

27 September 2018

Richard Coates Chairperson Northern Territory Liquor Commission GPO Box 1154 Darwin NT 0801

Dear Mr. Coates

## Re: REVIEW OF TAKE-AWAY LIQUOR LICENCE CONDITIONS IN ALICE SPRINGS

I am writing this submission as the Chairperson for The Central Australia Liquor Accord made up of the following licensed venues throughout Central Australia:

- > Aileron Hotel & Roadhouse;
- Alice in the Territory;
- Alice Springs Prison Officers Social Club;
- Alice Springs Turf Club;
- Aurora Alice Springs;
- BWS at Woolworth Alice Springs;
- Celebrations at Milner Road Foodtown:
- Club Eastside:
- Diplomat Motel/Uncles Tavern;
- Gapview Hotel;
- > Gillen Club;
- > Hanuman Alice Springs;
- > Lasseters:
- ➤ Lhere Artepe Enterprises (IGA Northside, Flynn Drive, Eastside);
- Longitude 131;
- Pigglys; and
- > Ti Tree Roadhouse.

The Central Australia Liquor Accord is a voluntary commitment of Licensees working together to reduce alcohol-related crime and improve the perception of safety and appeal of the area, thus making Central Australia a safer place to live, work and visit.

We are committed to reducing anti-social and violent behaviour in and around licensed venues and outlets through the implementation of responsible service of alcohol practices. Our aim is to achieve an acceptable level of consistency across the region on the comprehension and implementation of harm minimization regulations contained within the Liquor Act and the NT Code of Practice to assist in the Responsible Promotion of Alcohol.

The Accord supports Government actions to reduce social harm from misuse of alcohol as this was a major objective upon the Accord's establishment, however we have concerns around the seemingly never ending new reforms being introduced without sufficient evaluation of previously introduced measures.

We feel that if further changes are to be implemented they should be Territory wide to put the brakes on the displacement affect that is currently undersold in light of otherwise positive statistics to come out of the Barkly region restrictions that were imposed.

Changes to the Banned Drinkers Register (BDR) such as registration from health professionals and the reporting of suspicious transactions could provide similar improvements in key statistical areas if they were implemented without the need for licence variations.

Further consultation with indigenous communities in relation to the setting of limits for their own community could also prove to be advantageous.

It appears that in relation to measures being introduced that the emphasis is clearly on supply and yet the reduction of demand does not seem to be getting the attention it deserves.

The unintended consequences of similar variations to the Barkly region could have a massive impact on the very way of life in Alice Springs not to mention effect on the tourism industry and economy of Alice Springs. The potential closure of the local supermarkets and the staff they employ would be a severe blow as the community clearly values and frequents these establishments. The Accord accepts that some changes are required, however Alice Springs should not just be used as the next place to impose restrictions and should be assessed in isolation to the variations imposed in the Barkly region.

The Central Australian Liquor Accord appreciates your consideration of this request and should you require any further information please call me on 8950 7721.

Yours sincerely,

Craig Jervis Chairperson

Central Australia Liquor Accord