Defence of Darwin Museum site confirmed

The Territory Government has today confirmed the site for the future World War II Defence of Darwin Museum at East Point, following feedback from the community.

Minister for Arts and Museums, Gerry McCarthy said the new Defence of Darwin Museum is a key component of the Government’s $11.5 million plan to commemorate the role of the Northern Territory in World War II.

“The bombing of Darwin and our role in World War II is hugely important to Territorians, and this project will ensure that history is preserved for locals and tourists for generations to come,” Mr McCarthy said.

“Last month, we asked Territorians for their choice of two locations at East Point, and 77 per cent said they preferred Site 1 which is located beside the existing Darwin Military Museum.”

Mr McCarthy said the call for community feedback built on extensive Government consultation on the museum with key stakeholders, including the involvement of the Advisory Group and Steering Committee in the museum’s design.

The Member for Fannie Bay, Michael Gunner said more than 120 submissions were received through community meetings, online feedback and written submissions.

“The new museum builds on what locals already love about East Point - its lifestyle and heritage,” Mr Gunner said.

Expressions of interest have been called to design and construct the Museum. Work is expected to commence on site in the first half of 2011.

Work on a $1 million upgrade to the Aviation Heritage Museum on the Stuart Highway is also well underway and scheduled for completion next month.

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