MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

BIG PROGRESS FOR PALMERSTON CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE

4 March 2014

The Country Liberals Government continues to plan for the growth of the Northern Territory as the concrete slab for Palmerston’s $5 million Child and Family Centre (CFC) is poured today.

Five CFC’s across the Territory, four remote and one urban, have been funded by the Commonwealth Government through a National Partnership Agreement to support the families in our community.

Minister for Education Peter Chandler said Palmerston was chosen as the urban location because it is the Territory’s fastest growing region with many young families in need of improved services.

“Pouring of the concrete slab is literally laying the foundations for improved family services in the Palmerston region,” Mr Chandler said.

“Norbuilt Pty Ltd have been contracted to deliver the project and it is on schedule to be completed in June this year, which is an exciting prospect for Palmerston residents.

“With sales in the suburb of Johnston two years ahead of schedule and the final stages of Zuccoli to be released this year, the demand for services is only going to grow.

“The centre will have an indigenous focus and boost capacity across the region. Family-orientated services will be offered, including 50 childcare places, maternal and child health, child health checks and vaccinations.

“There has been widespread consultation with the community which has identified a number of key themes relating to well-being, empowerment and independence for families which I believe this centre can deliver.

“Consultation also identified a need for creating solid family foundations including meeting basic needs first, developing life skills such as good nutrition and providing a place for family play opportunities.

“50 extra childcare places will be welcomed by the community as securing child care places is something many families battle with.

“A public tender to manage and operate the centre will be put out prior to the completion of construction; all interested parties are encouraged to apply.”

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