Territory Families Winners in Federal Budget

Northern Territory Treasurer, Delia Lawrie, said the Henderson Government’s new partnership with Canberra is delivering results for the Territory.

“The Rudd Government has delivered a budget that will benefit families all over the Territory,” Ms Lawrie said.

“Tax cuts, increased child care rebates, help with education costs and housing affordability initiatives will make life easier for working mums and dads.

“We welcome the inclusion of the Palmerston Super Clinic in this year’s budget.

“The funding from the Federal Government’s previous commitment to an oncology centre remains allocated under the Better Access to Oncology program.

“We welcome the establishment of the Office of Northern Australia and the $20 billion Building Australia Fund - both these initiatives present a great opportunity for the Northern Territory.”

The budget has also announced an extra 31,000 skilled migrant workers.

“The Territory’s strong economy means we are well placed to attract as many of these workers as possible,” Ms Lawrie said.

“The Rudd Government’s budget focus on education will provide new schools and more teachers for the Territory.

“These measures will help the Territory Government achieve our transformation of Indigenous education.”

The Rudd Government has committed $323 million to the Northern Territory Emergency Response in 2008-09.

These commitments include:

• $99 million over five years for 200 additional teachers for the Northern Territory.
• $90 million over five years for child and maternal health services.
• $56 million over four years for evidence based literacy and numeracy programs.
• $29 million over four years to establish three new remote boarding colleges.

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