Inaugural Women’s Consultative Council appointed

25 May 2016

Minister for Women’s Policy Bess Price today announced the women who will form the inaugural Northern Territory Women’s Consultative Council (NTWCC).

The NTWCC has been established to provide Territory women with a means of engaging directly with government on issues affecting their lives.

Minister Price said the members of the NTWCC were chosen from a large volume of high calibre nominations from all over the Northern Territory.

The members are:

- Ms Kathryn Ganley – Chair (Darwin)
- Ms Samantha Bowden – Deputy Chair (Darwin)
- Ms Helen Nyomba Gandanu (Galiwinku)
- Ms Bridget Riggs (Darwin)
- Ms Tou Samarat Ruchkaew (Darwin Rural)
- Ms Donna Digby (Alice Springs)
- Ms Cecilia Alfonso (Yuendumu)
- Ms Preeti Kotwal (Katherine)
- Ms Kathy Burns (Tennant Creek)
- Ms Anna Davis (Darwin)
- Ms Suzi Hullick (Darwin)
- Ms Valerie Dearman (Alice Springs)

Minister Price said the NTWCC would consult with NT women to identify local issues and priorities for women and then advise government.
“Direct community consultation is essential to the development of government policy, programs and services,” she said.

Minister Price said it was important to ensure NTWCC reflected the diversity of the Territory community, with members from all regions.

“The NTWCC is made up of rural, remote and urban women from all walks of life and occupations who are strategic thinkers and leaders in their communities,” she said.

“The benefit gained from including the knowledge and experiences of diverse women will be shared across all government departments in the Territory.

“All Territorians have a role to play in our future and the NTWCC is a tangible way to do just that.”

The NTWCC has been established under the Government’s *Northern Territory Women 2015-2020* strategy

The NTWCC will meet no less than two times a year in addition to out-of-session work as required.

Members of the NTWCC will serve for a period of two years. They are not paid positions but are eligible for reimbursement of travel and expenses.

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