Matt Conlan
Minister for Tourism

**New tourism internship program**

22 July 2014

Minister for Tourism Matt Conlan today announced that Group Training Northern Territory (GTNT) will manage a new tourism internship program aimed at rejuvenating the tourism industry.

“This is a fantastic program that was announced as part of the 2014-15 Northern Territory Budget and is aimed at getting fresh, enthusiastic people into the tourism industry,” said Mr Conlan.

“Tourism is a great industry, but it can be extremely hard to break into, which is the reason behind the Government’s move to create these tourism internships.

“The goal of the program is to provide opportunities to work within the NT tourism industry and gain skills through meaningful experience that will lead to on-going employment and a career path within the industry.

“Tourism NT has set aside $150,000 for GTNT to secure the co-operative and financial support of tourism organisations with the breadth and depth of operations to provide a broad range of work experience opportunities for program participants.

“The program will run for a period of 18 months. The primary objective is to equip interns with knowledge and skills gained from on-the-job learning; however, the opportunity to enhance this experience through concurrent study in a related discipline may also be considered.”

The target group is:

- Year 11 and 12 students
- School leavers
- People who have completed tertiary courses such as Tourism Certificate II and III
- Local residents
- Persons seeking a career change

GTNT will employ the interns and act as the lead organisation working closely with Tourism NT and participating tourism employers to achieve agreed outcomes.
Participating tourism employers will be expected to contribute to the salary of the interns and provide job tasks for the internee for at least three months in line with a learning development plan developed in consultation with the employer.

This program is one of numerous new strategies aimed at returning the industry to growth, helping to develop Northern Australia and delivering a $2.2 billion visitor economy by 2020.

For more information employers please contact GTNT recruitment on 89800600 or see the GTNT website: www.gtnt.com.au

Media Contact: Lisa Andrews 0401 579 963