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Australian Institute of Architects

21 July 2017

Hon Nicole Manison MLA
Parliament House, Darwin NT 0800
GPO Box 3146
DARWIN NT 0801
By email: minister.manison@nt.gov.au

Dear Minister Manison,

Re: New Chair announced for NT Planning Commission

On behalf of the NT Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects, I write to congratulate the Northern Territory Government on its recent appointments to the Northern Territory Planning Commission.

The appointment of Dr. David Ritchie with expertise in cultural anthropology will bring a fresh perspective to planning in the Territory, especially with respect to its impacts upon Indigenous Territorians.

Further, we applaud the government in its striving for gender equity in the committee membership, and welcome the appointments of Ms Dorte Ekelund, and Mrs Fran Kilgariff, who will bring extensive experience in planning and local government respectively.

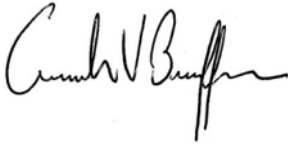
The Australian Institute of Architects has over recent years appreciated the opportunity to review the work of the Planning Commission and to provide assistance where we can. We believe the relationship has been a productive one, with outcomes for the community improved and refined through the process of professional peer review.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with a refreshed NTPC to address the challenges that lie ahead. Planning issues such as Dual Occupancy and the various Regional, Land Use and Area Plans offer important opportunities to consider planning within a context of affordable housing, sustainable urban development and social inclusion.

In addition we urge the NTG to consider the Queensland government's recent amendments to their planning act requiring planning decisions to protect and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait culture.¹

We believe that the Planning Commission plays an important role in strategic planning for all Territorians, and are ready to support their ongoing work as part of the Institute's commitment to improving our built environment by promoting quality, responsible, and sustainable design.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Broffman', written in a cursive style.

Andrew Broffman RAIA

NT Chapter President, Australian Institute of Architects

cc. Northern Territory Planning Commission: ntpc@nt.gov.au

¹ <http://landscapeaustralia.com/articles/indigenous-rights-in-land-use-planning-strengthened-in-queensland/>