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CALL FOR CALM ON DIT ROW

The furore caused by NT Government action at the Darwin Institute of Technology may be resolved following urgent meetings with student and staff representatives yesterday.

The Education Minister, Mr Tom Harris, called for the meeting after two weeks of confrontation with lecturers and students.

It followed accusations of political interference on one hand and government support for a student who

complained of unfair treatment on the other.

Mr Harris described the discussions as 'useful.' He met with Staff Association president, Mr John Krajsek, and Students' Association president, Mr Prins Ralston.

The short-notice meeting was called to re-

Minister says talks 'useful'

By LEONIE
BIDDLE

assure the Minister a campaign of "agitation launched by some lecturers" was not adversely affecting students.

Mr Harris also used

the meeting to explain the Government's reasoning behind the appointment of the Institute's director, Mr Kevin Davis.

The Government's appointment and renaming of the former Darwin Community College during the Christmas break and



Mr Harris ... used meeting to explain reasoning.

without consultation are at the heart of the dissent.

"I listened to expressions of concern from the two representatives and I feel the discussion was useful," Mr Harris said.

Consult

He said he had made it clear Mr Davis' appointment was not negotiable, but he was willing to consider the method of appointing future directors to the Institute.

The representatives could not be contacted after the meeting but it is believed they will consult with staff and students next week.

Mr Harris said a second meeting for further discussions had been set down for next Thursday.

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