Country Liberal Party
Election 2005
First Job Program for Territory Employers

Executive Summary

For the Northern Territory to have a secure economic future, we must overcome the problem of keeping people here in the Territory and attracting interstate families to come and live here and take up employment. There is a well recognised shortage of skilled people in the Territory and little has been done by the current Labor government in overcoming this hindrance to the growth of our economy.

The latest data from the ABS show that there was a net loss of 1,500 people from the Northern Territory last year and the 2005 Budget estimated that there was a loss of 1,300 jobs. For the Territory to grow we must reverse this trend and the Country Liberal Party has a comprehensive plan to both keep people here and ensure that they are attracted to gaining employment in the traditional trade and trainee jobs and to attract people from interstate to come and work and live here.

The First Job Program is an innovative raft of initiatives designed to overcome shortages of skilled workers and also to provide the best opportunities for those people wanting to take up a traditional trade or traineeship. Our policy will provide the necessary measures to increase employment, skill our own and grow the Territory’s population.

The Country Liberal Party will reinvigorate the real engine and spirit of the Territory – the entrepreneurial and pioneering ‘go get ‘em’ attitude that was once prevalent but is now suppressed by this government.

The Country Liberal Party will put the energy back into the Northern Territory.