9 February 2008

Indigenous Affairs Advisory Council

The Northern Territory Government is pleased to announce the appointment of the Territory’s first Indigenous Affairs Advisory Council.

Indigenous Policy Minister Marion Scrymgour today congratulated the 13 members appointed to the Council.

“The Indigenous Affairs Advisory Council will play a crucial role in providing advice on further implementing Closing the Gap,” said Ms Scrymgour.

“More than 40 Indigenous Territorians applied to join the council allowing Government to appoint members with a wide range of experience across the community.

“I’m pleased to announce that Bess Price, a well respected Warlpiri woman has accepted my invitation to become Chair of the IAAC.

“Ms Price will be supported by Mark Motlop as Deputy Chair.

Other members of the council are;

Ms Lisa Mumbin – Jawoyn Accociation
Ms Pat Brahim - Julalikari Council
Mr Maratja (Alan) Dhamarrandji
Mr Ronald Lami Lami –
Ms Pricilla Collins - NAAJA
Mr Andrew Ross - DET Indigneous Priority Projects Unit
Ms Zania Liddle - Ti Tree Primary School
Ms Vanessa Harris –
Ms Laurie Magaldagie – Maningrida Child Safety Service
Ms Dhalulu Ganambarr –
Merrkiyawuy Ganambarr
Mr Robert Tipungwuti
Mr Tony Wurramarra
Lindsay Bookie
Mr Wali Wunungmurra

“Importantly there are also representatives from the four land councils, ensuring the IAAC will be a strong voice for Indigenous Territorians.”

The first meeting of the council will be held on the 23rd and 24th of February and the key point of discussion will be programs being implemented under the Government’s $286 million Closing The Gap initiative.
“The Northern Territory Government is committed to closing the gap of disadvantage between Indigenous and non Indigenous Territorians and the council will assist us in moving forward to improve the lives of Aboriginal people in the Territory.

“I welcome all of the members to the advisory council and look forward to meeting with them regularly.”

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