



YOUR VOICE FOR NT PUBLIC EDUCATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INCENTIVES FOR TEACHERS IS ONLY ONE SMALL STEP FORWARD

President of the Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations, Tabby Fudge has welcomed the Commonwealth's new education measures, which would remove all or partial HELP debts for about 3,100 students wanting to work in remote areas.

"We have long lobbied for incentives to attract education staff and allied health professionals for Territory students and met with Education Minister Dan Tehan in Canberra last November."

"Attracting and retaining teaching staff in regional and remote schools has long been a challenge for all governments. Whilst we welcome this announcement, we need a government that recognises that for incentives to work in the Territory they must include our regional towns in addition to remote areas."

"The Northern Territory and our families need bigger thinking and incentives to ensure regional and remote communities are attractive to teachers, allied health professionals and health workers."

"We desperately need governments to recognise that all children and families have a right to access teachers and services from speech pathologists, occupational therapists, psychologists, paediatricians and other specialists. This means providing incentives such as the removal of HELP debts for substantial work periods in these roles, for all regional and remote communities across the Northern Territory"

"Families from communities often ask us, 'how is it fair that Darwin children can access services and we have nothing'." Despite ongoing recruitment campaigns allied health positions remain vacant today." These important roles support our children with health and learning, guide families on care and support our schools to deliver an individual needs-based education."

NTCOGSO also supports APO NT and Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance NT chief executive John Paterson's call for a program targeted at health workers to attract and retain staff in remote NT.

"To truly close education and health gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Territorians, we must have education and health viewed as intrinsically linked in all initiatives and programs for children and families in the Territory. Including incentives to retain key education and health staff across the Northern Territory".

P: 08 8999 3255 | enquiries@ntcogso.org.au | www.ntcogso.org.au | PO Box 40520 Casurina NT 0811

NT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOL ORGANISATIONS

ABN 76 529 588 572

MEDIA RELEASE



YOUR VOICE FOR NT PUBLIC EDUCATION

“A truly needs based education means exactly that – every student has their needs met.

“We will be returning to Canberra next week to continue lobbying for these vital measures for our children to have an equal chance for a brighter future.”

Tabby Fudge
President

The Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisations represents every NT government school with over 19,000 families, their 34,000 children and the school communities that support them.

CONTACTS

President: TABBY FUDGE
Tel: 0417 844 251

Media Enquiries:
Executive Officer: MICHELLE PARKER
042 888 5353
15 February 2019

For further information on NT COGSO visit www.ntcogso.org.au