NEW ONE-STOP LIBRARY CARD FOR NT

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Going to the library will be a lot easier for Territorians with the launch of a new one-stop library card.

Minister for Arts and Museums Matt Conlan welcomed the new scheme ‘Connect NT’, which will see one universal library membership to all libraries.

“This is an exciting initiative as it means greater access to public libraries right across the Territory,” said Mr Conlan at this morning’s launch of the new scheme at the Alice Springs Public Library with Mayor, Damien Ryan.

“The new Connect NT scheme will mean one card can be used at 11 libraries.

“For example, you could use your Alice Springs library card in libraries in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and elsewhere.

“The new one-stop library card will make life easier for all Territorians so if you’re not already a library member, become one today.

“It’s fitting that the new initiative is being launched during Library and Information Week, which celebrates the wonderful work that our libraries do for their local communities.

“Our libraries are incredibly popular with 34 per cent of Territorians public library members and over a million visits to libraries each year. The success of our libraries was recently demonstrated with the Northern Territory Library at Parliament House nominated for the final of Australia’s Favourite Library Award.

“The Territory Government strongly supports the development of libraries, providing over five million dollars in funding for library operations, collections and digital infrastructure in 2013-14.

“Today marks another step forward for Territory library services with the launch of Connect NT and I congratulate the councils, local libraries and Libraries NT for bringing this idea to fruition.”

Previously all councils and individual libraries had their own cards, meaning library-goers would have to sign multiple memberships to use different libraries.

Under the new scheme, current library card holders don’t have to change anything; their card will automatically become active on the Connect NT universal system.

The launch of Connect NT marks the start of Library and information week, which runs from 19-25 May. For more information on events see: www.alia.org.au/liw

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