1 February 2005

TERRITORY TEACHERS REGISTERED

All of the Territory’s more than 3000 teachers have met today’s cut-off date to apply for registration with the newly established Teacher’s Registration Board, Employment, Education and Training Minister Syd Stirling said today.

“In keeping with a Government election promise, all teachers in the Territory are now required to register with the independent board, ensuring that we are able to maintain the best possible standards in our teaching profession,” Mr Stirling said.

“This is good news for teachers, for students and for the wider community.”

Mr Stirling said the registered teachers included government and non-government educators, relief teachers and office-based staff who hold teaching qualifications.

To achieve registration, each applicant was required to provide proof of their qualifications and university grades and underwent a criminal history check.

“The Territory Government established the new Teacher Registration Board at the request of teachers and teachers’ unions in order to promote teaching in the Territory as an attractive employment option and to regulate the profession on behalf of teachers,” Mr Stirling said.

“The Board will help protect the teaching profession and ensure that teachers in the Territory are teachers of quality who will have a positive impact on the educational outcomes of our young people.

“The Territory Government values the role of teachers in our community and we want to ensure that standards in the profession are maintained for the sake of teachers and students alike.”

Of the 12-member Board, ten members will be either teachers or educators representing teacher employers, teacher unions, indigenous teachers, parents, Charles Darwin University, Batchelor Institute and teacher professional associations.

It is now an offence to knowingly employ unregistered people to teach in the Northern Territory.

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