Peter Styles
Minister for Senior Territorians

**Independent Retirees launch Northern Territory branch**

26 November 2015

Independent Retirees living in the Northern Territory now have a collective voice on issues which directly affect them.

Minister for Senior Territorians Peter Styles hosted the launch of the Northern Territory Association of Independent Retirees (AIR) at Parliament House today.

“This is an important day for Independent Retirees who live in the Northern Territory,” Mr Styles said.

“Until now the national organisation has been represented in every other Australian State and Territory except the NT.

“I am looking forward to listening to and working with AIR on issues that relate specifically to self-funded retirees to ensure those citizens can happily enjoy the golden years of their lives here in the Northern Territory.”

AIR will specifically address issues relating to Independent Retirees including members of the community who no longer work but do not qualify, or only partly qualify for the pension.

The man behind the Northern Territory AIR branch and Independent Retiree himself, Ken Moffitt, set about forming the division after discovering its existence everywhere else across the country.

“I thank Minister Styles for hosting today’s launch event, it is fantastic to have the support of the Northern Territory Government,” Mr Moffitt said.

“I am passionate about assisting Self-funded Retirees to enjoy the benefits of living in the Territory while ensuring their unique needs are addressed.

“This will complete the map for AIR across Australia, it will give Independent Retirees in the Territory a voice and we will for the first time be able to look at local issues specifically affecting us.

“The local branch will look at the impacts of policies from all levels of government, we’ll also have a say on a national level through the national body of the Association.
“Some of the main issues we are facing relate to the cost of living in the Territory and it is estimated that with every retired, self-funded couple who leaves to live elsewhere, the loss to the Territory economy is approximately $2.5 million.”

The launch was also an opportunity to call for registrations, while the inaugural AIR meeting will be held in early December after which the committee is likely to be formed.

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