



# **MINUTES**

## **Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, 21 May 2025**

**Date: Wednesday, 21 May 2025**

**Time: 3:30 PM**

**Location: Meeting Room Bidjpidji (Meeting Room 1)  
Level 1, Civic Centre  
Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin**

**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN  
ARTS AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE MEETING ROOM BIDJPIDJI (MEETING ROOM 1), LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE,  
HARRY CHAN AVENUE, DARWIN  
ON WEDNESDAY, 21 MAY 2025 AT 3:30 PM**

**PRESENT:**

Community Member Chairperson Rachael Shanahan  
Councillor Morgan Rickard  
Community Member Kelly Blumberg  
Community Member Alyson Evans  
Community Member Petrit Abazi  
Darwin Entertainment Centre Melissa White

**OFFICERS:**

Jenelle Saunders (Arts and Cultural Development Officer)  
Kaye Strange (Arts and Cultural Development Officer)  
Angela O'Donnell (Executive Manager Community and Cultural Services)  
Chloe Armitage (Community Development Officer)

**APOLOGY:**

Arts NT Georgia Thomas  
Community Member Abby Dunn

**GUESTS:**

External Facilitator Sean Pardy

**Order of Business**

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<b>4</b>	<b>Electronic Attendance .....</b>	<b>4</b>
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<b>6</b>	<b>Confirmation of Previous Minutes .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Actions Arising from Previous Minutes .....</b>	<b>5</b>
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<b>13</b>	<b>Meeting Closed .....</b>	<b>8</b>

## **1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN**

The Chair declared the meeting open at 3:34 pm.

## **2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

*City of Darwin acknowledges that we are living and working on Larrakia Country. We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region. We pay our respects to the Larrakia elders past and present and support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future. City of Darwin is committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.*

## **3 APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

### **3.1 Apologies**

Arts NT, Georgia Thomas

Community Member Abby Dunn

### **3.2 Leave of Absence**

Nil

### **3.3 Leave of Absence Notified**

Nil

## **4 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE**

Community Member Kelly Blumberg

Councillor Morgan Rickard

## **5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF**

### **5.1 Declaration of Interest by Members**

Community Member Alyson Evans – is employed by Darwin Community Arts (DCA), DCA applies for City of Darwin funding and grant opportunities.

Community Member Rachael Shanahan – is on the Textiles Travelling Suitcase Committee and a member on the NT Liquor Commission, NT Racing and Wagering Commission and the Charles Darwin University Finance and Infrastructure Development Committee.

Community Member Petrit Abazi – is employed by Northern Centre for Contemporary Art (NCCA) which is funded through the Northern Territory Government and the Australian Government.

Multicultural Council of the NT Edwin Joseph – MCNT members apply for City of Darwin grants.

### **5.2 Declaration of Interest by Staff**

Nil

**6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION AACDA006/25**

Moved: Community Member Alyson Evans

Seconded: Darwin Entertainment Centre Melissa White

THAT the minutes of the Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee Meeting held on 12 February 2025 be confirmed.

**CARRIED 6/0**

**7 ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Nil

**8 PRESENTATIONS****8.1 CIVIC CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT****RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the presentation on the Civic Centre redevelopment from the City of Darwin Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders be received and noted.

*Item 8.1 – Civic Centre Redevelopment will be tabled at the next Committee meeting to be held on 19 November 2025.*

*Moved to Item 9.2 as the first item of business to allow time for discussion during presentation of Action Plan.*

## **9 OFFICER REPORTS**

### **9.1 MINIMUM FEE FOR MUSICIANS - MEDIA ENTERTAINMENT AND ARTS ALLIANCE CAMPAIGN**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION AACDA007/25**

Moved: Community Member Alyson Evans

Seconded: Community Member Petrit Abazi

1. THAT the report entitled Minimum Fee for Musicians - Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance Campaign be received and noted.
2. THAT the Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee recommend to Council funding guidelines and agreements be updated to include clear reference to peak body standards and requirements when employing creatives.
3. THAT the Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee recommend to Council funding guidelines and agreements include guidance on when it is appropriate to engage volunteers.

**CARRIED 6/0**

### **9.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION AACDA008/25**

Moved: Community Member Alyson Evans

Seconded: Darwin Entertainment Centre Melissa White

THAT the report entitled Advisory Committee Action Plan be received and noted.

**CARRIED 6/0**

### **9.3 PROJECT UPDATES**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION AACDA009/25**

Moved: Councillor Morgan Rickard

Seconded: Community Member Kelly Blumberg

THAT the report entitled Project Updates be received and noted.

**CARRIED 6/0**

## 10 MEMBERS REPORTS

### 10.1 MEMBER REPORTS

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION AACDA010/25

Moved: Community Member Alyson Evans

Seconded: Darwin Entertainment Centre Melissa White

THAT the following verbal member reports be received and noted.

#### Community Member Petrit Abazi

Northern Centre for Contemporary Art (NCCA) has opened a new exhibition Queer Territory, the first significant exhibition of queer contemporary art practice in the NT.

Visit: [www.nccart.com.au](http://www.nccart.com.au).

#### Darwin Entertainment Centre Melissa White

Garmalang Festival Retrospective 2025 will be celebrating 10 years on Saturday 21 June, including Our Elders, a special hour of curated conversations with a range of Darwin's First Nation's elders. And Dan Sultan will be performing with the Darwin Symphony Orchestra Quintet. Coming up in October at the Darwin Entertainment Centre is a staged work based on Trent Dalton's Love Stories. Visit: [www.yourcentre.com.au](http://www.yourcentre.com.au).

#### Community Member Alyson Evans

Darwin Community Arts (DCA) will be taking part in the upcoming Harmony Soiree at the Waterfront on Saturday 31 May. DCA have begun a trial partnership with the Darwin Fringe Festival, Tracks Dance and Corrugated Iron Youth Arts in 2025 to cohost and facilitate a series of creative industry conversation events Critical Conversations. The next one will take place at DCA on Thursday 5 June. Visit: [www.darwincommunityarts.org.au](http://www.darwincommunityarts.org.au).

#### Councillor Morgan Rickard

Acknowledges this is the last Committee meeting before Council goes into the pre election caretaker period. Thank you to the Committee and congratulations on the new direction and work already achieved.

#### Community Member Chairperson Rachael Shanahan

The Textiles Travelling Suitcase project had over 300 embroidered works returned, with a launch at Government House in July and a new connection with the local Ukrainian community.

Chair proposes the Committee meet informally in August during the caretaker period. Idea to meet at Darwin Community Arts, noting 10.2 resolution.

**CARRIED 6/0**

### 10.2 ADDITIONAL MEETING DATE

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION AACDA011/25

Moved: Community Member Alyson Evans

Seconded: Darwin Entertainment Centre Melissa White

THAT the Members Report entitled Additional Meeting Date be received and noted.

**CARRIED 6/0**

*Community Member Kelly Blumberg departed the meeting at 4:45 pm.*

*Councillor Morgan Rickard departed the meeting at 4:52 pm.*

## **11 GENERAL BUSINESS**

Angela O'Donnell (Executive Manager Community and Cultural Services) informed the Committee that the Draft Percentage for Art Policy will be considered by Council at the Ordinary Meeting, on Tuesday 27 May.

Reminder that there is a public forum prior to Ordinary Council meetings, where members of the public can attend to present an idea, issue or concern. They may also speak to an item on the agenda to support or add their voice to.

## **12 NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 19 November, 2025.

## **13 MEETING CLOSED**

The Chair closed the meeting at 4:54 pm