MINISTER FOR CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR INDIGENOUS PRISON OFFICERS

30 August 2013

Minister for Correctional Services John Elferink has today congratulated the latest Indigenous students to qualify to train as Northern Territory Prison Officers.

Three students are graduating from the pre-Prison Officer in Training course run by the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education under the Government’s Indigenous Employment Program.

“These three students and their families can be very proud of their achievements so far in working towards becoming prison officers in the Department of Correctional Serves,” Mr Elferink said.

“A total of 22 applications were received for seven places on the 20-week course with our three graduates seeing it all the way through.

“I am particularly pleased to see that all three are committed to becoming prison officers and to be role models for indigenous people throughout the Territory.”

Mr Elferink said the graduates will next week join a Prison Officer in Training Course.

“This involves a further 11 weeks in the classroom followed by nine months on-the-job training in a prison.

“Successful completion will see them offered permanent positions as prison officers.”

Mr Elferink said that during the pre-employment program, participants completed a Certificate II in Community Services, fitness training, cross cultural and work readiness training.

“They also learnt about Prisoner Re-Integration, Sentence Management, Indigenous Support, Prisoner Property, Sport and Recreation and Prison Administration.”

Today’s graduates are Jesse Norris, Elliot Lewis and Taquila Derrington.

The graduation will take place today from 1:00-3:00pm at the Darwin Trailer Boat Club, Atkins Drive Fannie Bay. Media are invited to attend.

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