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Dear Dr Boffa and Mr Thorn

PAAC AND FARE ELECTION PLATFORM: CALLING TIME ON TOO MUCH GROG IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Thank you for your correspondence providing us with your Election Platform.

Labor supports initiatives that reduce alcohol related harm in the Northern Territory. We are firmly committed to reintroducing the Banned Drinker's Register to improve community safety and to support enhanced rehabilitation and diversion programmes that treat alcohol misuse as a health issue, including for young people.

We have announced a broad range of health, mental health and early childhood and parenting policies that support health promotion in the long term. The Territory's approach to alcohol requires culture change and Labor will invest in programmes that support good health and wellbeing for all.

The answers to your questions are highlighted below:

1. Does Territory Labor support the reintroduction of the Banned Drinkers Register in conjunction with the scanning of photo identification cards in all licensed venues?

Labor has always supported the reintroduction of the Banned Drinker's Register as a territory-wide mechanism to reduce the supply of alcohol in our community. At the time of the first evaluation of the Banned Drinkers Register in June 2012, the BDR had 2,491 people on its list and 16,490 potential alcohol sales had been declined. Labor believes that it is a comprehensive

solution that supports rehabilitation for problem drinkers and diversion to treatment for offenders with alcohol misuse issues.

Labor introduced on-the-spot fines and bans of up to 12 months for people who refuse to leave nightclub precincts when ordered by Police. Labor supports these measures alongside existing provisions of the responsible service of alcohol in licensed venues.

2. Does Territory Labor support the introduction of a minimum price for alcohol equivalent to the existing minimum price of takeaway full strength beer, currently at approximately \$1.30 per standard drink?

No. Labor introduced measures to remove 4 and 5 litre casks from sale. Labor's current policy supports the implementation of a volumetric tax based on alcohol content, but this is a Federal decision. We will work with the Commonwealth government to achieve this.

1. Does Territory Labor support the development of a response to the final report of the Select Committee on Action to Prevent Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and its 26 recommendations, including action to prevent, diagnose and manage FASD in the Northern Territory?

Labor has already announced that if elected we will review all the recommendations of the Select Committee for immediate action, except for the implementation of a floor price. Our *'Supporting and Including People with a Disability'* policy outlines that the Department of Health would taking responsibility for the development of a framework to improve the prevention of FASD, and to diagnose, and develop specialised services across Government to support people with FASD and their families.

2. Does Territory Labor support the implementation of a risk-based licensing scheme for liquor licensing in the Northern Territory?

This is not Labor policy. The NT Coroner recently recommended an independent expert inquiry into alcohol misuse take place and that this plan should form the basis of working with the community, including Aboriginal people and organisations, to find solutions. Labor supports this recommendation for the development of improved initiatives to reduce alcohol related harm for individuals and our community.

3. Does Territory Labor support the ban on political donations made by the alcohol industry and their representatives?

Territory Labor supports electoral law reform, including for political donations. We have announced the establishment of a judicial inquiry to advise on possible changes to electoral laws including caps on donations and in-kind support, disclosure thresholds, timing and frequency of disclosure returns, public funding for political parties and candidates, and election spending caps.

Thank you for taking the time to write to us on this important issue. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office on 08 8928 6660 or opposition.leader@nt.gov.au

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael". The script is cursive and fluid, with a prominent initial 'M'.

Michael Gunner
Leader of the Opposition