# DARWIN REGION
## REGIONAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, 25 March 2019
**6.00pm – 6.45pm**
Nightcliff Electorate Office

## MINUTES

1. **Meeting Opened:** 6:00pm

2. **Welcome:** Chair provided a Welcome to Country.

3. **Present***:*

   Noelene Armstrong, Ridwanul Hoque, Virg Hughes, Mina McCarthy, Jenny Lawrence, Robin Lawrence, Richelle Kent, Chad Banfield, David Panjer, Steve Caldwell, Michelle Parker

4. **Apologies:**

   Jackie Roberts, Natalie Gibbs

5. **Minutes previous General Meeting**

   Moved: Noelene Armstrong                    Seconded: Robin Lawrence

6. **Business Arising from previous General Meeting Minutes**

Attendees took the opportunity to review the previous minutes.  Noelene discussed an action from the previous minutes (2018), which was to propose a motion at the subsequent AGM in relation to supporting School Based Constables.  The motions determined at the 2018 NTCOGSO AGM were then circulated and discussed at the meeting. Michelle provided an overview of the process for affiliated schools to develop motions and then motions are actioned by the Executive to set the NTCOGSO agenda for the following year.

A short history of the School Based Constable program initiated by NTCOGSO was discussed to familiarise attendees with the recent history of the program.  The NTCOGSO publication re School Based Constables was provided and it was discussed that the SBC program is a preventative and early intervention program as opposed to a crisis intervention program for at risk students only.  Michelle relayed that a review of the guidelines was recently conducted which identified the following two amendments for the guidelines: 1) Schools should have a main point of contact for the SBC's and 2) the School is ultimately responsible for notifying families when students are part of a focus group with programs.

   Moved: Noelene Armstrong                    Seconded: Robin Lawrence

7. **Correspondence In:** Nil

8. **Correspondence Out:** Nil

9.  **Business Arising from Correspondence:** Nil

10. **Chair / Regional Representative Report**

Noelene provided an overview to recent activities including;
- o the Quarter 1 NTCOGSO Executive Meeting held Saturday 23 March
- o a query for the CE of Territory Families submitted through an NTCOSS forum and
- o attendance at a meeting with DOE re the development of an NT Code of Behaviour in schools.

Moved: Noelene Armstrong          Seconded: Richelle Kent

11. **General Business**

11.1)    There was an opportunity to discuss the ease of which information was available from the DoE website.  The group discussed an issue raised by a parent in relation to children routinely standing on the daily bus service from Darwin Middle to Palmerston.  It was thought that perhaps the requirements for buses transporting school students should be different to the generic bus requirements particularly in relation to children standing.  It was also thought a survey of the number of children standing on the bus could be undertaken.

**Action**: NTCOGSO to contact Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics for policy or guidelines on children standing on buses.

11.2)   General discussion on the recently released 'Framework for Inclusion 2019-2029'.
**Background:** It was developed after a review commenced March 2018 of current policy and practice for Students with Additional Needs (SwAN).  The review was undertaken by the Centre for International Research on Education Systems (CIRES) at Victoria University.

The intent of the review is to improve and enhance the levels of support offered to students.

The reviewers looked at three key areas:
- **SwAN Funding Model Review**
  Consideration will be given to an integrated weighting in the student needs-based funding model (SNBF) for mainstream and non-mainstream students, for implementation in 2019.
- **SwAN Policy and Practice Review**
- **SwAN IT System Review**

**Action**: NTCOGSO to request from DoE a copy of the Centre for International Research on Education Systems (CIRES) independent report.

12. **Meeting Close:** 7:15 pm

13. **Date of Next Meeting:**  Monday 27th of May 2018 (Week 6), 6pm – 7pm.