Mills takes care of mates while axing Territory icon

Opposition Leader Delia Lawrie exposed Terry Mills has the wrong priorities, taking care of political mates in plum jobs while axing the Arafura Games and sacking public servants.

Ms Lawrie said while the Chief Minister’s loyal mates are enjoying big pay packets, hardworking public servants are losing their jobs.

“In the lead up to the election, Terry Mills stood in front of a national audience and gave a guarantee that public servants would not lose their jobs,” Ms Lawrie said.

“Since the election we have heard 170 public servants have lost their jobs, across health, education, tourism and children and families.

“Temporary contract employees are being sacked, higher duties are not being paid and restructures are leading to more job losses in the public service.

“Terry Mills has been wielding the axe and now the much-loved Arafura Games has been chopped – a slap in the face to the thousands of locals who compete, volunteer and attend the games.

“It also comes at a time when we should be maintaining and further strengthening our ties with our Asian neighbours.

“The CLP froze public service recruitment right at the time when critical jobs would have been filled for the Arafura Games. Nine weeks on they’ve discovered their mistake and instead of stepping up to organise the Arafura Games they take a wrecking ball approach.

“The CLP are more interested in the blame game than getting on with Government.

“The Territory has benefited from the Arafura Games which has grown from 1500 competitors across 13 sports and seven countries in 1991 to more than 2000 competitors across 20 sports and 39 countries.

“The CLP are treating government like a corporation, putting profit before people. What they fail to understand is that government provides essential services to Territorians and the Arafura Games had fantastic benefits to the Top End.”

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Jobs under the CLP Government</th>
<th>Sacked, non renewals and redundancies of Public Servants under the CLP Government</th>
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</table>
| Neil Conn - Renewal Management Board Chair  
Ken Clarke – Renewal Management Board  
Alan Tregilgas - Renewal Management Board  
John Gardner - Renewal Management Board  
John Baskerville – Department of Housing  
Ken Simpson – Commissioner of Public Employment  
Tony Mayell – Tourism NT  
Peter Carew – Department of Business  
Bill Freeland - EPA  
Gary Nairn - Planning Commission  | CEOs  
Richard Galton  
David Richie  
Graham Symons  
Mark Sweet  |
| 4 new Board Members for the EPA  
6 new Board members for the Tourism Commission  
5 new Board members for the Planning Commission | Chairs  
Grahaeme Webb - EPA  
Judith King – Power and Water Corporation  |
| 84 staff members in the Health Department  
16 staff members from the Office of Children and Families  
20 staff from Tourism NT  
50 staff from the Department of Education | Jennifer Prince – Department of Health  
Jennifer Prince - Treasury |