

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NORTHERN TERRITORY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOL ORGANISATIONS CELEBRATES OUR BARKLY REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S ADVOCACY FOR FUNDED SCHOOL BUSES IN TENNANT CREEK

The Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations (NTCOGSO) is thrilled to celebrate the successful implementation of funded school bus services in for Tennant Creek. This achievement is a testament to the tireless advocacy of NTCOGSO's Barkly Regional Representative, Wayne Green.

For over six years, Wayne has championed the need for dedicated school transport for all students in the Barkly region. NTCOGSO acknowledges Wayne's unwavering dedication to ensuring all students have equitable access to education.

Prior to 2024, Tennant Creek students shouldered the financial burden of transporting students, utilising funds allocated for core educational purposes. This placed a significant strain on school budgets and limited the schools' ability to invest in vital resources.

Through a series of motions, letters, and meetings commencing in 2017, NTCOGSO consistently advocated for a funded school bus service for the Barkly region. Wayne Green played a pivotal role in these efforts, as we continued to liaise with relevant government Ministers and departments, keeping the issue at the forefront of discussions.

In June 2023, the Northern Territory Government announced the provision of a dedicated school bus service for Tennant Creek, commencing in Term 1, 2024. This announcement marked the culmination of Wayne Green's persistent advocacy and a significant victory for NTCOGSO.

NTCOGSO President Tabby Fudge commended Wayne Green for his exceptional commitment:

"Wayne's dedication to this cause has been truly inspiring," Ms. Fudge said. "His unwavering advocacy has ensured that students in the Barkly region no longer face the challenge of getting to and from school. This will have a profound impact on their educational opportunities and overall well-being."

The implementation of this funded school bus service signifies NTCOGSO's unwavering commitment to advocating for equitable access to education for all students across the Northern Territory. NTCOGSO extends its gratitude to Wayne Green for his instrumental role in achieving this milestone.

Our gratitude also extends to previous Minister for Education Eva Lawler, for securing the funding for Tennant Creek - Provision of School Bus Services for a Period of 60 Months.

## **ABOUT NTCOGSO:**

The Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations (NTCOGSO) is a parent representative body that advocates for the interests of government students and schools across the Northern Territory. NTCOGSO works collaboratively with education stakeholders to support the delivery of high-quality education and ensure the well-being and success of NT students.



Tabby Fudge President

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22 May 2024