Eight July 2011

Alice Plays Host to National Indigenous Football Tournament

Twelve Indigenous football teams from across Australia converged on Alice Springs this week to take part in the Indigenous Football Festival.

Acting Sports Minister Rob Knight said the Northern Territory Government provided $225,000 over three years to the Football Federation Australia (FFA) for the Indigenous Football Festival to be held in Alice Springs.

"This funding helps bring the cream of Australia’s Indigenous soccer to the centre as part of plans to strengthen the world game in the Territory through partnerships with the FFA and Football Federation NT," Mr Knight said.

"Alongside events like the Imparja Cup, hosting the Indigenous Football Festival is another plank in making Alice Springs the hub of Indigenous sport in Australia.

“With its strong cultural significance and logistical advantages, Alice Springs is the perfect place to hold tournaments that bring together indigenous athletes from all corners of Australia and supports the growth of the great Territory lifestyle.”

The Northern Territory Government is a strong supporter of Football in Central Australia, the recent $500,000 upgrade to Ross Park and $65,000 to Football in Central Australia (FICA) for the purchase of a portable football arena for the ‘Street Soccer’ initiative are a testament to this.

“The potential for indigenous football in the Territory is huge.

“The NT Government supports the world game at all levels and is proud to be working with the FFA.

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