Corporate talk takes on new dimensions in Yarning Circle

MORE than 150 local business people, the Chief Minister and most of the NT Cabinet attended the Chamber of Commerce’s Business at Sunset event hosted by Charles Darwin University. The university’s acting director for Central Australia Lyle Mellors said it had been a delight to welcome the Alice Springs business community to the campus.

“This is the second year that the CDU Alice Springs business team has hosted this important networking event to coincide with October Business Month,” Mr Mellors said.

“Last year we hosted it in our training restaurant where I shared some of the history of adult education in Central Australia and our predecessor organisations.”

This year CDU chose to host Business at Sunset on the lawns surrounding the Yarning Circle.

“The Yarning Circle was built 18 months ago as a consequence of a discussion between one of our Community Services lecturers and a group of indigenous students. The discussion centred on how much teaching and learning takes place sitting around a campfire talking and how that is much better than sitting at a table within the confines of the four walls of a classroom,” Mr Mellors said.

“This Yarning Circle is significant to all of us who have experienced the companionship and sharing that takes place in the outdoors around the campfire circle of learning. The concept is very much like business at Sunset; getting out of the confines of the office, or the workshop and meeting in an informal setting with other business people to learn from each other.”

Mr Mellors said the Chief Minister spoke very highly of Alice Springs and assured everyone of his Government’s commitment to growing and supporting Central Australia.