Nominations are now open for the 2014 Northern Territory Volunteer of the Year Awards.

“Today is International Volunteers Day and it’s a fitting time to reflect on the critical role volunteers play in delivering important services in our community,” Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

“Many sporting, recreational, cultural and emergency response organisations in the Territory could not exist without the efforts of volunteers. Their contribution cannot be underestimated.

“It is fantastic that so many people are willing to give up their valuable time for others and their hard work should be commended.”

2014 marks the 4th time the Volunteer of the Year Awards have been held. They are a collaboration between the NT Government and Volunteering SA/NT.

Nominations for the five main award categories open today and close on the 17th of March 2014.

- The Chief Minister’s Medal for Volunteering Achievement
- The Chief Minister’s Medal for Volunteering Service
- The Chief Minister's Medal for Emergency Service
- Volunteering SA/NT Award for Organisational Excellence (Small Organisation)
- Volunteering SA/NT Award for Organisational Excellence (Large Organisation)

Winners of the three individual categories will each receive $2500 to donate to a not-for-profit organisation of their choice. The winning small organisation will receive $3000 and the winning large organisation will receive $2000.

“In 2014, a new Certificate of Appreciation is also being introduced to allow organisations to acknowledge one of their volunteers and let them know their time and efforts are valued,” Mr Giles said.

Each organisation is able to nominate one person for one of these certificates between now and 31 March 2014.

The awards will be announced at private ceremonies in Darwin and Alice Springs during Volunteer Week in May 2014.

If you would like to say thanks to our hard working volunteers please visit http://dcm.nt.gov.au/volunteers or contact Volunteers SA&NT at NTvolawards@volunteeringsa-nt.org.au for further information.

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