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Ah Kit welcomes participants in 3rd Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre Certificate Course

Darwin this week is hosting a leadership course critical to the future of Australian Indigenous people, Minister representing the Chief Minister on Indigenous Affairs, Mr John Ah Kit, said today.

"The future for Indigenous Australia is contingent on good leadership, and I warmly welcome the 24 young men and women who have come to Darwin to undertake the 3rd Australian Indigenous Leadership Certificate Course. Every state and territory is represented here, including three people from the Northern Territory.

"The course is a gruelling one for the participants, with eight days of up to 12 hours a day covering a huge range of topics from corporate and financial governance, to strategic planning media and communications strategies as well as management theory and practice," Mr Ah Kit said.

Mr Ah Kit particularly praised the contributions of local and national business groups in supporting the certificate course.

"The law firm, Cridlands, has assisted with the provision of conference facilities, and Horwaths and CSM have also provided sponsorship in hosting a corporate lunch for the students. It's great to see local firms putting their resources into an activity such as this which is such a great investment in the future for all of us. Nationally the Corporate Good Works Group and Citigroup are national facilitators and sponsors of this great program.

"Indigenous leaders have a huge task before them. Indigenous Australians have to demonstrate leadership at many levels, where often local leadership at the community and organisational level is crucial. This course is designed to provide the kinds of skills necessary to leaders from the community to the national level. I congratulate the Australian Leadership Centre for its work.

"The networking and friendships the students will be able to put together this week will be an invaluable investment for their futures, wherever they will be able to bring their new found skills to bear."

Northern Territory participants are Damien Loizou, Tanyah Nasir and Dale Pascoe.