The Northern Territory celebrate International Women’s Day

7 March 2016

International Women’s Day is celebrated annually across the world on 8 March.

The 2016 International theme is ‘Pledge for Parity’. 

International Women’s Day is a time to recognise and celebrate the achievements of women towards gender equality in the Northern Territory and across the globe.

Minister for Women’s Policy Bess Nungarrayi Price said “International Women’s Day is a day to look back on past struggles and accomplishments and for looking to the untapped potential and opportunities that await future generations of women.

“In the Northern Territory we are proud of our strong women. We are striving for parity but we know that it will only be achieved by continuing to support and build strong Territory women.”

Already, 25 International Women’s Day events around the Territory have been registered with the NTG Office of Women’s Policy.

15 of these events have been made possible through the Office of Women’s Policy’s International Women’s Day Grants Program.

In Darwin the City of Palmerston, City of Darwin and the United Nations Association of the NT have partnered with the Northern Territory Government to ensure International Women’s Day celebrations will be bigger and better than ever.

Lord Mayor Katrina Fong Lim said “Council was proud to continue their involvement in International Women’s Day.

“One woman who epitomised Strong Women, Strong Territory was Robyn Lesley. Robyn was the Councillor who brought the International Women’s Day March to Darwin in 2009. She was always a great advocate for women’s rights,” said Lord Mayor Katrina Fong Lim.

“I encourage the whole community to come along to the march and join in the conversation on social media with #topwomen,” added the Lord Mayor.
“The City of Palmerston is excited to partner in this important event for the first time. Palmerston is proud to be home to many vibrant women who are active in the community, working hard to help make our city a great place to live. Many people understand that gender equality is not just a women’s issue, it’s a human rights issue, an issue for all of us. It’s wonderful to see so many people across the Territory celebrating and advocating so that our children and grandchildren can live in a gender equal world,” said City of Palmerston Mayor, Ian Abbott.

The annual walk and expo which begins and ends at Parliament House will take place on Saturday 12 March, 2016. It is a free event open to all members of the community.

In Alice Springs, Tangentyere Women’s Safety Committee have partnered with Alice Springs Women’s Shelter to hold the International Women’s Day – Arele Mob Carnival to be held at Stuart Terrace Lawns. Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA) will be broadcasting from the lawns from 10:00am helping to celebrate with Central Australian women.

Back in Darwin, 2016 is the first year that the International Women’s Day celebration in Darwin will be led by Larrakia women from Larrakia Nation. The short walk through the Darwin CBD will begin with a smoking ceremony and a didgeridoo ceremony from Larrakia Nation.

The expo to follow in the Main Hall of Parliament House will include inspiring speakers, morning tea, entertainment and kids’ activities.

Participants are encouraged to wear purple in solidarity in support of gender equality and to celebrate the achievements of women.

In Darwin free public transport to the event is offered from 7.00am to 5.00pm on the day to participants holding an International Women’s Day flyer (available online at www.women.nt.gov.au).

At the expo, staff from the Office of Women’s Policy will be wrapping arms in purple tape to celebrate women and offer 2 for 1 or 50% off entry to the AFL NT Women’s and Girl’s Grand Final that same day at TIO Stadium.

Minister Price will present the TIO NTFL Senior Women’s Premiership Flag and Medallions this Saturday 12 March 2016 at approximately 6:15pm alongside AFLNT CEO Mr Michael Solomon.

The Northern Territory Government is proud to support International Women’s Day by providing grants to organisations and community groups across the Territory to hold events that communities can participate in to celebrate the day.

To find or register an event, go to women.nt.gov.au

Territorians are encouraged to use the hashtag #topwomen to share photos and posts to celebrate women and International Women’s Day throughout the first weeks of March.

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