Kate Worden, Member for Sanderson

**Bringing Back the Arafura Games – Territorians Have Their Say**

14 February 2017

The Territory Labor Government is delivering the election commitment to bring back the Arafura Games – which was scrapped by the former CLP Government - and will listen to Territorians’ views and then take action.

Assistant Minister for Bringing Back the Arafura Games, Kate Worden, said a consultation process kicked off this week, providing the community and stakeholders an opportunity to have their say on the size and scope of the 2019 Arafura Games.

“Territorians deserve a Government that listens and consults before taking decisive action – it’s one of the ways we are restoring trust in Government,” she said.

“We are listening to key stakeholders and the public to better understand their values, issues and vision for the future Arafura Games.

“There were over a thousand volunteers involved in previous games and they, along with various community, multicultural and sporting groups, will provide valuable insight into how best to bring back the Games.”

Ms Worden said the Games delivered social and economic benefits to the Territory – including building stronger personal relationships with our Asian neighbours – and there was strong community anger when it was scrapped in 2012.

“There are a number of ways Territorians can take parting in bringing back the Arafura Games including by attending a consultation hearing, providing feedback online, or by making a written submission,” she said.

“All feedback received will be provided to the Arafura Games Steering Committee, who will then make a recommendation to Government about the size, scope and timing of the Arafura Games.

“The Arafura Games Steering Committee will also deliver to Government the proposed philosophy and guiding principles for the 2019 Arafura Games.”

The Arafura Games Steering Committee is Chaired by the Assistant Minister for Bringing Back the Arafura Games Kate Worden and includes the Darwin Lord Mayor, the CEO of the Chamber of Commerce, the General Manager of the Northern Territory Major Events Company and key NT Government department representatives.

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