Labor’s new Member for Casuarina and the Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment, Housing, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs, Kon Vatskalis will today deliver part of his first speech to the Territory Parliament in Greek.

Mr Vatskalis emigrated from Greece in 1983.

His First Speech breaks new ground for members of migrant communities addressing the parliamentary institutions in their native tongue.

"I wanted to deliver part of my first speech in Greek as a recognition of my place of birth and as a recognition of the contribution Greek migrants have made to the development of Darwin," Mr Vatskalis said.

"I chose a passage from Pericles- his famous speech on democracy- to read to the parliament in my native tongue.

"That passage is also my recognition of the democracies of Australia and the Northern Territory.

"In this speech I was determined to link both my place of birth and the place I call home.

"This seemed to me to be the ideal way of bringing those together,"

Mr Vatskalis told the parliament of his long held desire to come to the Northern Territory- almost from the first day of his arrival in Australia.

"I was taken to a movie called We of the Never Never," he said.

"I was amazed.

"I sat in stunned awe all the way through this movie.

"I had never dreamed that such a place of extraordinary beauty and culture could exist.

"I said to my friends then "I want to visit that place some day".

"Now, here I am a member of its parliament and a minister in its government.

"Life can be quite extraordinary."