Building a stronger future for Central Australia

Budget 2015 is an investment in the future of Central Australia with strong infrastructure spending to unlock the full potential of the region.

This budget sets the foundation for Central Australia to grow and prosper with significant investment in economic and community infrastructure projects that create jobs and make Central Australia an even better place to live.

Budget 2015 delivers a $25 million project to complete the final 43 kilometre seal of the Mereenie Inner Loop between Hermannsburg and Glen Helen over two years. Tourism NT estimates an annual economic benefit from sealing this road of $16.25 million, as visitors stay longer and spend more.

A $7.5 million roads project will improve flood immunity in Alice Springs, giving Mt John Valley residents all-weather access to this residential area. Options to provide this access will be investigated including the connection of Sadadeen Road.

The Government’s commitment to community safety and alcohol reform continues with $7.9 million for a secure alcohol management assessment centre. This will continue the ground breaking alcohol mandatory treatment program, complementing the successful Temporary Beat Locations which have seen alcohol-related assaults drop 32 per cent in Alice Springs.

Budget 2015 will continue to deliver for the people of Alice Springs with nearly $400 million allocated to the delivery of health services and infrastructure upgrades across the region.

This year’s health initiatives in Alice Springs include:

- $34.2 million of remediation works and other upgrades at the Alice Springs Hospital
- $7.9 million grant to continue the construction of a purpose built Alcohol Mandatory Treatment centre and for the expansion of treatment services
- $720,000 to run the expanded Hospital in the Home service
- $350,000 to continue the Midwifery Group Practice

The substantial sum of funding in Budget 2015 for the Hospital in the Home service will mean that we can continue to provide a door-to-door acute care medical service, a popular service for Alice Springs residents.

Budget 2015 includes $9.53 million for new early childhood facilities in Alice Springs. This is fantastic news for Alice Springs families, boosting the child care options available for busy local parents and increasing the support available for their children’s development. School safety is also important and the Budget includes $1.5 million to construct a new off-street school bus interchange.

Funding commitments of $45.1 million to the Department of Arts and Museums - included is:

- $11.2 million in grants and subsidies to artists and cultural organisations;
- $541,000 to implement a new library management system for the NT library network;
- Araluen Culture Centre, Arts NT, Screen Territory, and the Northern Territory Archives Service

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www.budget.nt.gov.au
A big win for Sport and Recreation in Greatorex

The Government recognises the importance of investing in facilities, programs and events which greatly enrich our lives and encourage participation in healthy and fun activities.

It is fantastic news that Greatorex will receive $1.5 million for new lawn bowls facilities in Alice Springs.

The new facilities will be situated at the Alice Springs Golf Club grounds.

I commend the Golf Club Committee for their hard work and persistence in pushing for these two sports to come together in one great location. I look forward to seeing the people of Alice Springs being able to enjoy this great sporting facility when completed.

In response to calls from the large local netball community, the Chief Minister and I lobbied our colleagues for investment in local netball infrastructure.

I'm pleased to say that this growing sport will receive $2 million to upgrade their facilities.

Athletics has also received $2 million for a new track and field facility.

The Budget has also committed to invest $7.4 million to continue the government's Sports Voucher scheme which helps families with costs of their children participating in sport, recreation and cultural activities.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

There is now a fantastic opportunity for not-for-profit organisations and volunteer and community groups to gain financial support from the Government through the Community Benefit Fund.

I encourage all community organisations to consider applying for a grant in the future.

For further information on the Community Benefit Fund please visit: www.nt.gov.au/cbf
email cbf.ntg@nt.gov.au
or call 1300 650 153 (free call).

Very proud and privileged to be elected Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly during the first parliamentary sittings of the year.

I look forward to continuing my contribution to the Northern Territory in my new role as a presiding officer.

Parents with bubs & toddlers, I have reinstated the ‘Baby Room’ in my electorate office, so if you are down in the CBD and need to feed or change your baby, please feel free to come in and utilise the room.

Also.....for any printing needs for community and sporting groups, just visit the Greatorex Electorate Office and we will be happy to help out.

It was great as the Deputy Speaker to be a part of the St Phillips College year 11 legal studies youth parliament session in Alice Springs which was held at the Alice Springs Town Council Chambers.

Happy to sponsor and help out at the Junior Netball BBQ this month.

2015 Todd Mall Markets
June 7, 21
July 5,12, 19
August 2,16,30 Thurs 27 Night Market
September 13,27 Thurs 17 NM
October 11,25 Thurs 15 NM
November 8, 22 Thurs 12 NM
December 6,20 Friday 4 NM

2015 Heavitree Gap Markets
June 14, 28
July 26
August 9, 23
September 6, 20
October 4, 18
November 1, 15, 29
December 13

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