Media Release

Matt Conlan
Minister for Tourism

TIME RUNNING OUT TO APPLY TO NEW TOURISM PROGRAM

8 June 2014

Time is running out to apply for the Government’s new $500,000 Tourism Infrastructure and Development Grant program.

Minister for Tourism Matt Conlan said since the announcement on Budget Day last month, Tourism NT has been inundated with inquiries from tourism operators around the Northern Territory wanting to improve their operations or get a new tourism experience up and running.

“It has been fantastic to see the high level of interest in this new program – it certainly shows that this type of Government support is welcomed by the industry,” said Mr Conlan.

“This $500,000 in funding is a significant investment in our tourism industry and shows this Government’s absolute commitment to helping the industry get back on its feet.

“We’ve had enquiries from operators wanting to improve existing infrastructure or looking at developing new concepts to improve the quality of experience guests could receive using the grant money. Operators are also looking at how they can use the funding on modern technology such as Wi-Fi infrastructure.

“This one-off grant program has a particular focus on regional and remote areas of the Territory which will help with our plans to develop Northern Australia. It will help grow new tourism experiences and businesses, which will help provide more jobs for Indigenous people in the bush.”

Examples of possible projects that could be funded under the new scheme include:

- Implementation of new technology to improve tourism experiences;
- Development of experiences that diversify options in the region such as niche experiences that target the high growth and luxury traveller like cruise, education, fishing and business events;
- Value adding to existing experiences with additional activities such as high quality interpretative or interactive signage;
- Infrastructure of access solutions on private land to encourage new markets such as the connection to essential services, infrastructure to support new markets like education, fishing or mountain biking.
“A total grant pool of up to $500,000 is available with one-off grants of between $25,000 and $100,000 on offer to successful applicants,” said Mr Conlan.

“Tourism businesses, clusters of tourism businesses and Local Government councils are eligible to apply for the grants with priority given to those who can demonstrate a commitment to the Government’s Tourism Vision 2020: Northern Territory’s Strategy for Growth.”

To apply and for more information go to: www.tourismnt.com.au submissions close 13 June 2014.

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