Chief Minister Paul Henderson said today that he would move condolence motions in Parliament this week in memory of prominent Territorians, Sam Calder and Hilda Muir.

Mr Henderson said both made great contributions to the Territory and it was appropriate that these contributions were recorded in the Northern Territory Parliament.

“It is also fitting that the Assembly expresses it condolences and sympathies to the family and friends of these great Territorians,” Mr Henderson said.

The condolence motion for Sam Calder will be moved on Tuesday. The condolence motion for Hilda Muir is scheduled for Wednesday. A State Funeral has been held for Sam Calder and a State reception will be held for Hilda Muir.

Mr Henderson said Sam Calder, who passed away aged 92, was one of the founding fathers of the CLP who represented the Northern Territory in Federal Parliament for more than a decade.

“Sam Calder was elected to the House of Representatives in 1966 and held the seat until his retirement in 1980 and was instrumental in getting more representation for Territorians – both in Canberra and Darwin.

“Sam was also a war hero, a decorated war hero, flying some 120 missions during World War Two.

“He was a prominent businessman who helped found the most important airline in the Territory at the time, Connellan Airways, and a distinguished cricketer.”

Mr Henderson said a condolence motion would also be moved this week for “Aunty” Hilda Muir.

“Telling Hilda Muir’s story during the debate around the Labor Government’s apology to the Stolen Generations in 2001 was a highlight of my career.

“She was a wonderful woman who touched the lives of many Territorians.”

Born near Borroloola in 1920 to a Yanyuwa woman, Hilda was taken from her mother and moved to Mataranka and then Darwin, where she was housed at the old Kahlin Compound.

She fought for recognition for the Stolen Generations and, in 2000, was accepted by her Yanyuwa people as an owner and custodian of Yanyuwa Lands.

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