17 March 2015

CONGRATULATIONS TO HANNAH SEANIGER, A NHULUNBUY REAL ESTATE AGENT WHO HAS WON A PRESTIGIOUS TOP PLACE AT THIS YEAR’S NATIONAL REAL ESTATE INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

Leader of the Opposition Delia Lawrie today paid tribute to Hannah and her team at the East Arnhem Real Estate for being named National Small Agency of the year.

"This is the first time an NT business has won this award, so that makes it really special," Ms Lawrie said.

“Like all in their community, East Arnhem Real Estate’s owner Hannah Seaniger and her two colleagues have had to overcome major setbacks to win the award.

“The November 2013 announcement of the shutdown of Rio Tinto’s local alumina refinery by August 2014 saw the local economy and population contract. It was the major employer in the town employing the bulk of the working community.

“The population of Nhulunbuy has fallen from 4000 to around 1500-1800 since then. Rio Tinto itself estimated that the closure would take around $300 million out of the local economy.

“East Arnhem Real Estate needed to adapt to the shrinking local economy and changing population demographics while striving to retain a viable business that can continue to support the community through their property management and realty sales service.

“Hannah was cheered on by the two tables of Territory representatives at the awards in Perth last Thursday night.

"I add my hearty congratulations and best wishes for the future to Hannah and the whole Nhulunbuy community. This is a shining example of excellence in adversity."

Owner Hannah Seaniger is in Darwin until Friday 20 March for media interviews.

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