Adam Giles  
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory

**STATEMENT: Federal Election**

3 July 2016

I remain hopeful the Coalition will form a majority government.

Malcolm Turnbull and Barnaby Joyce offer the best leadership for Australia with a positive plan for jobs and growth.

It's disappointing the scare campaign by Labor and the unions on Medicare influenced the result because even Labor commentators admitted it was a blatant lie. It was particularly effective around Palmerston, where it scared young families into thinking Medicare was under threat.

There's no doubt this contributed to the big swing against the Coalition in the Territory.

I also recognise that past issues within my Government had an impact on the Country Liberals’ campaign. The Nathan Barrett affair surfaced at a crucial time during the campaign and that changed people’s votes.

But I continue to maintain the view that Territorians and Australians are fed up with the politics of personalities and the poor behaviour of individuals. They want us to rise above that and focus on developing and implementing good policies.

We have learned from these issues. We are now a smaller but stronger team who listens to our voters.

We have the best economic plan to support education, jobs and health in the NT.

I congratulate Nigel Scullion on being returned as a Senator for the Northern Territory and know that he will continue to be a strong advocate for the Territory in Canberra.

I would like to thank Natasha Griggs for six years of good service and wish her well for the future.

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