CO-OPERATION PAYS DIVIDENDS

The Territory Government has welcomed the announcement of a Federal Government commitment to increasing health services at Wadeye.

Territory Health Minister Dr Peter Toyne said $393,174 per year has been committed to fund the provision of a doctor and two Aboriginal health workers/community health workers.

“This is an example of how the Territory and Federal Governments can work together with the community to improve health systems in remote areas,” Dr Toyne said.

“We have been discussing this with the Federal Government, AMSANT and ATSIC for over a year and we’ve worked together to identify priorities for the allocation of new money in this area,

“This is a fine example of the spirit of co-operation and an illustration of what can happen when Governments work with communities on planning and setting priorities.

“The Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory (AMSANT) and ATSIC should be commended for their outstanding contribution to this project.

“Improving remote health services is a part of improving the whole health system.

“Looking after the bush helps the Territory move ahead.

“The Building Healthier Communities framework identified building better partnerships to ensure identified health and community services needs unique to the Territory are satisfactorily addressed and resolved and that is just what is happening here.

“This Government keeps its promises – that’s why there are more than 100 more nurses in our health system across the Territory,” Dr Toyne said.

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