Chief Minister, Clare Martin, today met with Macquarie Bank, one of the country’s largest financial institutions, and a number of their key investment clients during day two of the Territory Government’s Investment Attraction Campaign in Sydney.

"Macquarie Bank has a long history of doing business in the Territory and are one of the banks involved in financing the Alice to Darwin railway," she said.

"The company is interested in future partnerships with the Territory and they wanted to know about upcoming projects and opportunities.

"Macquarie Bank has a strong track record of Public/Private Partnerships and today we discussed areas where they could possibly increase their involvement in the Territory - Australia’s new frontier."

Ms Martin yesterday outlined the Territory Government’s support for public/private partnerships as guest speaker at the National Infrastructure Summit.

Last night the NT Government and Pasparley Pearls hosted a successful cocktail reception for current and potential investors in the Territory.

NT Chamber of Commerce President, Bruce Fadelli, said the campaign had "gone very well."

"The calibre of people that attended the meetings - particularly yesterday with the Australian Business Limited Boardroom - was excellent with many people showing interest in entering the Territory market." he said.

Ms Martin said that the Territory marketing into New South Wales had raised awareness of the business and lifestyle opportunities available in the NT.

"Unfortunately many Australians have misconceptions about the Territory and this investment tour is designed to break those down and create new investment, jobs and business opportunities," she said.

"It has been pleasing to hear people - ranging from taxi drivers to hotel staff and business people - say that they have noticed the Territory’s advertising campaign.

"I am confident this campaign will lift the profile and understanding of
what is on offer in the Northern Territory – Australia’s New Frontier."

Ms Martin also spoke to transport companies today and conducted interviews with national and local (NSW) media. The Chief Minister returns to Darwin tonight.

The investment tour, advertising, video, booklet and other marketing tools have been allocated more than $500,000 from the 2003/04 budget.

The Territory web-site <www.theterritory.com.au> has also been upgraded to include relevant information for anyone interested in living, working or investing in the NT.