AH KIT WELCOMES MCCARTHY AS CANDIDATE FOR ARNHEM

Member for Arnhem and outgoing Minister for Community Development John Ah Kit today welcomed the preselection of Barbara McCarthy as the seat’s Labor candidate in the next elections.

“I’m very happy that she had the guts to put her hand up—happier still that the Party’s admin committee showed such solid support for such a strong candidate,” said Mr Ah Kit.

“Barbara has always shown a passionate commitment to the place of her birth—the Northern Territory—and is a proud Yanyuwa woman.

“While she has made her mark as a journalist and broadcaster, her capacity for grass roots understanding of Territorians has been marked by her work with the community in the Borroloola region.

“Her immediate and extended family has strong social and cultural links with the electorate of Arnhem.

“She has been a great role model for Aboriginal people—especially girls and women—and her decision to enter politics will enhance that reputation.”

Mr Ah Kit said that he would be working with Ms McCarthy from now until election day to ensure that Arnhem would continue to have a strong voice in the Martin Labor Government.

“I’ve done ten years in the Territory parliament, and as I explained a few weeks ago, it was time for me to have a long spell in the paddock,” he said.

“But there’s still much to be done in moving the Territory ahead.

“But it’s great to know that, in Barb, the tradition of Aboriginal representation in the Legislative Assembly for Arnhem—22 years so far—will be in good hands.

“I am sure people of good will from all sides of politics will join me in congratulating Barb, and wishing her and her family all the best in the coming months.”

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