



Nauru Bulletin

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Parliament Sitting –21 December

The Speaker of Parliament Hon Ludwig Scotty opened this month's (21 Dec) parliament sitting with the Lord's Prayer followed by a tribute to former parliamentarian, the late Leo Keke.

Mr Keke passed away last month. He was the first Nauruan to graduate in law and was first elected to parliament in 1976, he served for four years. During that time Mr Keke was minister for justice in the Dowiyogo and Harris governments.

Following the Speaker's introductory note Hon David Adeang gave notice of his intention to move a motion under Article 24 of the Nauru Constitution at the next sitting of parliament.

The usual procedure for such motions is to suspend all relevant standing orders to allow the motion to be moved immediately without notice, but Mr Adeang nonetheless gave notice of his intention to move the motion stating "that this House does not have the confidence in the president and the cabinet."

Article 24 provides for the removal of the president and cabinet from office. The motion requires at least half of the total number of members in order to pass;

hence at least nine members are needed to support it.

A number of bills were also put on notice for presentation at the next sitting of parliament including the leadership code and ombudsman's bills.

While several concerns were raised, finance matters took up most of the time for questions without notice.

Finance Minister Hon Roland Kun announced that Provident Fund entitlements would also be paid out before the Christmas break. The total distribution of approximately \$1.15-million was made on 24 December.

Minister Kun added that the Superannuation Fund A – the employee's contribution fund, would be paid out this financial year.

Today (28 Dec) the Finance department announced that payment of entitlements for Fund A would be made on Monday 31 December.

The following Acts of Parliament have been passed by Parliament and

have received the certificate of the Speaker under Article 47 of the Constitution:

Asylum Seekers (Regional Processing Centre) Act 2012

Interpretation (Amendment) Act 2012

Accommodation Registration Act 2012

Supplementary Appropriation Act (No 2) 2012-2013

Criminal Procedure (Amendment) (No 2) Act 2012

Consular Privileges and Immunities (Amendment) Act 2012

RONPHOS (Amendment) Act 2012

Shipping Licences Act 2012

The Public Sector Bill was also introduced but not passed.

These Acts and the Bill can be inspected in the Parliament Secretariat, Parliament Building, Yaren District, during business hours, or online at <http://ronlaw.gov.nr> in the 'Acts as passed' and 'Bills' sections of the database•

Ministerial statements have been circulated in separate emails.

Government and RONPhos pay out pending salaries

The Government of Nauru and RONPhos Corporation both paid out pending salaries this week (21 and 17 December respectively) to past and present employees.

The Nauru Government paid out close to \$2-Million in pending salaries on Friday 21 December.

Government pending salary commenced instalment payments in December 2009.

Pending balances are accrued over the years from 2000 through to approximately 2005.

The total balance is then paid off every year depending on funding level and formula.

Individuals with small balances (below minimum) are fully paid off, regardless of which year the pending balance is accrued.

The aged and disabled receive \$1100 plus ten per cent of what they are owed. All others receive

\$450 plus four per cent.

RONPhos Corporation also made a second payout of over \$1-Million towards pending salaries. It had budgeted \$2.8-Million this financial year, the first payout of approximately the same amount was distributed in October this year.

Also at the end of November the Nauru Phosphate Royalties Trust (NPRT) paid out \$5.1-Million for the 2006 distributable RONWAN income•

Nauru Court calls for public participation at mediation workshops



Peter Law, Nauru's Resident Magistrate says the training will be a valuable experience

The Nauru Court continues to build capacity and training initiatives by arranging yet another two mediation workshops next month (22-27 Jan).

The two three-day workshops will provide skills to enable participants to conduct a mediation to resolve disputes and complaints as well as learn to conduct court referred mediations.

“The workshops are a valuable opportunity to develop local skills in alternative dispute resolution,” Resident Magistrate Peter Law said.

The court will engage with services of a highly respected mediator who works for the Federal Court of Australia.

The first workshop which will run from 22-24 January is designed for legal practitioners and those who can be available to conduct mediations referred by the Court. Trained court mediators will receive payment for conducting court referred matters.

The second workshop will run from 25-27 January and is aimed at workplace mediations where disputes have arisen within the organisation or with members of the public.

Departments and organisations are encouraged to nominate participants, in particular from the Nauru Police Force, RON Hospital and the Chief Secretary's department.

Applicants should complete a nomination form available from the Court Registry, and submitted to either Mrs Lena Porte (phone 5573165) or Mr John Daigon Julius (5573353)•

Thank you for a wonderful year
Merry Christmas and God's blessings for the New Year.



2013 Public holidays

1st January	New Year's Day
31st January	Independence Day
1st February	Day following Independence Day
29th March	Good Friday
1st April	Easter Monday
2nd April	Easter Tuesday
17th May	Constitution Day
26th October	Angam Day
25th December	Christmas Day
26th December	Day following Christmas Day

When a day specified in sub-section (1) except Independence Day and Christmas Day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the following Monday is a holiday.

Whenever Independence Day and Christmas Day falls on Saturday the following Monday and Tuesday are holidays*



2013 School term dates

Teachers Week
21st January – 30th January

Term One
4th February -30th February

Term Three
8th July- 20th September

Term Two
8th April- 21st June

Term Four
7th October- 13th December



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