Media Release

Bess Price, Member for Stuart
Minister for Women's Policy

**World Indigenous Domestic Violence Conference breaking barriers**

8 December 2014

Minister for Women’s Policy, Bess Price, has today opened the World Indigenous Domestic Violence Conference in Cairns.

The event theme is *A Brighter Future* and is designed to be the largest international gathering of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people with an interest in stopping domestic and family violence within Indigenous communities.

The aim of the conference is to provide an open and frank forum for discussion and to showcase successful programs which have led to positive impacts and outcomes within communities.

“The conference provides a unique opportunity for a wide range of delegates from all over the world to share their experiences and ideas on how to combat domestic violence,” Mrs Price said.

“The level of violence in our communities is unacceptable and an issue we cannot remain silent about.

“There is still a perception amongst some that violence against women and children is a right.

“Family and domestic violence has serious and long-lasting consequences and is a cycle that needs be broken.

“We need everyone to understand that violence isn’t the way. It is a conversation we must continue to have for the sake of our families and friends.

“I hope events such as this one will bring together men, women and organisations as a strong, united voice against domestic and family violence.”

The World Indigenous Domestic Violence Conference will run December 8-10 in Cairns.

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