NT records highest population on record

The Northern Territory population has increased by more than 5000 people in the twelve months to the end of September 2009 marking the longest period of growth in the Territory recorded by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the Chief Minister announced today.

Mr Henderson said growth was propelled by record numbers of interstate migrants who continue to make the Territory their new home.

“This record consecutive sixth quarter of growth has been driven by our strong economy,” Mr Henderson said.

“The release of today’s data highlights the growing appeal of the Territory lifestyle to the rest of the country.

Mr Henderson said the Territory was cementing an Australian reputation as a fantastic place to live, work and raise a family.

“Our Government is taking action to support and manage this growth through a range of initiatives including:

- Releasing land faster than ever before with another 49 blocks on offer this weekend;
- Building two new schools in Palmerston;
- Together with the Commonwealth rolling out the largest ever school expansion and upgrade program with half a billion dollars being spent over four years;
- Expanding health services, including building a superclinic together with the Commonwealth at Palmerston and expanding the Alice Springs hospital.
- Building more Territory Housing with around 500 houses and emergency beds being built this year and a 44 unit seniors complex to be completed by mid next year in Palmerston.
Today’s ABS Demographic Statistics, September Quarter 2009 show:
· The Territory’s population reached 227 025, up 2.3 per cent over the year;
· Overseas migration grew by 1777 people over the year to September 2009.

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