Terry Mills
Leader of the Opposition

Media Release

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REPUTATION ON FIRE

The Minister for Education, Marion Scrymgour, has been caught lying about the sacking of Education CEO Margaret Banks and must be sacked herself, says the Territory Opposition.

Margaret Banks told Leon Compton on ABC radio this morning that she was ‘advised by a public servant that Government did not want me in that position anymore and my contract would be terminated.’

“Marion Scrymgour has repeatedly claimed Margaret Banks resigned from her position as CEO of the Education Department when she knew that wasn’t true – her repeated public deception means she cannot remain Deputy Chief Minister,” says Terry Mills, Leader of the Opposition.

“Marion Scrymgour has breached the standards of integrity and honesty that Government Ministers need to maintain.

“Government Ministers resorting to lying in difficult circumstances is a cancer in our political system.

“The Chief Minister needs to cut this malignant growth out of his Government before it is terminal.

“Since squeaking back into office the Chief Minister has tolerated the Health Minister’s claims of ignorance about the nurse staffing crisis and the Essential Services Minister’s attempts to shift the blame for blackouts.

“Should the Chief Minister allow Minister Scrymgour to get away with blatantly deceiving the people of the Territory his last shred of authority will be gone.

“During her interview this morning Margaret Banks also made a number of important observations about how inept the Minister is.

“Ms Banks spoke of a vacuum between herself and the Minister and the difficulty in getting a meeting with the Minister.

“The Education Union has also had great difficulty in arranging meetings with the Education Minister.

“Education is too important to be left in the hands of a Minister that doesn’t want to engage with the Department’s CEO or the teachers union.”

Further comment: Terry Mills 0418833594