
EXECUTIVE MEETING 2/15

SATURDAY 13 JUNE 2015

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The President opened the meeting with an acknowledgment to the Traditional Owners, the Larrakia people, past and present, whose land we meet on today.

1.1. MEETING OPENED:

8.50am

1.2. ATTENDEES

Gerard Reid	President
Helen Murray	Vice-President
Tabby Fudge	Treasurer
Matt Skoss	Southern Representative
Nick O'Loughlin	Darwin Representative
Kim Jenkinson	Executive Member
Michelle Parker	Executive Officer
Ella Maguire	Training Officer

1.3. APOLOGIES

Wally Mauger	Palmerston/Rural Representative
Jeff Cook	East Arnhem Representative
Wendy Pelizzo	Life member

2. MINUTES

Motion 6/15: That the minutes of the last meeting are accepted as true and correct

Moved: Tabby Fudge

Seconded: Helen Murray

Carried

3. BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 ACTION ITEMS FROM BUSINESS ARISING 28 MARCH 2015

ITEM 4.3 AFFILIATION FEES

The paper on affiliation fees was noted. This matter will be discuss further at next COGSO Executive hook up.

Action: that the matter of affiliation fees be placed on the agenda for discussion and decision at 2015 COGSO Full Council meeting in September

ITEM 4.5.3 REGIONAL DIRECTORS TO PROVIDE REPORT TO COGSO EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

Following discussions, COGSO Executive has elected to no longer pursue this request, as it was decided that this information could be better obtained by supporting and enhancing the role of Regional representatives in their work with their Regional Directors.

ITEM 4.5.3 REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FROM DOE – STAFFING PROFILES

COGSO President advised that it has been difficult to obtain this information from the department, particularly in relation to CT9s.

The analysis of Executive members' experience is that the number of CT9s has been reducing.

COGSO Executive authorised COGSO President to advise DoE Chief Executive that COGSO is disappointed with the lack of information, and that it is the experience of the COGSO Council that there seems to be a de-emphasis on experienced teachers. COGSO would welcome DoE to provide the information on staffing profiles as a matter of importance. This information should be broken down by stage of schooling and geo-location.

Action: that the request for information on staffing profile be placed on the agenda for next COGSO/DOE meeting, particularly noting the disappointment of COGSO Executive at the lack of information provided to date.

ITEM 4.6 CIRCULATION OF PROGRAM FOR P&C QLD CONFERENCE

The program for the P&C Qld was circulated to School Councils and six nominations were received.

The COGSO Executive discussed the applications, applying the following selection criteria:

- involvement in COGSO activities
- potential for development as regional representatives
- providing opportunities to all regions

The following applicants were successful:

- Tooba Awala – Stuart Park Primary School
- James Beattie – Palmerston Senior College
- Ceinwen Grose – Katherine High School

ITEM 6.1 REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – PAT TESTING AND VISIBLE LEARNING

COGSO Executive Officer advised that the information on PAT testing info and Visible Learning has now been provided by DoE in draft format. These documents are awaiting final sign off by DoE.

All other items were noted.

4. REPORTS

4.1 PRESIDENT REPORT

The Executive noted the President's report.

4.2 TREASURER'S REPORT

4.2.1 BALANCE SHEET

4.2.2 PROFIT AND LOSS

It was noted that there is a difference between the Profit and Loss bottom line discussed in the Treasurer's report and the Profit and Loss provided. This was due to a timing difference between the date the Treasurer's report was produced (12 June) and the Profit and Loss reporting period (to end of May). The difference between the two Profit and Loss statements is attributable to forward projections of staff wages and PAYG tax.

The COGSO Executive **noted** and supported an **amendment** to Treasurer's report, being an adjustment of \$34 000 for forward projections to June 30.

COGSO Treasurer advised that the training deed has been signed off. The Operating deed has been sent through to DoE, with a request for an additional \$60 000 for a full time administration officer. It was noted that this deed needs to be formalised with DoE before the end of 2014 – 15 Financial Year.

4.3 CORPORATE REPORT

4.3.1 CORPORATE REPORT

The COGSO Executive noted the increase in number of schools who are affiliated with COGSO.

4.3.2 SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

4.3.3 SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE

All other items were noted.

4.4 CORRESPONDENCE

4.4.1 CORRESPONDENCE WORTH NOTING

4.4.1.1 LETTER OF THANKS TO PROFESSOR STEPHEN LAMB

4.4.1.2 COMMUNITY EDUCATION FORUM TO SCHOOL COMMUNITY

4.4.1.3 REGIONAL DIRECTOR POSITIONS FROM SUSAN BOWDEN

4.4.1.4 33RD ANNUAL ISOLATED CHILDREN PARENTS ASSOCIATION FROM CHRISTOPHER HANKIN

4.4.1.5 ICPA CONFERENCE REPORT FROM SHARON NORRIS

4.4.1.6 COGSO TRAINING FROM SUSAN BOWDEN

4.4.1.7 DUPLICATE SUPERANNUATION PAYMENTS TO MR TIM ANDERSON

4.4.1.8 LAUNCH OF REMOTE INDIGENOUS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION (RIPA)

4.4.1.9 REVIEW OF THE EDUCATION ACT – CONSULTATION PERIOD TO PETER CHANDLER

4.4.1.10 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN NORTHERN TERRITORY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

All correspondence was noted.

4.4.2 CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

4.4.3 CORRESPONDENCE IN

4.4.4 CORRESPONDENCE OUT

The Correspondence reports were noted by the Executive.

4.5 REGIONAL REPORTS

4.5.1 BARKLY

Nil report received.

4.5.2 DARWIN

The Darwin Regional Representative provided a verbal report.

COGSO Executive were advised that the Finance and Industrial Relations training delivered by COGSO has been well received in the Darwin region.

4.5.3 EAST ARNHEM

Nil report received.

4.5.4 KATHERINE

Nil report received.

4.5.5 PALMERSTON AND RURAL

Nil report received.

4.5.6 SOUTHERN – VERBAL REPORT

The Southern Regional Representative provided a verbal report.

COGSO Executive were advised that the Governance, Finance and Industrial Relations training delivered by COGSO has been well received in the Southern region.

The Southern Regional Representative advised that the Centralian Senior College had received a briefing on becoming an Independent Public School from the Braitling Principal and Chair.

It was noted by the COGSO Executive that the current Southern Regional Representative, Matt Skoss, will no longer be eligible to remain as Regional Representative after the end of 2015, as he will no longer have a child at a NT public school. Possible candidates for Southern Regional Representative were discussed.

Action: Training Officer to email contact information of Chair of Braitling Primary School to Southern Regional Representative

4.6 ACSSO REPORT

4.6.1 ACSSO REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

It was noted by the COGSO Executive that the current ACSSO Representative, Matt Skoss, will no longer be eligible to remain as ACSSO Representative after the end of 2015, as he will no longer be a member of the COGSO Executive. This is to be discussed at the next Executive meeting.

Feedback required on ACSSO board member make up

At start of year – prior to affiliation – request brief on what ACSSO will offer for the coming year.

Action: that the matter of new ACSSO representative be included on the agenda for discussion at the next Executive meeting

4.6.2 ACSSO NEW CONSTITUTION DRAFT

The COGSO Executive noted that submissions are due back by 3 July 2015

Due to Executive Officer being on holidays, the Training Officer was requested to collate COGSO's formal response to ACSSO response and forward to COGSO President for submitting.

Training Officer was also requested to contact COGSO Life Member, Peter Garrigan to confirm his concerns with ACSSO Constitution; and ask Mr Garrigan to send this information through to COGSO President

Action: COGSO Executive to request the draft minutes from the last ACSSO meeting to assist in our submission into the review of the ACSSO constitution.

Action COGSO President to send NT comments to ACSSO and the other affiliates

4.6.3 ACSSO NATIONAL CONFERENCE/P&C'S QUEENSLAND STATE CONFERENCE

4.7 NT BOARD OF STUDIES REPORT

4.7.1 KEY ACTIONS FOR THE MIDDLE YEARS

The report was noted by the Executive.

Action: that the matter of a subscription to the Australian newspaper be included for further discussion at the next Executive teleconference.

4.8 COGSO/DOE MEETING

The report was noted by the Executive.

4.9 COGSO/MINISTER MEETING

It was noted that COGSO continues to pursue a meeting with the Minister for Education.

4.10 TEACHER REGISTRATION BOARD REPORT

Nil report provided.

4.11 COGSO TRAINING

The Training report was noted.

Motion 7/15: that all reports presented at COGSO Executive meeting 2/15 be accepted.

Moved: Nick O'Loughlin

Seconded: Matt Skoss

Carried

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 COGSO DRAFT CONSTITUTION

5.1.1 DRAFT COGSO CONSTITUTION

5.1.2 FINAL DRAFT COGSO CONSTITUTION

5.1.3 QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

5.1.4 STATUTORY DECLARATION

The following matters were discussed and noted with regard to the update of the COGSO Constitution:

That: the Constitution sub-committee circulate the draft constitution document out of session;

That: a clause is required to detail the dissolution process in the event that the organisation is closed;

That: confirmation is required of COGSO's non-profit organisation status, including its payroll tax status in light of recent changes to NT Government legislation;

The Department of Business have noted a number of issues with the COGSO Constitution. As such, the following 2 step process is required to update the Constitution, in line with the motion from the 2014 AGM:

1. Endorsement of the modified Constitution

- a. The Department of Business advised COGSO Executive that the COGSO Constitution no longer complied with legislation and needed to be modified to ensure compliance prior to updating;

- b. A Special General Meeting is required to endorse the changes made by Department of Business;
- c. The Department of Business has advised that the Special General Meeting can occur by email;
- d. Half of the affiliates who attended the AGM/Full Council are required to endorse these changes.

2. Updating the COGSO Constitution

Motion: that a Special General Meeting be held for the purposes of endorsing the modified COGSO constitution, which has been updated by the Department of Business to ensure compliance with legislation.

Moved: Helen Murray

Seconded: Nick O'Loughlin

Carried

5.2 COGSO AGM DATE

This item was not discussed and will be placed on the agenda for the next COGSO Executive teleconference.'

5.3 DRAFT EDUCATION BILL 2015

Executive Member, Kim Jenkinson undertook to compare current and proposed Education Act to note any major differences.

COGSO Executive noted that the proposed timeframe for feedback is short and does not allow school councils appropriate time to consult with their school communities, as almost half of the consultation period falls during school holidays.

Action: that COGSO Executive writes to Minister for Education to request additional time for feedback on the proposed Education Act.

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1 NTBOS LANGUAGE STAKEHOLDERS REFERENCE GROUP

PRESENTED BY:

VICKI BAYLIS – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES

JILL HAZELDINE – DIRECTOR, LANGUAGE STAKEHOLDERS GROUP

MARISA BOSCATO – SENIOR MANAGER, LANGUAGE STAKEHOLDERS GROUP

Marisa provided handouts for all attendees (attached):

- Power point presentation;
- "What Works" discussion paper;
- "Languages Snapshot" information guide

BACKGROUND

- In 2013, the NT Board of Studies (NTBOS) established the Language Reference Group in preparation for the introduction of the Australian Curriculum;
 - The Language Reference Group covers language instruction in Government, Independent and Catholic schools;
- It was noted that there have been a number of previous reviews into language instruction in the NT which have not come to fruition;
- The Northern Territory had previously developed the Indigenous Language Curriculum, which was included as part of the main curriculum.
- Language Curricula has previously been "generic" e.g. speaking; writing; reading

CURRENT SITUATION

- In May 2015, the "What Works" discussion paper was released.
- The Australian Curriculum will have curriculum specific to each language, and each speaker group, e.g.:
 - Chinese will have 4 different pathways
 - Students who have completed their primary years schooling in China;
 - Students who have Chinese spoken in their home environment;
 - Students who are learning Chinese as a new language;
 - Students who have English as a Second Language;
 - Most languages will have 2 different pathways:
 - Students who are new language learners; or

- Students who have English as a Second Language;

LANGUAGES TO BE OFFERED AT NT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- It was noted that it will likely be the School Council who decides on which language will be offered at the School, in consultation with the wider School Community.
- Ms Boscato advised that due to the small size of the jurisdiction, it is not possible to offer all 13 languages detailed in the Australian Curriculum;
- While language learning has proven Economic and Social benefits, we can't forget the personal/individual connection to language learning;

NEXT STEPS IN IMPLEMENTATION

- NTBOS is now seeking advice from school communities regarding their expectations for language teaching in NT Schools;
- If NT schools request languages curriculum which diverts from the Australian Curriculum, NTBOS could provide guidance on the appropriate language curriculum;
- NTBOS needs to make sure that Principals in Primary Schools are aware of their responsibilities in ensuring appropriate language subject availability so that students don't miss out on subject selections in Senior years;

INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES CURRICULUM

- ACARA commenced development of Indigenous Languages curriculum at same time as other language streams;
- Not yet complete – Reference Group is hopeful it will be released sometime this year;
- The current NT Indigenous Language Curriculum remains in place in the meantime;

MINIMUM CURRICULUM

- Reference Group was unable to confirm if languages will be considered "basic education", in line with the proposed Education Bill;
- School communities will make this decision, in line with their Global Budgets;
- Language education will look different at each school;

IMPLEMENTATION DATE

- New policy to be implemented by 1 January 2016 – this doesn't mean "in classroom", only that School Councils will start considering policy;
- COGSO Executive offered to assist Language Reference Group to interface with parents – possibility of holding Term 3 consultations discussed, but not finalised;

Action: Request for information from DoE: Year 12 completion rates for language studies

6.2 ARACY – “THE NEST”

PRESENTED BY:

BONITA MOSS – RESEARCH MANAGER, ARACY

The COGSO Executive noted the presentation provided by Ms Moss.

Of particular interest to COGSO is the Parent Engagement Research project – Ms Moss undertook to provide contact information for the project Research Officer to COGSO Secretariat.