Giles: It’s not time to change

Michael Gory

THE Northern Territory will stick with Central Standard time unless there’s a push from the community to change it. That was the message from Chief Minister Adam Giles after South Australian Premier Jay Weatherill announced a review yesterday of the state’s time zone.

Mr Giles said he was contacted by Mr Weatherill after the announcement.

“The South Australian Premier asked me whether the Territory would be willing to join a campaign to change time zones,” Mr Giles said.

“I made it clear to him that there was no way I’d even consider this without talking to Territorians first. “I have to say that this idea has never been raised with me by any Territorian.”

Alice Springs mayor Damien Ryan said he supports the current arrangement, whereby the NT has Central Standard Time year round.

“Any change (in South Australia) may muck things up with the new Virgin flights about to begin,” Mr Weatherill said.

Mr Weatherill said South Australia’s half-hour time difference to the eastern states often caused confusion across the spectrum “from sporting fixtures to public service administration and business transactions”.

Business SA, the state’s peak business organisation, welcomed the announcement.

THE BORELLA RIDE

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CLP in cash splash for regional youth programs

Jessica Brown

THE NT Government’s Regional Coordination Committees will receive $185 million to allocate to youth programs during the next four years.

Alice Springs will receive $1.225 million while Tennant Creek will receive $525,000 of this funding.

An additional $350,000 has been allocated to Red Dust Role Models in Alice Springs for the next three years.

It will be used to begin their Young Women’s Healthy Living Program, which aims to provide health promotion to young women aged 12-18 years in remote communities.

Chief executive Darren Smith said Red Dust, which has been operating in the NT for almost 20 years, has had great success with its men’s health program.

“Now we are looking at building that up and doing a similar program for young women,” he said.

Central Australian Youth Link Up Service operations manager Blair McFarland said the funding announcement was good news, but it’s not enough.

“They took $3 million (yearly) out of youth services in 2012. Now they are putting in $1.2 million,” he said.

“It seems to be just a knee-jerk reaction to the crime crisis. What’s really needed is a night-time drop-in centre where kids can go and do fun things.”

Red Dust Role Models support officer Damien Kunoth, NT manager Jonathan Hermawan, Chief Minister Adam Giles, Keenan Palmer, Julann Nolan, 7, Kathleen Nolan and CEO Darren Smith celebrate receiving $525,000 in funding.

The Borella Ride

10:00am to 3:00pm

Alice Plaza

Elements of The Albert Borella Travelling Display will be in Alice Springs at the Alice Plaza on 12 & 13 February accompanied by Dr Tom Lewis, Lead Historian on The Borella Ride.

The display will be open from 10am to 3pm on both days.

Come to see the display that has information on Albert Borella, life in the Territory in 1915 and World War I.

Retracing Albert Borella’s journey...