



***Julalikari  
Council  
Aboriginal  
Corporation***

***Submission to  
NT Liquor Commission Review of the  
Conditions of Liquor Licences in the  
Barkly Region***

February 24 2021

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## **Foreword**

There is a saying: “It takes a village to raise a child.” Well, when it comes to alcohol harm minimisation we, in Tennant Creek and the Barkly, all live in that village.

Julalikari Council has taken a strong interest and active leadership on alcohol management issues since it grew out of the Warumungu Papulu organisation, which was formed in 1974. The book *Grog War* (Wright, 1997) documents in detail how the Tennant Creek Aboriginal community:

*“Frustrated by the harmful effects of alcohol in their community....organised at a local level to halt the rampant sale of liquor and revitalize their town.”*

Wright described the shocking effects of alcohol abuse and racism in this small remote town in the 1970s, ‘80s and ‘90s, and how the enormous struggle to introduce some simple restrictions on alcohol in the town put Julalikari Council at the forefront of community policy, advocacy and campaigns to control alcohol.

We are still fighting to solve this complex, multi-faceted and multi-generational problem, working in partnership with other organisations and our community.

Community-led strategies that protect the whole community and future generations are the key to solving the very complex and challenging alcohol and drug problems in our community. Our approach is informed by human rights and the right of all people (particularly children) to health and safety.

Our struggle is to improve the physical, social, cultural, economic, and governance environments, that cause trauma within our community. We work to shift the systems that holds trauma in place and to remove the underlying causes of distress and alcohol-related harm in our community.

As part of this struggle, Julalikari Council believes there needs to be control over the amount and types of alcohol sold in Tennant Creek, the hours that alcohol is available to be purchased, the rights of people to buy alcohol.

The evidence is clear: Tennant Creek and the Barkly has an acute problem of alcohol-related harm, higher than Northern Territory and national average.

Julalikari’s motto: *“Amappingku anyula maputarri - Together we will build - guides our work.* Together, we as a whole community working together, can make a healthy shared future for all people of Tennant Creek.

**Linda Turner**

Chairperson, Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation

## ***Executive Summary & Recommendations***

Julalikari Council welcomes the Liquor Commission review of alcohol restrictions under the Liquor Act 2019. Alcohol abuse directly affects the safety and wellbeing of our community. It is a symptom of our experience of colonisation and displacement, ongoing systemic disadvantage, and the ongoing impact of inter-generational trauma that continues to harm Aboriginal people and our communities' social, cultural and economic development.

The strengthening of our communities' social, physical and economic environment and health is core business for Julalikari Council. A healthy environment makes a healthy community, with less exposure to harm from alcohol and other drugs and related social problems.

Alcohol-related harm holds back our community and weakens Julalikari Council's capacity as a community organisation and business to deliver our services. Like Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation, the NT Police and other local organisations, Julalikari Council is on the front line of dealing with the impacts of alcohol-related harm on individuals, families, and our community.

The Aboriginal Peak Organisations NT (APONT) principles guide Julalikari Council's alcohol management work, specifically:

- community control, community empowerment and self-determination should underpin alcohol legislation, alcohol policy and the delivery of alcohol services and programs in the Northern Territory, particularly as they impact Aboriginal people;
- approaches to addressing alcohol policy must encompass the social and cultural determinants of health and apply trauma informed systems.

Julalikari Council welcomes the development of an evidence-based alcohol harm reduction framework for the Northern Territory. We recognise this is just one of many tools we need to use to make our communities safe and healthy. We support alcohol restrictions that help create a healthy social environment and which support to individuals, families and our community, including:

- restricted dry areas where it is against the law to possess, control, consume, sell or dispose of alcohol in that area, or to bring alcohol into it;
- requirements that people buying takeaway alcohol show their ID;
- a minimum floor price for alcohol;
- Point of Sale Intervention (POSI);
- certain premises being deemed 'alcohol restricted areas';

- restrictions on:
  - times and days people can buy takeaway alcohol;
  - how much people can buy of certain types of alcohol each day;
  - temporary restrictions on certain people being able to buy alcohol (the Banned Drinkers Register) to reduce alcohol-related harm to individuals, families and the community. The BDR restriction also offers therapeutic support.

Current alcohol restrictions specific to Tennant Creek recognise that our town has a particular problem with alcohol consumption and alcohol-related harm that warrant increased regulation and includes restrictions on:

- the hours a person can buy takeaway alcohol – limited to Monday through to Saturday between 4pm and 7pm.
- the amount and type of alcohol a person can buy per day, limited to:
  - 30 cans or stubbies of mid strength or light beer
  - 24 cans or stubbies of full strength beer
  - 12 cans or bottles of ready to drink mixes
  - one two litre cask of wine
  - one bottle of fortified wine
  - one bottle of green ginger wine
  - two 750 ml bottles of wine
  - one 750 ml bottle of spirits.

It is prohibited to sell:

- port
- wine in a glass container larger than one litre
- beer in bottles of 750ml or more.

Based on clear evidence of the links between alcohol availability and alcohol-related harm, Julalikari Council supports the current restrictions on alcohol supply. We do not support extending takeaway trading hours and lifting the product restrictions.

Julalikari Council supports the Liquor Commission’s proposed variations in four different fields because we, like the Liquor Commission, Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation, the NT Police Fire and Emergency Services, and many local people we represent, believe they will help deter, detect and reduce alcohol consumption, alcohol-related harm and reduce secondary supply. The Variations we support are:

1. Recording sales on CCTV camera – to help ensure sales are conducted according to the regulations and helping reduce sales to people on the Banned Drinkers Register and secondary supply;

2. No sales before approval to buy has been given by Point of Sale Inspectors – to ensure that sales occur only after it has been checked and confirmed that the buyer is entitled to buy alcohol;
3. Requiring Point of Sale and Banned Drinker Register compliance extends to on-premises venues as well as takeaway venues – to ensure that people on the Banned Drinkers Register do not drink on-premises; and
4. Restricting sales to any one household on any day down from 5 householders down to 3 – to limit the amount of alcohol going to any one household and help reduce the concentration of drinking in particular areas of town.

Julalikari Council recommends that, for consistency, the conditions imposed in Variations 3 and 4 above should apply to all on-premises drinking sites in the Barkly, including the Memorial and Sporties Clubs in Tennant Creek and the Barkly Roadhouse.

Julalikari Council recognises that restriction variations, in themselves, will not solve the alcohol problem, but they will help. We support strategies that help our community reduce the high incidence of alcohol consumption, and related harm.

Dealing with alcohol issues requires a wide range of initiatives, beyond alcohol restrictions, to help control alcohol use and abuse. In particular we need initiatives that support families, and especially children, including:

- more effective family engagement and support;
- positive and effective youth programs;
- pro-active and positive community patrols and policing;
- more effective tenancy management and safety monitoring;
- investment in more and better quality housing and infrastructure (such as community centres on Community Living Areas) that meets community and family needs;
- support for housing for health and climate change adaptation programs (including reducing energy bills) that is appropriate for our local environment.

These initiatives will help reduce overcrowding, poverty, and resulting distress and tensions.

Julalikari Council does not want any business in Tennant Creek suffer financially, or lose its social licence to operate, due to alcohol issues. However, it is clear that business models that depend on increasing alcohol sales in Tennant Creek are not sustainable for the businesses or our community. It is possible, indeed essential, to adapt businesses so they can thrive in a low-alcohol culture.

Julalikari Council welcomes all opportunities to meet with interested organisations to develop policies that meet the needs of the whole community and build collaborations that can make a positive impact.

## ***Introduction***

This submission outlines Julalikari Council's views about the NT Liquor Commission review of alcohol restrictions as they apply to Tennant Creek and the Barkly, and NT Liquor Commission's proposed liquor variations to current alcohol management in the Barkly region.

Julalikari Council's submission is based on:

- reading evidence about the impacts of alcohol in our community. What we measure helps guide our policy and actions. The right measurements can tell us if we are making progress to deal with problems or not.
- reviewing alcohol harm minimisation strategies for Tennant Creek, the NT and Australia,
- considering the ideas put forward by the Liquor Commission and in the submissions of other stakeholders, and
- consultation with the local Aboriginal community.

Julalikari Council works for community-led strategies to create a social, physical and economic environment that protects the whole community and future generations. Our current work includes our community patrols, community development work on community living areas, early childhood and family support programs, housing and engagement with policing and community safety programs. Directly and indirectly Julalikari Council employs over 100 Aboriginal people in Tennant Creek. This makes Julalikari Council is the largest single employer of Aboriginal people in the Barkly region.

Julalikari Council has led and strongly supports local initiatives to manage and regulate alcohol availability in our community. As the book *Grog War* described:

*“Aboriginal elders and community advisors fought for years to put alcohol restrictions in place and they are still fighting. Their courage and tenacity is an inspiration for other towns in northern Australia who are battling against the tide of alcohol abuse and resistance from licencees and the broader community” (Grog War publisher's website).*

That struggle continues today.

### *a) A human rights approach*

Julalikari Council's approach to the management and regulation of alcohol is consistent of the Aboriginal Peak Organisations of the NT (APONT) and informed by a human rights framework, as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). These rights include:

- the right to life, liberty and security of person (Article 3, UDHR);

- the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being(Article 25, UDHR);
- the right to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security (Article 7 UNDRIP);
- the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities (Article 21.2, UNDRIP)
- the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health (Article 24. 2, UNDRIP);
- ensure the child [has] such protection and care as is necessary for his or her well-being, taking into account the rights and duties of his or her parents, legal guardians, or other individuals legally responsible for him or her (Article 2, CRC);
- protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse (Article 19. 1, CRC).

*b) Working inside and across complex systems*

It is not possible to deal with the symptoms of alcohol abuse, without seeing it as part of complex inter-linked physical, social, cultural, economic and governance systems that all influence the level of alcohol consumption and alcohol-related harm.

Solving complex problems requires us to look at the whole system at local, regional, Territory, national and even global scales, and how the different parts influence the whole. Effective action on alcohol means we need to identify the most strategic opportunities for intervention, how to lead and drive change, and how to measure change to know if we are successful, or not.

There are opportunities for change in the following systems:

- *physical* - living environments, housing, community infrastructure;
- *social* – family structure, safety and wellbeing, access to health, education, employment, age, gender and sexuality, violence and conflict management, communication;
- *cultural* - local history, trauma and grief, community leadership, drinking settings, the role of health organisations, police and community safety, social networks and influencers, access and type of offender treatment and rehabilitation;
- *economic* - alcohol pricing and taxation, alcohol producers, supply networks and flows, hospitality industry, advertising, broadcasting and sporting industries that rely on alcohol for income, level of awareness, employment, education and welfare;



- *governance* - authority structures, leadership, evidence-based policies, advocacy, action and collaboration.

The Aboriginal Peak Organisations of the NT (APONT) in its submission to the NT Governments inquiry into identified more than 30 recommendations but key among them that inform Julalikari Council's approach are:

- Policies or legislation aimed at tackling alcohol addiction will not have long-lasting effects if the policies do not also address the social determinants of high risk drinking including housing, education, health and control.
- That trauma informed systems are established by the NT Government in all services providing rehabilitation, detoxification or other support as a matter of urgency in recognition of the link between family violence, intergenerational trauma, alcohol misuse, addiction and trauma disorders.
- That community control, community empowerment and self-determination underpin alcohol legislation, alcohol policy and the delivery of alcohol services and programs in the Northern Territory (APONT, 2017).

## **1. *The numbers tell the story: Alcohol harms***

The numbers tell a story. The Australian Department of Health, National Health and Medical Research Council, Menzies School of Health Research, NT Liquor Commission and the NT Police Fire and Emergency Services have published plenty of evidence showing a clear connection between alcohol availability and alcohol-related harm to people and communities (Commonwealth of Australia, 2019; NHMRC, 2020; Menzies School of Health Research, 2019; NT Liquor Commission, 2020; NTFES, 2020).

These harms include violence, injury and sometimes death; physical, mental and spiritual harm, including suicide; impaired child development including Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) caused by exposure of a foetus to alcohol during pregnancy. FASD is a lifelong condition with no cure.

Alcohol abuse is not a coincidence, or a feature of a particular group of people, by virtue of their race, class or age but, rather there are well-researched social factors that drive the likelihood of alcohol and other drug abuse. These are referred to as 'social determinants of health'. The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) notes that:

*“The reasons for drinking are likely to be closely related to age, culture and socioeconomic status. The committee found that while the harmful use of alcohol is a societal issue that can profoundly affect any family, regardless of cultural or ethnic background, alcohol consumption causes more harm amongst poor and socially marginalised populations.*

*There is huge evidence around social and economic determinants of high risk alcohol consumption such as health, employment, education and trauma. The social determinants of health include the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age.” (NHMRC, 2009, p.14).*

It is important to acknowledge that alcohol abuse and alcohol-related harm affects the whole community. Australia’s *National Alcohol Strategy 2019-28* identified in some key high-level evidence illustrated below:

*“Overall, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are more likely to abstain from drinking alcohol than non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (31% compared with 23% respectively). However, among those who did drink, higher proportions drank at risky levels (20% exceeding the lifetime risk guidelines) and were more likely to experience alcohol-related injury than non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (35% compared to 25% monthly, respectively)” (Commonwealth of Australia, 2019, p. 8).*

The Liquor Commission data identifies that Tennant Creek and the Barkly has a particularly acute problem of alcohol consumption, and related harm: both are at levels that are significantly higher than the Northern Territory and national averages.

In Tennant Creek and the Barkly alcohol-related harm is not just an ‘Aboriginal’ problem or issue. People living in remote and marginalised communities, people experiencing mental health problems, including issues around sexuality and intergenerational trauma experience high levels of alcohol-related harm. The *National Alcohol Strategy* notes:

*“People residing in remote areas have reported drinking alcohol in quantities that place them at risk of harm at higher levels than those living in less remote regions. People in remote and very remote areas were 1.5 times as likely as people in major cities to consume five or more drinks at least monthly and 2.4 times as likely to consume 11 or more drinks (at least monthly)” (Commonwealth of Australia, 2019, p. 8).*

Psychosocial factors, such as bereavement, retirement, boredom, loneliness, homelessness and depression among older people can also be associated with higher rates of alcohol consumption.

The *National Alcohol Strategy* recognises that:

*“There is an increasing prevalence of harmful drinking among people aged 65 and over with these individuals the most likely age group to*

*drink daily (19.5% of males; 8.7% of females). As older people may have a lower physical tolerance for alcohol, and alcohol can exacerbate other health conditions or interact with prescription medication, they have increased susceptibility to harmful alcohol use” (Commonwealth of Australia, 2019, p. 9).*

The NT Liquor Commission tells us that alcohol restrictions work to reduce alcohol-related harm. After removal of the Banned Drinkers Register, by the end of 2016, per capita annual consumption of alcohol in Tennant Creek went back to the levels of 20 years previously: levels that were more than twice the Northern Territory average, and more than two and a half times the national average (Northern Territory Liquor Commission, 2018).

Perhaps the most distressing measure of the problem our community faces, and must deal with, relates to child wellbeing and safety. The data tells us that the Barkly holds the unenviable position of consistently performing the worst in the NT with regards to the safety and positive health outcomes of its young people.

The Liquor Commission cites data that indicates that in the Northern Territory, 4.4% and 1.8% of babies are exposed to alcohol in the first and third trimester of pregnancy respectively. Tragically, in the Barkly, these rates are 20.8% and 8.3%, far higher than any other region in the Territory (De Vincentiis et al, 2019, p. 50).

It is easy, and entirely appropriate, to be alarmed, but data shows that progress has been made after the increased regulations applied since the mid-1990s, particularly POSIs, restriction on the volume and types of alcohol, Banned Drinker Register and Minimum Floor Price are having an impact (NT Liquor Commission, 2020, p.14-16).

The data used by the Liquor Commission is evidence that regulation works. Alcohol-related assaults, domestic violence, drink driving offences declined by 30% from Jan 2010 to July 2015 due to BRD and POSI. Alcohol-related offences rose again from July 2015 to Jan 18 but dropped by 30% March 2020 following new BDR. Unfortunately, they rose significantly after March 2020.

The NT Liquor Commission suggests that the upswing in alcohol consumption and parallel alcohol-related harm over the last 12 months has been attributed to COVID and the windfall of a substantial increase in disposable income since March 2020 due to Job Seeker and Job Keeper and people being able to access their superannuation. The Liquor Commission expects this effect to be ‘transitory’ and to decline as access to these sources of increased income declines (NT Liquor Commission, 2020, p.28).

Clearly, there is a need to continually gather, analyse and learn from emerging data.

## 2. *Priorities for action*

Alcohol harm minimisation programs in Tennant Creek and the Barkly needs to harmonise policy at local, Territory and local levels. The *National Alcohol Strategy 2019–2028* identifies four agreed national priority areas of focus for preventing and reducing alcohol-related harms in Australia:

1. Improving community safety and amenity - Working to better protect the health, safety and social wellbeing of those consuming alcohol and those around them;
2. Managing availability, price and promotion - Reducing opportunities for availability, promotion and pricing contributing to risky alcohol consumption;
3. Supporting individuals to obtain help and systems to respond - Facilitating access to appropriate treatment, information and support services;
4. Promoting healthier communities - Improving the understanding and awareness of alcohol-related harms in the Australian community.  
(Commonwealth of Australia, 2019, p.13)

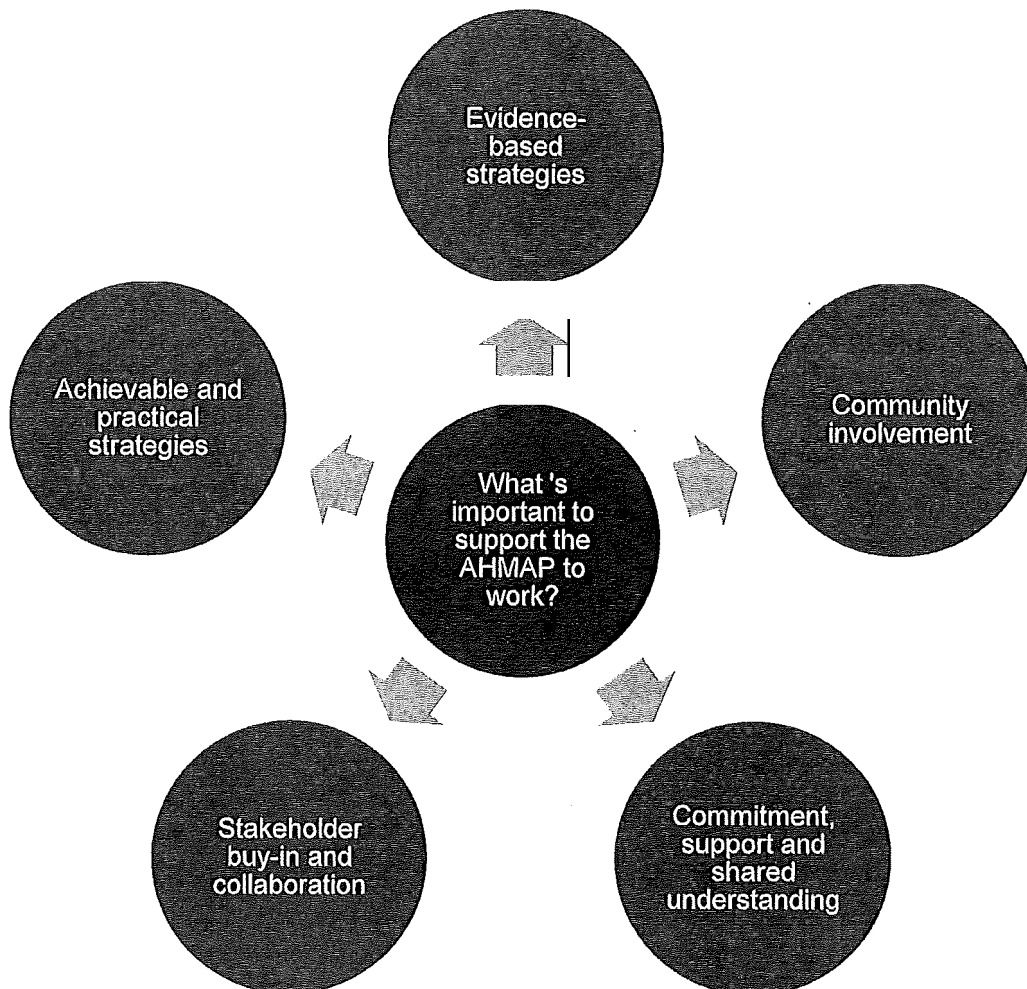


*National Alcohol Strategy priority areas of focus for preventing and reducing alcohol-related harms in Australia (Commonwealth of Australia, 2019)*

a) *Tennant Creek Alcohol Harm Minimisation Action Plan*

Julalikari Council supports the work of the Tennant Creek Alcohol Reference Group, established in February 2014 to “provide community and industry expertise, advice and input into the development, implementation, monitoring, and review of the *Tennant Creek Alcohol Harm Minimisation Action Plan*.” The *Tennant Creek Alcohol Harm Minimisation Action Plan 2019-2024 (TCAHMAP)*, which was developed by the Tennant Creek Alcohol Reference Group, and approved by the Minister for Alcohol Policy on 7 January 2020, with the following ‘qualities’:

- Evidence-based strategies
- Community involvement
- Achievable and practical strategies
- Stakeholder buy-in and collaboration
- Commitment, support and shared understanding (TC ARG, 2019, p.10).



*Tennant Creek Alcohol Harm Minimisation Action Plan qualities*

Julalikari Council supports these qualities and the *Tennant Creek Alcohol Harm Minimisation Action Plan* goals:

- Supply reduction
- Demand Reduction
- Harm Minimisation
- Governance, Communication, Monitoring and Evaluation (TC ARG, 2019, p.12)

According to the *Tennant Creek Alcohol Harm Minimisation Action Plan 2019-2024*, success for the Plan will look like:

- Appropriate treatment and rehabilitation options; & Improved aftercare with coordinated pathways to wrap around services
- Improved environment -greater public housing and accommodation options
- Children & the elderly being cared for properly
- Quieter Community Living Areas and town
- Less Alcohol related assaults, hospital admissions & less harmful drinking patterns
- Changed behaviour - people making better choices
- Collaboration: between services and between regional AHMAPs
- Less consumption of alcohol and less black market supply
- Technological advancements that improve community safety & reduce harm
- Positive community attitude to what is/is not acceptable behaviour/conduct
- A robust & confident business sector and safe town that attracts investment (TC ARG, 2019)

*b)* Julalikari Council social development focus

Julalikari Council's primary focus is on programs that can change the environment that the Tennant Creek Aboriginal population lives in, and through this work, shifting the physical, social, cultural and economic factors that drive people dealing with trauma and other problems to alcohol abuse.

Julalikari Council's mission to "inspire, accelerate and amplify the impact of Aboriginal self-determination to promote sustainable economic and social development in communities" (Julalikari Council, 2020).

We aim to do this by delivering effective programs, projects and advocacy in the areas of:

- Culture, Heritage and Arts
- Community and Social Wellbeing
- Commercial & Social Enterprises
- Employment, Education and Training
- Housing and Construction.

Our efforts complement the work of other organisations working in these fields and the actions identified in the *Tennant Creek Alcohol Harm Minimisation Action Plan 2019-2024*.

### **3. Current alcohol restrictions**

In 1996, the Liquor Commission imposed the first targeted licensing restrictions in the NT, in Tennant Creek, as part of a strategy to minimise alcohol-associated harm. The most notable restriction was prohibiting the purchase of take-away liquor each Thursday ('Thirsty Thursdays'). The restrictions were introduced after lengthy community debate, court challenges and an independently evaluated trial. The 'Thirsty Thursday' restriction was removed in May 2006 as part of a new alcohol supply plan for the town. It was replaced with new measures, including shorter take-away trading hours and a ban on the sale of wine casks after six o'clock at night.

Other restrictions have now been developed and extended across the NT as well as Tennant Creek:

- restricted dry areas where it is against the law to possess, control, consume, sell or dispose of alcohol in that area, or to bring alcohol into it;
- requirements that people buying takeaway alcohol show their ID;
- a minimum floor price for alcohol;
- Point of Sale Intervention (POSI);
- certain premises being deemed 'alcohol restricted areas';
- restrictions on:
  - times and days people can buy takeaway alcohol;
  - how much people can buy of certain types of alcohol each day;
  - temporary restrictions on certain people being able to buy alcohol (the Banned Drinkers Register) to reduce alcohol-related harm to individuals, families and the community. The BDR restriction also offers therapeutic support.

Current alcohol restrictions in Tennant Creek include restrictions on:

- the hours a person can buy takeaway alcohol – limited to Monday through to Saturday between 4pm and 7pm.
- the amount and type of alcohol a person can buy per day, limited to:
  - 30 cans or stubbies of mid strength or light beer
  - 24 cans or stubbies of full strength beer
  - 12 cans or bottles of ready to drink mixes
  - one two litre cask of wine
  - one bottle of fortified wine
  - one bottle of green ginger wine

- two 750 ml bottles of wine
- one 750 ml bottle of spirits.

It is prohibited to sell:

- port
- wine in a glass container larger than one litre
- beer in bottles of 750ml or more.

In 2018, the Liquor Commission varied license condition for Tennant Creek and Barkly liquor licenses with conditions currently applying to licenses in Tennant Creek and the Barkly being:

- Hours for takeaway sales are between 4pm – 7pm in Tennant Creek Monday to Saturday, and 12pm – 7pm in the Barkly Monday to Saturday;
- Trading on Sundays is prohibited, except for Aileron Roadhouse;
- Purchase quantity limits imposed by the Director-General were maintained for Tennant Creek and extended to the Barkly, except for Devils Marbles Hotel which is subject to pre-existing limits under a voluntary arrangement;
- Bona fide lodgers are permitted to purchase between 12pm and 11pm and are not subject to the takeaway limit restrictions;
- Bush orders for 7-days' worth of liquor are permitted if the order is on account and ordered at least one day in advance by telephone or email.

Julalikari Council supports these restrictions, some of which have now been in place for more than 20 years.

#### ***4. Julalikari Council's response to Liquor Commission's proposed variations***

The Liquor Commission has proposed variations in four different fields that they believe they will help deter, detect and reduce alcohol consumption, alcohol-related harm and reduce secondary supply:

Julalikari Council supports the Liquor Commission's proposed variations in four different fields because we, like the Liquor Commission, Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation, the NT Police Fire and Emergency Services, and many local people we represent, believe they will help deter, detect and reduce alcohol consumption, alcohol-related harm and reduce secondary supply. The Variations we support are:

1. Recording sales on CCTV camera – to help ensure sales are conducted according to the regulations and helping reduce sales to people on the Banned Drinkers Register and secondary supply;



2. No sales before approval to buy has been given by Point of Sale Inspectors – to ensure that sales occur only after it has been checked and confirmed that the buyer is entitled to buy alcohol;
3. Requiring Point of Sale and Banned Drinker Register compliance extends to on-premises venues as well as takeaway venues – to ensure that people on the Banned Drinkers Register do not drink on-premises; and
4. Restricting sales to any one household on any day down from 5 householders down to 3 – to limit the amount of alcohol going to any one household and help reduce the concentration of drinking in particular areas of town.

Julalikari Council recommends that, for consistency, the conditions imposed in Variations 3 and 4 above should apply to all on-premises drinking sites in the Barkly, including the Memorial and Sporties Clubs in Tennant Creek and the Barkly Roadhouse.

Julalikari Council recognises that restriction variations, in themselves, will not solve the alcohol problem, but they will help. We support strategies that help our community reduce the high incidence of alcohol consumption, and related harm.

## **Conclusion**

JCAC recognise the current problems and challenges in reducing the level of alcohol-related harm in the region. We welcome all opportunities to meet with interested organisations in Tennant Creek, the Barkly region, Northern Territory, and beyond, including Barkly Regional Council and Hospitality NT, to help develop policies that meets the needs of the whole community and build collaboration that can make an impact.

Julalikari Council does not want to see any business in Tennant Creek suffer financially, or in terms of its social licence to operate, due to alcohol issues. However, it is clear that business models that depend on increasing alcohol sales in Tennant Creek are not sustainable for the businesses or the community. It is possible, indeed essential, for alcohol sales outlets and hospitality businesses to adapt their businesses so they can thrive in a low-alcohol culture to achieve demonstrable benefits for all.

Julalikari Council strongly agrees with the Liquor Commission's view that

*“The setting of liquor licence conditions will be ineffective to benefit the community unless it is complemented by a suite of other regulatory frameworks, policies, strategies, services and programs that between them target alcohol harm reduction, alcohol demand reduction and alcohol supply reduction.”*

Julalikari's motto: "Amappingku anyula maputarri - Together we will build – inspires and challenges the whole community to work together, and make a shared pathway to a healthy future for all people of Tennant Creek.

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