John Elferink, Member for Port Darwin

**Territorians have got the skills**

16 September 2014

A selection of our most talented local trade and skill technicians will compete in the 2014 WorldSkills Australia National Competition – ‘The Ultimate Skills Challenge’ to be held in Perth, 18-20 September.

Member for Port Darwin John Elferink met with the team last night to farewell them and present competitors with their team uniforms.

“Each member of Team NT will represent the Territory on the national stage after their medal winning performances in the 2013 round of WorldSkills Australia Regional Competitions,” Mr Elferink said

“They represent some of the best young talent we have in a wide variety of skills areas – including cookery, electrical, tourism, hospitality and hairdressing.”

Team NT will face three days of competition with up to 30 of their peers from interstate, each in pursuit of a gold medal and the title of ‘Nation’s Best’. The technical and skills tasks are judged by industry experts.

In addition to competing for the gold medal, the competitors will also be vying for a coveted position on the 2015 Team Australia Skillaroos who will head to São Paulo, Brazil to represent Australia at the 43rd WorldSkills International Competition.

The WorldSkills Australia National Competition is our nation’s largest and most prestigious trade and skill competition. It provides a platform for our competitors to test their skills, meet like-minded individuals and prove their commitment to their skill.

Medallists of the national competition will be announced on 21 September at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Competitions such as WorldSkills demonstrate the variety of skills that can be learned through VET. Territorians have one of the highest rates of VET participation in Australia.

“With so many eyes on Northern Australia now, this competition offers these young Territorians an opportunity to shine and be noticed,” Mr Elferink said.
“I congratulate the competitors on getting this far and wish them all the best in their competitions in Perth.”

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