NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT
MEDIA RELEASE

September 26

Dr Chris Burns
MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Aboriginal Health Worker Excellence Award

The Health Minister Chris Burns is calling for nominations for the inaugural Aboriginal Health Worker Excellence Award.

“These awards will celebrate the unique and vital role of Aboriginal health workers and promote workplace excellence in the delivery of health care services throughout the Territory,” Dr Burns said.

The awards are being run in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Darwin Sunrise.

Club president Sandy Oldroyd said vocation is one of the four avenues of service that Rotary International actively promotes.

“Aboriginal health workers play a pivotal role in the delivery of health care services and many other important and necessary roles such as research, education and/or community development,” she said.

“The Rotary Club of Darwin Sunrise is proud to be associated with these awards.”

Dr Burns said it was significant that an organisation such as Rotary had thrown its weight behind the awards.

"Rotary plays a vital role and is a respected and well-known organisation that promotes and recognises workplace excellence."

The awards are open to all health staff registered with the Territory’s Aboriginal Health Workers Registration Board.

The awards have three specific categories – Remote, Urban and Other.

“The inclusion of the other category will enable the nomination of registered Aboriginal health workers, who are not directly involved in health service delivery,
but who work in other important roles such as research, education or community development,” he said.

“I encourage anyone who knows of, or has come into the care of, one of these outstanding health professionals to submit their details and help recognise their dedication.”

Winners will be announced at a ceremony on Friday 24 November 2006.

Nomination forms are available from – www.health.nt.gov.au and must be received by October 19.