

DARWIN 2034

Olympic Communications Working Group

PowerPoint Training Workshop — NT Government

Welcome Aboard

You've just walked into the Department of the Chief Minister's Olympic Communications Working Group.

Congratulations. The International Olympic Committee has awarded the **2034 Winter Olympics to Darwin**.

For the next two hours, you are part of a team taking a rough Chief Minister's Brief and turning it into a formal announcement — one that showcases to the IOC exactly what the Territory has planned.

How This Mix-Up Happened

The Federal Government promised the NT around \$2 billion in funding if they could win an Olympic Games bid. A Summer Olympics bid.

The submission put together by NT Staff last week was an impressively polished document. Everyone who worked on it had clearly done a Microsoft Word course; the formatting was flawless. It made a compelling case that the Territory had unmatched air conditioning and temperature-control expertise — precisely the kind of infrastructure excellence the IOC looks for when assessing athlete welfare and world-class event delivery.

The problem arose at the final step. A junior officer had two browser tabs open on the IOC City Bid Portal. When they went to submit, they clicked the wrong tab: "**Submit your bid here — Winter Olympics**." By the time anyone noticed, the IOC had formally awarded Darwin the 2034 Winter Games.

But that's fine. Everything is fine.

Rather than withdraw and admit the error, a decision was made to proceed — as though this had been the plan all along. After all, the Federal Government is finally paying attention, money and resources are flowing in, and all eyes are on Darwin. A mascot has even been chosen: **Plover Pete**. The IOC inspection committee arrives soon.

In the words of the Chief Minister: *"This is nothing a compelling media release and a brilliant PowerPoint presentation can't fix."*

That's Where You Come In

Because you've attended this training, you are considered among the most elite PowerPoint power users the NTG has to offer.

The deck needs to cover:

- A plan for **ice and snow sports**
- **Sliding sports** (bobsled, luge, skeleton)
- **Logistics** (venues, transport, accommodation)
- **Budget**

And remember to lean into that "**Northern Territory air conditioning know-how.**"

Janelle had a go at a draft over the weekend and left it in the shared folder, but it needs work. The Working Group has the morning. Deck back to Damo by midday.

Remember: This is a fictional scenario. The bureaucratic setting is the vehicle for the actual training goal — getting genuinely fluent with PowerPoint's design discipline: slide masters, layouts, theme colours, alignment, animations, transitions, accessibility and Copilot Chat.

Internal Correspondence — For Situational Awareness

Teams Message: Janelle to Damo

MASCOT?!

Hey Damo — the slide deck is in SharePoint.

I know we said no mascot in the inspection deck without Cabinet sign-off, but I was working Sunday and Copilot kept suggesting I add one, and your earlier email said the panel responds well to mascots, so I put one on every slide.

I couldn't find the Plux files (the Plover), so I picked the closest thing in the stock image library: a cute shrimp wearing sunglasses. If you have the Plux mascot images, we should swap them in.

— JP

Email: Damien Routledge to Janelle Pemberton

Forwarded to all Working Group members for situational awareness. Original sent: Monday, 9 March 2026

From: Damien Routledge <damien.routledge@nt.gov.au> **To:** Janelle Pemberton <janelle.pemberton@nt.gov.au> **Cc:** Sally Office <sally.office@nt.gov.au> **Sent:** Monday, 9 March 2026, 7:14 AM ACST **Subject:** Inspection Delegation deck — we cannot send this to the IOC

Janelle,

The CM saw the brief Friday afternoon. Spent Saturday with it. Sent me an SMS at 06:42 this morning. Direct quote: "*We cannot show this to the IOC inspection panel.*" The Inspection Delegation arrives Monday next week.

I appreciate the weekend work, but the fonts are everywhere. The animations are everywhere. To clarify — is there a Peppa Pig on every slide, or is that the shrimp? There are twelve slides; we agreed on ten. The Risks slide is a single line attributed to me from the all-staff meeting, which I never authorised as content.

We are bringing in the Communications Working Group this morning to take your Sunday draft and rebuild it as a proper IOC-grade pitch deck to the IOC Style Guide specification. They will:

- Get the deck back to **ten slides**
- Fix the fonts
- Replace the stock photos
- Populate the empty registers
- Write proper speaker notes
- Apply **tasteful** transitions and animations
- Run accessibility checks before submission

On animations — I want this point made clearly to the Working Group. *Tasteful* means a single transition style (Fade is fine). *Tasteful* means at most one entrance animation per slide.

On the mascot — **Plux is the official appointed mascot** (gallery attached). Peppa Pig and the spinning crocodile are not to appear in the final deck.

Working Group has the morning. Deck back to me by midday.

We have one shot at this. Make it count.

Damo

Damien Routledge Deputy Chief Executive Department of the Chief Minister

Attachments: [Plux mascot gallery]