Joint Media Statement

2 November 2015

Tennant Creek’s new sporting facilities now open

RESIDENTS gathered today to celebrate the official opening of Tennant Creek’s Regional Sporting Facilities with a community style BBQ and old fashioned pool party.

Assistant Minister to the Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack said the Australian Government provided $3.6 million towards the $4.55 million upgrade of Tennant Creek’s regional sporting facilities.

“This is another example of the Australian Government’s commitment to work with local government to build productive infrastructure for communities right across Australia,” Mr McCormack said.

Northern Territory Senator Nigel Scullion said that the community was eager to try out the new regional aquatic centre and modernisations at Purkiss Reserve.

“These new facilities will support youth and family activities and assist council in encouraging healthy and active lifestyles within the community,” Senator Scullion.

“Projects just like this highlight the importance of governments and local businesses working together to deliver grass roots community infrastructure.”

Northern Territory Minister for Infrastructure Peter Chandler said works at the aquatic centre included a major upgrade of the main swimming pool.

“New ‘Learn to Swim’ and toddler’s pools with shade structures were constructed allowing our younger residents to enjoy swimming in age-suitable environments,” Mr Chandler said.

President of Barkly Regional Council Barb Shaw said the Purkiss Reserve change rooms were completely refurbished and now include a first aid area and office and administration space.

“The addition of a canteen with servery, storage refrigeration and food preparation equipment will make a huge difference to the services we can offer the community who utilise the sporting facilities at Purkiss Reserve,” Ms Shaw said.
“Twenty-five new jobs were created during the construction with another five ongoing jobs created as a result of the project bringing a welcome boost to the region’s economy.”

The project was jointly funded by the Australian Government which provided $3.6 million, the Northern Territory Government contributed $679,350, the Barkly Regional Council provided $250,000 and local businesses invested $20,000.

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