

Sent Via Email: [Alcohol.Review@nt.gov.au](mailto:Alcohol.Review@nt.gov.au)

**Re: Alcohol Policies and Legislative Review**

Dear Panel,

This Submission is from Marlin Darwin Pty Ltd, which owns and operates 'The Hotel Darwin', located 39 Mitchell St, Darwin.

The Hotel Darwin is an iconic Hotel that dates back to the 1940s. Today our Hotel prides itself on great hospitality. We are open 7 days a week for lunch and dinners, host live music each week and have the only dedicated and recently refurbished sports bar in the CBD area. Hotel Darwin was recently awarded the 2017 AHA Best Overall Metropolitan Hotel in Darwin. We currently employ 25 staff.

The Hotel Darwin holds a 'Tavern' licence and is licensed to trade to 4am, 7 days a week. However, we elect to trade from 10am to 2am, or earlier depending on patron numbers and staffing requirements.

**Licensed trading hours:** We support the status quo on trading hours and see no reason to change the current regime.

**Liquor licence fees and risk-based licensing fees:** We are opposed to the introduction of annual licence fees or risk-based licensing, because our Hotel is already heavily regulated and taxed. The time and resources it takes to ensure our venue is compliant with all relevant legislation (e.g. responsible gambling, responsible service of alcohol, CCTV, crowd controllers, work health and safety, food safety and hygiene) is already very high and any further costs are certainly not required or supported.

This is especially the case since the new NT Labour Governments policy change and increase in Electronic Gaming Tax. The new NT Labour Government initiated this tax without proper consultation with the business community, and the impacts are going to be widespread as investment decisions have already been made factoring in no increase in tax in this area, which was promised prior to the recent election.

**Liquor licence categories:** We support the current licensing administration regime being put into Regulation. We believe that licences in the same category should have all the same licensing conditions.

**Entertainment Precinct Policies:** Given The Hotel Darwin is located in Darwin's CBD, we support formal recognition of this as an entertainment precinct if it means more community resources are dedicated to the area, including:

- **Police:** We support the dedicated 'City Safe' Police unit who patrol the city Thursday – Sunday nights and encourage our crowd controllers and staff to work with Police

whenever required. We would like to see more coordination between our Crowd Controllers and the Police.

- **Transport:** There are simply not enough transport options in Darwin CBD, especially during our peak trading periods on Friday and Saturday nights. There needs to be more transport options for people, whether it is through public transport, more taxis or an Uber-style of service.

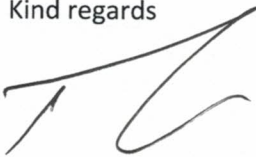
**Industry Code of Practice:** The Hotel Darwin supports local Liquor Accords and the use of Code of Practices to mandate industry best practices. We support a sustainable hospitality industry, so support minimum pricing and restrictions on alcohol price promotions.

**Responsible Practice and RSA:** We support the universally accepted RSA qualification, and utilised industry best practices to ensure our House Policies and directions to staff on responsible service of alcohol are upheld.

**Youth and Patron Education:** We strongly support the continuation and expansion of all forms of youth-orientated educational and information campaigns, including public advertising campaigns aimed at bringing about more healthy and responsible attitudes to the consumption of alcohol.

Thank you for the opportunity to lodge a submission and we anticipate a positive outcome for the industry in the Northern Territory.

Kind regards



Trevor Candido  
Operations Manager  
Marlin Darwin Pty Ltd