Territory Teachers Celebrate World Teachers’ Day

More than 3000 principals, teachers and school leaders today celebrate World Teachers’ Day, in staff rooms and at functions across the Territory.

At a World Teachers’ Day celebration at Wagaman Primary School Education and Training Minister Chris Burns praised the commitment and dedication of Territory teachers.

“World Teachers’ Day is a fantastic opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding contribution teachers make to the education, well being and development of our children,” Dr Burns said.

“There are many challenges that characterise the delivery of education in the Territory and I know our teachers provide inspiration, encouragement and guidance to young people every day.

“The Territory Government is committed to developing a Smart Territory, where everyone has the opportunity to fulfil their potential, and teachers are the key to achieving this goal.

“In recognition of this, the Henderson Government has delivered a record education budget of $930 million in 2011-12.

“Over the past ten years, we have delivered an additional 407 teaching staff for Territory schools, and invested in eight new schools across the Territory.

“The new Centre for School Leadership, Learning and Development at Charles Darwin University underpins our commitment to providing innovative professional development for teachers and school leaders in the Territory.”

Across the Territory, World Teachers’ Day culminates in the presentation of the Teacher in the Territory Excellence Awards.

Dr Burns said it was pleasing to see 63 nominations for the Awards this year, including 34 nominations for the prestigious Teacher of the Year award.

“The influence and work of a great teacher can stay with students throughout their whole lives, and I take this opportunity to wish all Territory teachers – past and present – a happy World Teachers’ Day,” he said.

Media contact: Lesley Major 0419 288 284
2011 Teaching in the Territory Excellence Awards winners

Primary Teacher of the Year – Jo Sherrin
Secondary Teacher of the Year – Judith O’Hearn
Principal of the Year – Karen Blanchfield
Northern Territory Award for Excellence in Teaching or Leadership in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education – Tim Webb
Support Staff Member of the Year – Aminah Djumadi

(Media Note: for contact with the winning nominees, please contact the Department of Education and Training – Lorelei Fong Lim on 0401118838)