

**Meeting Opened:** 10:00am

## **Welcome/Apologies**

The President, Gerard Reid welcomed affiliates to the Full Council and recognised T.Os. Apologies were noted, listed after attendees.

## **1. MINUTES**

### **1.1 Unconfirmed Minutes of the 2014 Full Council held at the Rydges Hotel, Darwin Airport, Saturday 8 November 2014.**

Motion: That the Minutes of the 2014 Full Council be confirmed as a true and correct record

Michele Willsher / James Beattie / CARRIED

## **2. BUSINESS ARISING**

### **2.1 Action Items from Annual Full Council 2014**

The 2014 Action Items were noted and discussed.

- 4.1 That the NTCOGSO constitution and policies will be reviewed to address issues of modernisation and relevance.

**Report** – The review identified two stages to the process.

Stage 1 to bring the constitution up to the compliance standard required by Department of Business (DoB). This work was completed by consultants Matrix on Board and a Special General Meeting was held electronically with the closing date of 12 September 2015. A quorum was reached which supported the motion and the constitution has been lodged with DoB.

Stage 2 is for School Councils to review for modernisation and relevance and feedback is now sought.

- 4.2 That COGSO Executive take urgent action to address the lack of access for students to see occupational, speech and behavioural therapists as there is currently a waiting period of up to 18 months.

**Report** – Placed on the agenda (Agenda Item 4.2) and information requested for the COGSO/CE (Chief Executive, Department of Education) meeting on 29 October 2014.

A summary sheet outlining the functions of Positive Learning Centres (PLCs) and the Malak Re-engagement Centre (MRC) was provided. Deputy Chief Executive, Susan Bowden confirmed occupational health etc services are provided through the Department of Health. The waiting times listed in the paper were provided by Health. DoE has had discussions with Health regarding the waiting times. COGSO advised that in WA IPS schools were able to be creative, identified a space in the school for therapists and able to attract therapists in the area, if a child needed a therapist they didn't need to wait.

It was noted that DoE employed a speech pathologist and a speech and communication teacher through Australian Government funding to assist schools.

COGSO sought clarification of when the funding will finish.

**Motion 1:** COGSO Executive take urgent action to request the current waiting periods for students to access;

- a) Occupational therapists,
- b) Speech therapists,
- c) Behavioural therapists

for the regions not previously reported on by Department of Education in the 2014 motion; **Southern, Barkly, East Arnhem, Katherine and Palmerston & Rural** – *the rural schools not included in last information*).

James Beattie / Nikki Elliott / CARRIED

- 4.3 That Executive seeks an urgent briefing from the Department of Education detailing their plans on how they are coordinating and sharing information with other agencies to support children that are at risk.

**Report** - Placed on the agenda (Agenda Item 4.1) of the COGSO/CE meeting on 29 October 2014.

COGSO outlined concerns of a perceived lack of coordination with Health, inadequate recording of information and lack of processes. Susan advised that meetings take place at the corporate, regional as well as multi agency meetings. COGSO advised there have been tensions where a school staff member report to DCF and are not provided any feedback. Susan advised that DCF have a high turnover of case workers. DoE is undertaking to develop an MOU to formalise relationships and processes with DCF / DoE. COGSO is following up and requesting the outcome of the development of MOU.

### 3. REPORTS

#### 3.1 Annual Report 2014 - 2015

Council acknowledged receipt of the Annual Report 2014 – 2015.

Nikki Elliott / Jeff Cook / CARRIED

### **3.2 Barkly Region Report**

Nil. Barkly Report

### **3.3 Darwin Region Report**

Council acknowledged receipt of the Darwin Region Report.

Robin Lawrence / James Beattie / CARRIED

### **3.4 East Arnhem Region Report**

Council acknowledged receipt of the East Arnhem Region Report.

Robin Lawrence / James Beattie / CARRIED

### **3.2 Southern Region Report**

Nil. Southern Report

### **3.6 Palmerston & Rural Region Report**

Council acknowledged receipt of the Palmerston & Rural Region Report.

Robin Lawrence / James Beattie / CARRIED

### **3.7 Southern Region Report**

Council acknowledged receipt of the Southern Region Report.

Robin Lawrence / James Beattie / CARRIED

### **3.8 ACSSO Report**

Council acknowledged receipt of the ACSSO Report.

Robin Lawrence / James Beattie / CARRIED

### **3.9 TRB Report**

Council acknowledged receipt of the Teacher Registration Board Report.

**Motion 2:** COGSO Secretariat approach the Teacher Registration Board to request a meeting for the President in Term 4 2015 to clarify the details of the teachers re-registration process (including but not limited to audit of Professional Learning Logs).

Matt Skoss / Nikki Elliott / CARRIED

### **3.3 NTBOS Report**

Council acknowledged receipt of the NTBOS Report.

Robin Lawrence / James Beattie / CARRIED

**5. LATE MOTIONS**

**Motion 3:** COGSO to request information on the DoE strategy which parents can expect for removing the barriers to effective learning for students with hearing losses (e.g. systematic and systemic acoustic treatment of classrooms, teaching strategies and effective use of aids)

Jeff Cook / Matt Skoss / CARRIED

**Motion 4:** COGSO Executive request from the Department of Education a report on the strategies for students with special education needs in each NT school including costings / funded amounts staffing and future new facilities / resources.

James Beattie / Nikki Elliott / CARRIED

**Motion 5:** COGSO to request the Department of Education to provide evidence/information regarding their plans to address the continued delivery of schools and current programs in regional and remote locations that are facing an uncertain future due to a loss of business in the area; such as the Jabiru Area School, Pine Creek Primary school, and Borroloola School etc.

James Beattie / Nick O'Loughlin / CARRIED

**Motion 6:** That the Department of Education provide COGSO with details of the number of incidents arising from children with behavioural needs, against teacher, staff, fellow students; to be broken down by those categories by schools for 2014 and 2015. Further that the Department of Education also provides COGSO with a breakdown of the funding provided to address children with behavioural issues broken down by schools for 2014 & 2015 and proposed funding for 2016 and beyond.

Robin Lawrence / Tooba Awais / CARRIED

**Motion 7:** COGSO to clarify and resolve why some schools are still operating in the red by as much as \$100,000 on their credit (wages) budget under the new funding model.

Anthony Heaslip / Tracey-Anne Wilson / CARRIED

**6. CLOSE OF FULL COUNCIL: 3:15pm**

**Present:****Delegate****School**

Jeff Cook	Nhulunbuy Primary School
Tooba Awais	Stuart Park Primary School
James Beattie	Palmerston Senior College
Kristy Buzza	Berry Springs Primary School
Jeff Cook	Nhulunbuy Primary School
Nikki Elliott	Moulden Park Primary School
Tabby Fudge	Girraween Primary School
Sandra Howlin	Nakara Primary School
Robin Lawrence	Sanderson Middle School
Nick O'Loughlin	Casuarina Senior College
Gerard Reid	Dripstone Middle School
Matt Skoss	Centralian Senior College
Heidi Wahl	Parap Primary School
Michele Willsher	Darwin Middle School
Karen Manton	Batchelor Area School

**Apologies:****Name****School**

School Council	Alekarenge (Ali Curung) School
School Council	Alyangula Area School
School Council	Anula Primary School
School Council	Bees Creek Primary School
School Council	Bradshaw Primary School
School Council	Manyallaluk School
School Council	Milyakburra School
School Council	Nemarluk School
School Council	Ross Park Primary School
School Council	Wagaman Primary School
School Council	Casuarina Street Primary School
School Council	Gray Primary School
School Council	Jingili Primary School
School Council	Karama Primary School
School Council	Katherine South Primary School
Beverley Ratahi	Taminmin College
Wally Mauger	Darwin High School
Gillian Fennell	Alice Springs School of Air (ASSOA)
Natalie Gibbs	Ludmilla Primary School
Ceinwen Grose	Katherine High School
Liz Hendry	Nightcliff Middle School
Peter Hendry	Nightcliff Middle School
Belinda Jeffery	Howard Springs Primary School
James Kepui	Jabiru Area School
David Laird	Dripstone Middle School
Wally Mauger	Darwin High School
Sue Mcavoy	Ramingining School
Helen Murray	Darwin Middle School
Belinda Pearson	Sadadeen Primary School
Elaine Rideout	Dripstone Middle School

Will Roestenburg  
Kelly Skippings  
Paula Smith  
Peter Thomas  
Rachael Uebergang  
Diane Wood  
Peter Chandler  
Wendy Pelizzo  
Steve Carter

Belyuen School  
Malak Primary School  
Bakewell Primary School  
Malak Primary School  
Nightcliff Primary School  
Ludmilla Primary School  
Member of NT Legislative Assembly  
Life Member  
Life Member