 2023.
- Northern Territory Council of Social Service (NTCOSS)
- United Nations Association of Australia (UNAA) – NT Division



## PERFORMANCE MEASURE 4

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

## OUTCOME 4

#### PUBLIC EDUCATION PROMOTION

At NTCOGSO, our unwavering mission is to promote public education in every aspect of our work.

We believe that every child deserves access to a high-quality education, and this belief drives our efforts. As the peak body representing parents in public education, we are steadfast

in advocating for the importance and value of public education as the best choice for families across the Northern Territory.

Public education is the bedrock of a democratic society. Parents, teachers, and students within public schools make significant contributions to our community, and the values that underpin public education—equity, inclusion, and opportunity—are worth celebrating, promoting, and defending.

NTCOGSO takes every opportunity to ensure that public education is recognised for its value to individuals and the broader society.

Throughout 2023-2024, NTCOGSO has actively promoted public education through:

- Public statements in media releases, media comments, and

interviews, advocating for the importance of public education and addressing issues critical to its improvement.

- Supporting needs-based funding campaigns and advocating for equitable funding that reflects the needs of students and ensures all schools can provide the necessary resources for success.
- Participating in events that celebrate and support public education, reinforcing our commitment to raising awareness of its strengths and challenges.
- Consistent advocacy on behalf of parents, students, and school communities, ensuring their voices are heard and their concerns are addressed.
- Regular attendance at regional Council meetings, offering guidance and support to School Representative Bodies, fostering

## PERFORMANCE MEASURE 5

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

## OUTCOME 5

#### PROMOTING POSITIVE OUTCOMES

NTCOGSO and the Northern Territory government (the Territory), through the Department of Education, continue to work towards a shared goal: the advancement of public education in the NT.

NTCOGSO deeply values this collaborative relationship which drives positive outcomes for students, schools, and communities.

As detailed under Performance Measure 2, NTCOGSO remains committed to strengthening this partnership by actively contributing to Northern Territory Government and Department of Education policies and initiatives.

In addition, we present the following examples of how we actively promote the positive outcomes of our collaboration with the Territory.

- **Annual Report:** This document reflects both our achievements and ongoing strategic priorities, serving as a testament to our transparent approach and cooperative efforts with the Territory. It is shared widely

with over 1,200 members, key stakeholders, counterparts across Australia, and the NT Legislative Assembly, making it an essential tool for communicating our collaborative work and impact.

- **Annual Full Council:** This pivotal event allows members to review the achievements of the past year and set priorities for the year ahead. The Minister for Education and the Chief Executive of the Department of Education consistently participate, highlighting the strong partnership and the high regard in which NTCOGSO is held as a key stakeholder in NT education.
- **Regional Councils:** NTCOGSO actively supports six Regional Councils, providing mentoring and meeting support. These Councils ensure that collaboration with the Department is grounded



strong governance, and reinforcing the significance of their role in shaping public education.

Our work this year has been a reflection of our enduring commitment to advocating for a robust public education system that serves the needs of all students in the Northern Territory.

We remain dedicated to championing the values of public education and will continue to stand firm in our efforts to ensure it remains a strong and thriving foundation for future generations.



in the needs of individual school communities, creating a feedback loop that allows Regional Councils to stay informed and involved in decision-making processes. NTCOGSO updates the Regional Councils on work 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:** Serving as a crucial link between schools and NTCOGSO, SRBs ensure the voice of every school is represented. The collaboration on initiatives such as the School Representative Body Induction Program and the Finance and Resource Management manual

has been widely celebrated as an important step in supporting governance in schools.

- **Schools:** Feedback from schools offers invaluable insights into how collaborative efforts are being received. This engagement not only highlights areas for improvement but also provides opportunities to celebrate positive outcomes.

In 2023-24, we widely celebrated our joint efforts with the Department, particularly the collaboration on the School Representative Body Induction Program and FARMS, both essential resources that bolster school governance and financial management. These initiatives exemplify our shared commitment to improving education outcomes through strong partnerships.



# SCHOOL EDUCATION ADVISORY GROUP (SEAG)

- CHIEF EXECUTIVE
- NTCOGSO
- AEUNT
- NT PRINCIPALS ASSOCIATION

## QUARTERLY MEETINGS

DATE	DESCRIPTION
19 Oct 23	Chief Executive update Plan for a Better, Safer Future Education Ministers meeting Status update on reviews 360 Degree View of the Child Terms of Reference Focus for 2024
15 Mar 24	Chief Executive update Statement of intent Secondary review Education Ministers meeting Conflict of Interest (CoI) Teacher recruitment and workforce planning Central Australia update Developing Educational Facilities Design Guidelines   Invitation to contribute
16 Jun 24	Chief Executive update Aboriginal Peak Organisations NT (APONT) introduction and update Annual General Meeting motions   NTCOGSO, AEUNT, NTPA, ICPA Framework for Inclusion Occupational Violence and Aggression (OVA) recommendations update







# NTCOGSO & CHIEF EXECUTIVE DOE MEETINGS


DATE	DESCRIPTION
12 Aug 23	Barkly region   CE support of governance training Governance support to principals Teaching principal schools   Two adults policy EY   Effective Enrolment review Small schools funding 2024   Budget planning term 4 2023 Big Rivers region   Reinstatement of funds to a school budget Nganambala School playground Students with disability   Commonwealth funding   NCCD level of adjustment School Representative Body (SRB) Guidelines   Consultation Finance and Resource Management for Schools (FARMS)   Review
9 Nov 23	2022 NTCOGSO Full Council motions   Outstanding matters 2023 NTCOGSO Full Council motions   Tabled for discussion Student Wellbeing, Inclusion and Program Services (SWIPS)   Action items
25 Mar 24	Department responses to NTCOGSO Full Council motions Community consultation undertaken for On Country Learning Measure Barkly region   CE support of governance training   Ongoing Governance support to principals   Ongoing Teaching principal schools   Two adults policy   Ongoing School Representative Body Guidelines   Development FARMS   Infrastructure module Finance unit restructure   Organisational chart requested School reviews   Mandate active participation of SRB and LEaD committee members
20 Jun 24	Motions 1.10 & 1.11/2023   Student health and nutrition policy and guidelines   Department response Motion 2.18/2020   Pigeon Hole (Nitjpurru) government housing   Department response Motion 1.10/2021   School road safety Motion 1.6/2023   Electronic smoking in schools   Targetted funding School Representative Body (SRB) Guidelines   Progress NTCOGSO funding submission 2024-29 Actions from NTCOGSO Executive meeting 1 June 2024   Update on department responses Nganambala School playground   Progress Review of school fees charged to families Unannounced community visits by DoE and contractors Parent dental permission form FARMS   Infrastructure module   Ongoing FARMS   Request infrastucture cycle factsheet Record keeping   School Representative Bodies (SRB) DIPL   Shortage of Project Managers





“Education remains one of the most important duties of any government. It is their public responsibility to provide access to high quality education for every child. Regardless of their location, no matter how remote. Every child.”

MICHELLE PARKER,  
NTCOGSO EXECUTIVE  
OFFICER



# SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE BODIES ENGAGED IN 2023-24

## 57 INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS ENGAGED IN 133 SESSIONS

1. Acacia Hill School
2. Alawa Primary School
3. Alyarrmandumanja Umbakumba School
4. Angurugu School
5. Anula Primary School
6. Barunga School
7. Batchelor Area School
8. Bees Creek Primary School
9. Berry Springs Primary School
10. Bradshaw Primary School
11. Braitling Primary School
12. Casuarina Senior College
13. Casuarina Street Primary School
14. Centralian Senior College
15. Darwin Middle School
16. Durack Primary School
17. Jabiru Area School
18. Jilkminggan School
19. Jingili Primary School
20. Kalkaringi School
21. Karama Primary School
22. Katherine School Of The Air
23. Katherine South Primary School
24. Lajamanu School
25. Larapinta Primary School
26. Larrakeyah Primary School
27. Malak Primary School
28. Middle Point School
29. Milingimbi School
30. Millner Primary School
31. Milyakburra School
32. Minyerri School
33. Moil Primary School
34. Nakara Primary School
35. Namarluk School
36. Nganambala School
37. Nightcliff Primary School
38. Parap Primary School
39. Nitjpurru (Pigeon Hole) School
40. Pine Creek School
41. Ramingining School
42. Robinson River School
43. Rosebery Primary School
44. Sanderson Middle School
45. Taminmin College
46. Tennant Creek High School
47. Timber Creek School
48. Wagaman Primary School
49. Walungurru School
50. Wanguri Primary School
51. Waruwi School
52. Willowra School
53. Woodroffe Primary School
54. Woolianna School
55. Wugularr School
56. Yuendumu School
57. Zuccoli Primary School



## FUNDED ACTIVITY: School Governance Training and Advice

# PROVISION OF GOVERNANCE TRAINING AND ADVICE

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

### MILESTONE 1: DRAFT GOVERNANCE TRAINING SCHEDULE

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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

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

We have once again surpassed this requirement delivering a total of 133 sessions in 2023-24.

Governance Training and Meeting Support has been delivered and facilitated to a total of 1,466 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.

“Children are very precious, very special, they are our future. They deserve our nurturing.”

JANET HOLMES  
A COURT

### MILESTONE 3: PROVISION OF ADVICE

NTCOGSO is required to provide advice on school governance queries.

We have responded to and resolved 267\* 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 Community Members with tailored advice and practical support.

### MILESTONE 4: RESOURCES REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT

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

We continue to develop new resources and governance training materials that are culturally responsive and reflective of the relevant Education Act, regulations and departmental policies and guidelines.

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

- Policy
- Guidelines

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.



# 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.

# 267\*

**\* number of individual enquiries relating to school governance resolved by NTCOGSO**

NTCOGSO supported via telephone, email, Teams and face to face, 153 hours of support and expertise 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.

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



# FEEDBACK ON THE STANDARD OF OUR ADVICE

“NTCOGSO are excellent. We are forever grateful to have them in our school. Their knowledge is fantastic, and the way they delivered the training is outstanding. Thank you for supporting our College.”

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“Thank you for your ongoing support it is very helpful.”

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“NTCOGSO was prompt in their support for our school council and nothing was too much trouble. The team had genuine empathy for the challenges which can exist in remote communities.”

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“Thank you for always supporting our school council!”

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“Thank you for all your support – always above and beyond expectations.”

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“Very approachable and well presented.”

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“I have appreciated the support of NTCOGSO so much as a principal. The team are so helpful and accommodating, not to mention knowledgeable. Thank you.”

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“Great to always be able to ask questions and get quality accurate advice. Thank you.”

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“Your expert advice and understanding of the complexity of schools, the department and families is priceless. Thank you!”

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“Thanks so much for your support and assistance from the NTCOGSO team, very much appreciated.”

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“The NTCOGSO team has been wonderful. They’re very prompt with their responses, either by phone, email or in person. They’re always willing to share resources and information. I have had nothing but positive experiences working with NTCOGSO. Thank you!”

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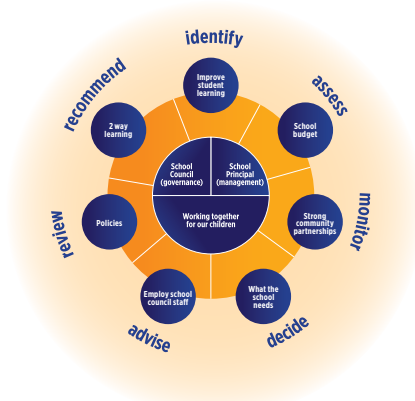






# REVIEW OF PUBLICATIONS

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, community, teachers, principals, students and invited members in their governing roles.

**"I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE NTCOGSO'S 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.

**"THE GUIDANCE RECEIVED AT OUR MEETINGS IS BRILLIANT. IT WOULD BE REALLY USEFUL TO HAVE NTCOGSO AT OUR MEETING ABOUT PREPARING OUR GOVERNANCE DOCUMENTS."**

Members can register at <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.

**"GREAT RESOURCES AND ACCESSIBLE ENOUGH FOR DIFFERENT LITERACY LEVELS."**

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.

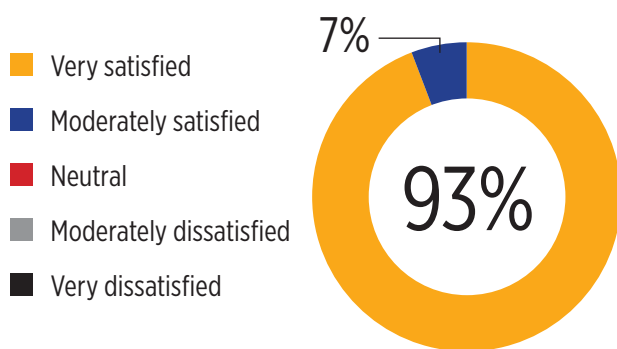




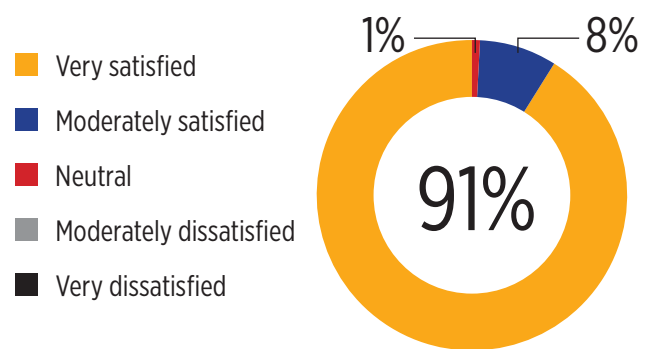
# EVALUATION OF OUR TRAINING SERVICES

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

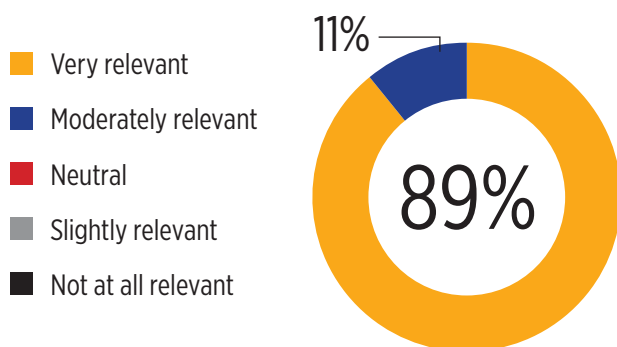
## How would you rate your satisfaction with the quality of the content delivered?



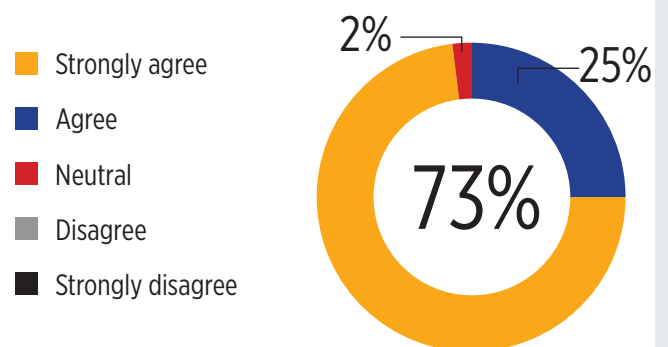
## How would you rate your satisfaction with the quality of the resources?



## Please rate the relevance of the information delivered during the training.



## Following the training, do you feel you have more awareness of school governance?

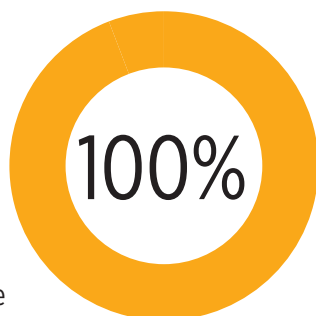






## How knowledgeable was the trainer?

- Very knowledgeable
- Moderately knowledgeable
- Neutral
- Slightly knowledgeable
- Not at all knowledgeable



## Do you have any other comments, questions, or concerns?

“Excellent as always! Thank you for clear, concise, well explained examples. There is always something new to learn.”

“Loved the booklet to go through at the same time to make notes.”

“Extremely professional, engaging and informative. Not boring at all so thank you!”

“The presentation was excellent – filled in gaps in my knowledge.”

“The information on council representation was enlightening.”

“This is so important. Guidance to strengthen our Council.”

“The information was very clearly presented, and explanations were easy to understand.”

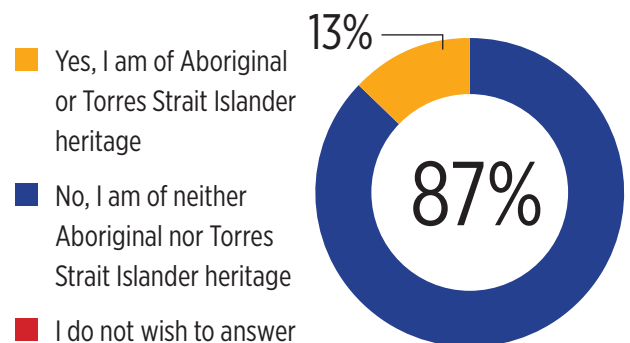




# EVALUATION OF OUR TRAINING SERVICES (CONT.)



**Do you identify as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage?**







“Listening,  
talking and  
working  
together is the  
only way we  
will improve  
outcomes  
for our  
children.”

TABBY FUDGE,  
NTCOGSO PRESIDENT







# FEEDBACK ON GOVERNANCE TRAINING

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



“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.”

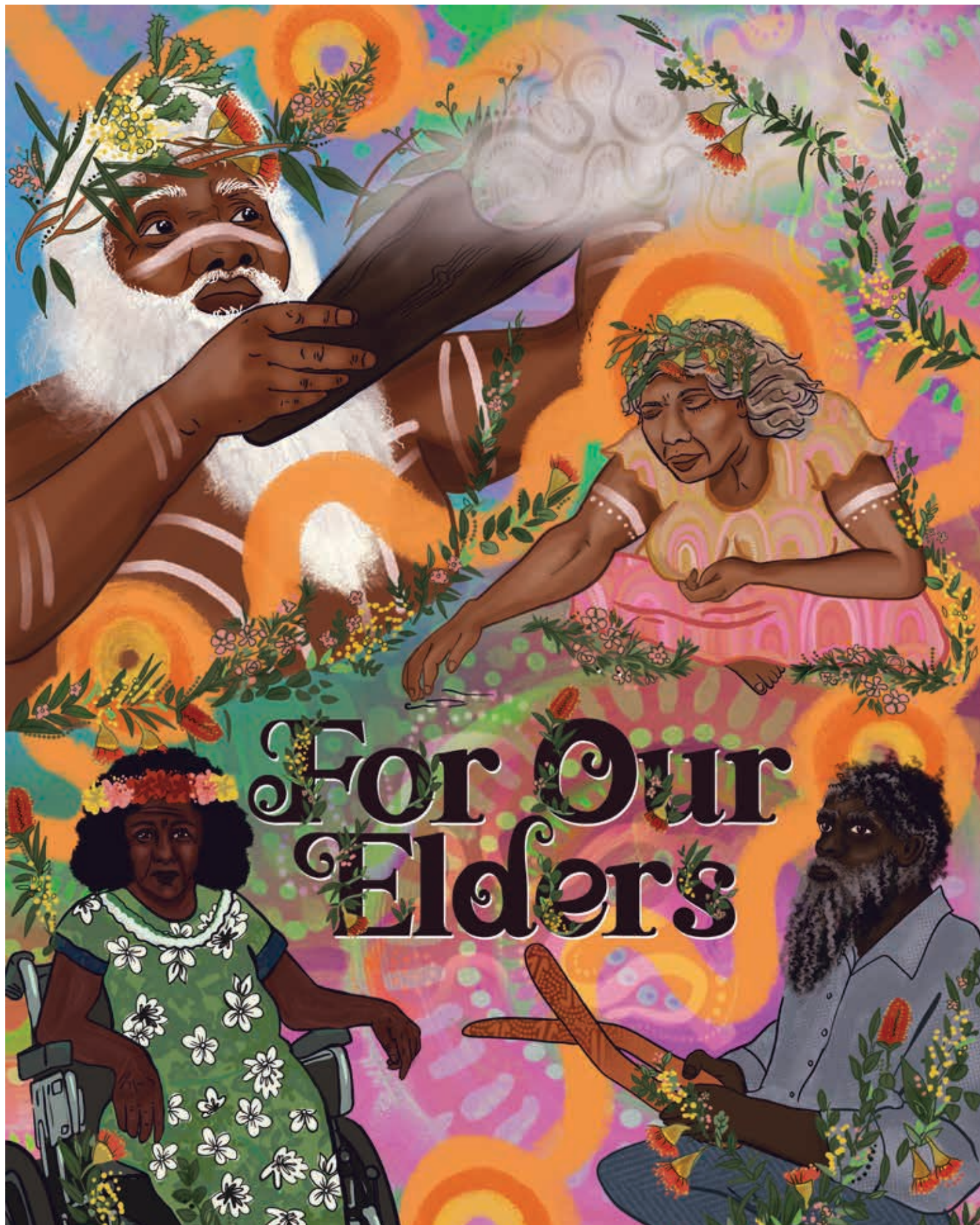




# SCHOOL BIRTHDAY MILESTONES 2024

SCHOOL	REGION	2024 BIRTHDAY
AMOONGUNA SCHOOL	Central	55
BAKEWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL	Top End	25
BONYA SCHOOL	Central	35
BRADSHAW PRIMARY SCHOOL	Central	50
GRAY PRIMARY SCHOOL	Top End	40
HARTS RANGE SCHOOL	Central	35
JABIRU AREA SCHOOL	Top End	45
MANINGRIDA SCHOOL	Top End	65
MANUNDA TERRACE PRIMARY SCHOOL	Darwin	40
MIDDLE POINT SCHOOL	Top End	60
PULARUMPI SCHOOL	Top End	55
WULAGI PRIMARY SCHOOL	Darwin	45
YARRALIN SCHOOL	Big Rivers	25
YUENDUMU SCHOOL	Central	60
YULARA SCHOOL	Central	40





# NAIDOC Week

**2-9 JULY 2023**

#NAIDOC2023 #ForOurElders

 @naidocweek
  @naidocweek
  facebook.com/NAIDOC

## 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.

Aboriginal Flag designed by Mr Harold Thomas. Torres Strait Islander Flag reproduced by kind permission of the Torres Strait Island Regional Council, designed by the late Mr Bernard Namok.



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