David Tollner, Member for Fong Lim
Minister for Business

**Mark Bouris and Michelle Bridges head the speakers list for October Business Month**

15 June 2014

Two of Australia’s most sought after business speakers will headline the Northern Territory Government’s October Business Month (OBM).

Mark Bouris, one of Australia’s most respected businessmen and Michelle Bridges, Australia’s leading personal trainer and an industry in her own right, head up a list of high profile speakers for the Territory’s premier business event.

Minister for Business, Dave Tollner, said this year’s October Business Month celebrates its 20th anniversary and is set to deliver a brilliant range of inspirational speakers and events.

“To mark the occasion, the Department of Business has joined forces with the Chamber of Commerce NT to deliver an even bigger OBM. This will provide an increased range of events across the Territory,” Mr Tollner said.

Mark Bouris, the brain behind Wizard Home Loans and Yellow Brick Road Wealth Management will deliver keynote speeches in Alice Springs and Darwin to kick off the month on 1 October.

Michelle Bridges will speak at events in Darwin on 7 October and Alice Springs on 8 October.

In addition, National Australia Bank’s Head of Social Media and Digital Integration, Roger Seow will speak at the Katherine Gala Business Dinner on 4 October. Roger leads the promotion of NAB’s social media agenda in partnership with the bank’s internal and external stakeholders.

Peter Blasina, best known as TV’s ‘Gadget Guy’ will be the keynote speaker at the Tennant Creek Gala Business Dinner on 25 October and in Alice Springs OBM event on 27 October.

The Darwin Gala Business Dinner on 15 October will feature Mark Beretta from Channel 7. This will be an excellent networking opportunity. Mark is well known to Territorians through his television appearances on Sunrise and his sports commentaries.

Mr Tollner said the speaker line up indicates just how far the October Business Month had come from its humble beginnings.

“The first OBM was held in 1994, meaning it’s been around as long as the Deckchair Cinema and Parliament House.”
“The first one attracted 699 attendees to 12 events. Now we have almost 10 times as many people and events. Last year more than 6600 attendees enjoyed a great range of business conferences, seminars and networking opportunities.

“The fact October Business Month has stood the test of time is evidence to its ability to keep itself relevant and delivering quality events that are valued by the business community,” Mr Tollner said.

“A large range of Territory businesses throw their support behind OBM, and this year’s list of corporate sponsors further shows how valuable OBM is to the business community.”

Images and further bios of speakers available on request.

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