

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND  
CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS**

**Northern Territory Statehood Seminar**

**14-16 November 2006**

**PROGRAM**

**Please note:** The program may be subject to change.

**Venues:**

Alice Springs - 14 November 2006

Ellery Room  
Alice Springs Convention Centre  
93 Barrett Drive  
Alice Springs

Phone: 08 8950 0200  
Fax: 08 8950 0300  
Email: [info@aspcc.com.au](mailto:info@aspcc.com.au)  
Web: <http://www.ascc.com.au>

Darwin - 15-16 November 2006

Strangers Lounge  
Legislative Assembly  
of the Northern Territory  
Cnr Mitchell and Herbert Streets  
Darwin

Phone: 08 8946 1433  
Fax: 08 8981 3284  
Web: <http://www.nt.gov.au/lant/>

**Darwin format:**

Each 90 minute session in Darwin to consist of:

Principal speakers	10 minutes per speaker
Questions from Committee members to the principal speakers	20-30 minutes
Comments from additional invited guests and public	20-30 minutes
<b>Plus</b> additional open discussion session at conclusion of each day	30-45 minutes

- Further information on the Committee's inquiry, including the terms of reference, can be found at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/laca/ntstatehood/index.htm>
- All sessions of the seminar are open for the public to attend.
- Lunch will be provided for principal speakers and invited group discussion participants only.

## Tuesday 14 November 2006 - Alice Springs

<b>10:25am</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	<b>Hon Peter Slipper MP</b>
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<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Future status of Commonwealth land in the Northern Territory and Aboriginal land rights</b>
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| (10:30am - 11:10am ) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Hon Warren Snowdon MP</li><li>▪ Mr Bernie Kilgariff (former NT Senator)</li><li>▪ Mr John Liddle (Male Health Coordinator, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress) with<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Dr Martin Mowbray (Congress Research and Policy Officer)</li></ul></li></ul> |
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(11:10am - 11:30am)	(Questions from the Committee)
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| (11:30am - 12:00pm) | Group discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Members of the Northern Territory Statehood Steering Committee (SSC)</li><li>▪ Members of the Northern Territory Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee (LACAC)</li></ul> |
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**12:00pm**      **Lunch**

<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>Session resumption</b>
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| (1:00pm - 1:40pm) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Mrs Pat Miller AO (Deputy of the Administrator) [TBC]</li><li>▪ Ms Shirley McPherson (Chairperson, Indigenous Land Corporation) with<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mr Paul Hayes (ILC Principal Legal Officer)</li></ul></li><li>▪ Ms Jayne Weepers (Policy Officer, Central Land Council)</li></ul> |
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(1:40 - 2:00pm)	(Questions from the Committee)
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| (2:00pm - 2:25pm) | Group discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Members of the Northern Territory Statehood Steering Committee</li><li>▪ Members of the Northern Territory Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee</li></ul> |
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<b>2:25pm</b>	<b>Open Public Discussion</b>
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**2:45pm**      **Conclusion of Alice Springs session**

## Wednesday 15 November 2006 - Darwin

**8:30am**      **Registration**

<b>9:00am Session One</b> <i>Principal Speakers</i>	<b>Seminar Opening and Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Hon Peter Slipper MP - Welcome</li><li>▪ Hon Syd Stirling MLA (Minister for Statehood)</li></ul>
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<b>9:30am Session Two</b> <i>Principal Speakers</i>	<b>Recent NT Developments on statehood and proposals to advance statehood</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Hon Barbara McCarthy MLA (Co-Chair NT SSC)</li><li>▪ Mrs Sue Bradley (Co-Chair NT SSC)</li><li>▪ Hon Stephen Hatton (Former Chief Minister, NT)</li><li>▪ Mr Jamey Robertson (Secretary, Unions NT)</li><li>▪ Senator Trish Crossin</li></ul>
<i>Other session participants</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Representative of Humanities &amp; Social Science, Charles Darwin University</li><li>▪ Representative of the Northern Territory Local Government Association</li><li>▪ Members of the Northern Territory Statehood Steering Committee</li><li>▪ Members of the Northern Territory Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee</li></ul>

**11:15am**      **Morning Break**

<b>11:30am Session Three</b> <i>Principal Speakers</i>	<b>Commonwealth constitutional matters and achieving statehood</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Hon Dean Mildren (Justice of the NT Supreme Court)</li><li>▪ Ms Allison Robertson (President, NT Law Society)</li><li>▪ Mr Graham Nicholson (Legal adviser to Statehood Steering Committee)</li><li>▪ Mr Tom Pauling QC (NT Solicitor-General)</li></ul>
<i>Other session participants</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Representative of the Constitutional Policy Unit, Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department</li><li>▪ Representative of the NT Department of Justice</li><li>▪ Members of the Northern Territory Statehood Steering Committee</li><li>▪ Members of the Northern Territory Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee</li></ul>

**1:00pm**      **Lunch**

**2:15pm Session Four Representation of the new state in the Federal Parliament and future status of Commonwealth legislation currently applying to the Northern Territory**

*Principal Speakers*

- Mr David Tollner MP (Member for Solomon)
- Hon Austin Asche AC QC (Chair, NT Law Reform Committee)

*Other session participants*

- Representative of the Australian Electoral Commission
- Representative of the NT Electoral Commission
- Representative of the NT Department of Justice
- Members of the Northern Territory Statehood Steering Committee
- Members of the Northern Territory Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee

**3:30pm Afternoon break**

**4:00pm Session Five Open Public Discussion**

**4:45pm Conclusion of Day One of Darwin sessions**

## Thursday 16 November 2006 - Darwin

<b>9:00am Session One</b>	<b>Future control of industrial relations and financial relations between a new state and the Commonwealth</b>
<i>Principal Speakers</i>	Financial Relations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Mr Alan Morris (Chairperson, Commonwealth Grants Commission)</li><li>▪ Ms Jennifer Prince (Under Treasurer, NT Department of Treasury)</li></ul> Industrial Relations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Mr Justin Larkin (Employment Advocate of the Office of Commissioner for Public Employment)</li><li>▪ Mr Chris Young (CEO, Chamber of Commerce Northern Territory)</li><li>▪ Mr Joe Gallagher (President, Unions NT)</li></ul>
<i>Other session participants</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Representative of the Commonwealth Department of Employment and Workplace Relations</li><li>▪ Representative of the NT Trades and Labour Council [TBC]</li><li>▪ Representative of NT Department of Business, Economic and Regional Development [TBC]</li><li>▪ Members of the Northern Territory Statehood Steering Committee</li><li>▪ Members of the Northern Territory Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee</li></ul>

### 10:45am Morning break

<b>11:00am Session Two</b>	<b>Future Status of Commonwealth Land in the Northern Territory and Aboriginal land rights</b>
<i>Principal Speakers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Mr Kelvin Costello (Coordinator, Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation)</li><li>▪ Mr John Daly (Chairman, Northern Land Council)</li><li>▪ Mr Dennis Bree (Deputy Chief Executive NT Office of Indigenous Policy)</li><li>▪ Mr Joe Procter (Member of the National Indigenous Council)</li></ul>
<i>Other session participants</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Representative of the National Native Title Tribunal</li><li>▪ Representative of the NT Local Government Association</li><li>▪ Representative of the NT Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines Members of the Northern Territory Statehood Steering Committee</li><li>▪ Members of the Northern Territory Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee</li></ul>

### 12:30pm Lunch

<p><b>1:30pm Session Three</b></p> <p><i>Principal Speakers</i></p>	<p><b>Mineral and uranium resource issues, and future ownership and management of Commonwealth National Parks and Marine Protected Areas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ms Kezia Purick (Chief Executive, NT Minerals Council)</li> <li>▪ Professor Robert Wasson (Natural Resource Management, CDU)</li> <li>▪ Mr Graeme Neate (President, National Native Title Tribunal)</li> </ul>
<p><i>Other session participants</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Representative of the Northern Land Council</li> <li>▪ Representatives of the NT Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts</li> <li>▪ Representatives of the NT Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines</li> <li>▪ Representative of the Environment Centre of the NT</li> <li>▪ Members of the Northern Territory Statehood Steering Committee</li> <li>▪ Members of the Northern Territory Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee</li> </ul>

**3:00pm Afternoon Break**

<b>3:30pm Session Four</b>	<b>Open Public Discussion</b>
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<b>4:15pm Concluding Remarks</b>	<b>Hon Peter Slipper MP</b>
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**4:30pm Seminar Close**