Minister for Sport and Recreation Karl Hampton today called on aspiring NT elite athletes to apply for Northern Territory Institute of Sport scholarships.

Mr Hampton said the NTIS is currently accepting Individual Athlete Scholarship applications and urged athletes around the Territory to apply.

“These scholarships give athletes support to achieve at the highest level in their sports,” Mr Hampton said.

“Scholarship benefits include the use of NTIS facilities, including the gymnasium, support services in areas like nutrition and sports medicine and financial assistance.

“Some of our best known home-grown athletes such as Crystal Attenborough, Nova Peris, Kelly Fong and Olympian Desmond Abbott and Paralympian Melanie Hall are past scholarship recipients.”

Mr Hampton said three levels of sponsorship are available under the NTIS Individual Athlete Scholarship program:

- Elite – offered to the NT’s most outstanding athletes to enable them to realise their talent and to support continued achievement at the highest levels;
- Elite Development – offered to Territory athletes that have the potential to become Elite Scholarship holders; and
- Carbine Club development scholarships are offered to talented young athletes who demonstrate an outstanding ability to perform at the national level.

“The scholarships are only offered twice a year, and this round closes on 31 October 2008, so I’d urge Territory sporting clubs and athletes to put their names forward.”

Contact: Maria Billias 0401 119 746