TERMS OF REFERENCE
Northern Territory Library Community Reference Group

The Northern Territory Library has two roles:
- To collect, grow and energise the knowledge of the Northern Territory for current and future generations; and
- To lead, develop and represent the library sector in the Northern Territory.

The Northern Territory Library is a public library, open to everyone, with a physical presence at Parliament House, and an increasingly extensive online presence. It is different to other public libraries in the Territory though, as it aims to collect, preserve and share with the community the documentary history of the Northern Territory in all its forms, physical and digital. This function is underpinned by the Publications (Legal Deposit) Act 2004, which requires publishers to provide the Library with a copy of any document published in the Territory. It provides access to the Northern Territory collection at its Parliament House location, through online access, and through events and exhibitions.

The Northern Territory Library supports all elements of the library sector in the Territory, including public, university, school and government libraries. It has a particularly close relationship with the Territory’s 32 public and community. The Library administers operational funding grants through the Public Libraries Funding Agreement, and provides public library collections funding through the Library Resource Allocation. It facilitates support and training for public library staff and provides a Library Management System for public, school and government libraries. The Northern Territory Library also directly operates community library services at Taminmin and Nhulunbuy.

The Library also provides a Parliamentary Library Service to support members and staff of the Legislative Assembly.

The Northern Territory Library is part of the Department of Arts and Museums. It is also a member of the National and State Libraries Australasia (NSLA) group of libraries, which works collaboratively to strengthen library capability and information infrastructure across Australia and New Zealand.

The direction for the Library over the next three years is set out in its Strategic Plan 2015-2018.
Purpose of the Northern Territory Library Community Reference Group

The Community Reference Group has been established to promote and support the work of the Northern Territory Library, and will provide advice to the Library on its development and direction.

Membership

The Community Reference Group will consist of:
- three members appointed by the Northern Territory Government;
- four members from the community, appointed on the basis of an expression of interest process;
- one member to represent the Northern Territory public library sector, as nominated by the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory;
- one member to represent Charles Darwin University; and
- the Director, Northern Territory Library.

Community representatives will be appointed on the basis of a demonstrated commitment to the work of the Northern Territory Library and the wider library sector, and to represent a range of demographics to ensure balanced and representative advice.

The selection of community representatives and the appointment of nominated people for specified positions will be the decision of the Chief Executive, Department of Arts and Museums.

Members of the Community Reference Group will generally be appointed for a three year term.

Members of the Community Reference Group are not remunerated.

Meetings

The Community Reference Group will meet twice a year. It will be chaired by one of the government appointed members. Remote members of the group will be supported to attend by teleconference.