Statement: Nepal earthquake

28 April 2015

The Territory is pitching-in to help victims of the Nepal earthquake including the deployment of medical personnel to the emergency zone.

I’m sure I speak for all Territorians when I say that I have been shocked by the extent of the damage and loss of life in the earthquake.

I can confirm a doctor from the Royal Darwin Hospital has been deployed as part of a small number of medical personnel by the Australian Government to assist health coordination and needs assessment in Nepal.

The National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre was tasked by Australian Government to put together the medical needs assessment team.

Dr Brian Spain is a specialist doctor who is expected to arrive on an ADF aircraft in Kathmandu on Thursday.

He will join a doctor from Western Australian in assessing the medical needs on behalf of the Australian Government.

Dr Spain is a specialist anaesthetist who has worked at Royal Darwin Hospital since 1997.

He was previously deployed with the Australian Medical Assistance Team to the Philippines in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan in 2013.

He also played a critical role in the response following the 2002 and 2005 Bali bombings and has a wealth of experience working and teaching in South East Asia.

The National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre remains on standby to deploy an AusMAT at the direction of the Australian Government.

I am advised by Police that all Territorians known to be in Nepal have been accounted for at this stage.
The Government’s thoughts go out to all those in the Nepalese community who are waiting for information about loved ones at home.

I had the opportunity to catch up with representatives of the Nepalese Association of the NT last night and express my condolences.

On behalf of all Territorians, I made a $10 000 donation to their appeal which is being run in conjunction with Darwin Community Arts.

They’re accepting donations through the Nightcliff Community Bank- Bendigo Bank. (Please see flyer attached below)

BSB: 633-000

Account Number: 138452412

Reference: Unite for Nepal

The group is also running a fundraiser at the Filipino community hall in Marrara from 5pm on Friday and I’d urge people to go down and get involved.

I encourage all Territorians to dig deep and give generously to this and other appeals to assist those desperately in need.

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Nepal Appeal Flyer