Budget 2007 continues the Martin Government’s commitment to secure and grow the Territory lifestyle through strong support for and celebration of the Territory’s culture.

Minister for Arts and Museums, Marion Scrymgour, and Minister responsible for Libraries, Elliot McAdam, said that recording, preserving and celebrating the Territory’s culture is an important responsibility of Government.

“We live in one of the most vibrant parts of Australia which reflects both an ancient culture as well as modern cultures from all over the world,” said Minister Scrymgour.

“The Territory is well placed to provide a major influence to the nation’s cultural mix,” said Minister McAdam. “But to do so requires strong Government support and the Martin Government in Budget 2007 provides that support.”

SUPPORT FOR 27 LIBRARIES

Budget 2007 provides 27 public libraries and knowledge centres with financial support. These include Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Nhulunbuy, Katherine, Jabiru and Palmerston Libraries.

This year financial support will amount to $4 million.

SUPPORT FOR MUSEUMS

Budget 2007 will include:

- $12.3 million to the Museum and Art Gallery at Bullocky Point;
- $4.3 million for the Araluen Arts precinct in Alice Springs; and
- $642,000 for the Strehlow Research Centre in Alice Springs.
SUPPORT FOR THE ARTS

Arts sponsorship in the Territory will amount to $5.5 million in 2007-08. This sponsorship will provide:

- Arts NT grants
- NT Film Office grants
- Public Arts grants

SUPPORT FOR TERRITORY FESTIVALS

The celebration of Territory life is reflected in many festivals and events across the Territory.

Financial support and in-kind support at varying levels is provided to:

- The Darwin Festival
- The Katherine Flying Fox Festival
- The Alice Springs Beanie Festival
- The Seabreeze Festival in Nightcliff
- The Jabiru Mahbilil Festival
- The Garma Festival
- The Gove Peninsular Festival
- The Desert Harmony Art and Cultural Festival

PRESERVING THE TERRITORY’S HERITAGE

Budget 2007 provides support for the Territory’s heritage.

“Preserving the past is an important part of understanding both who we are and where we are going,” Minister Scrymgour said.

“Budget 2007 provides $365,000 for heritage grants to be distributed and $1 million for the repair and maintenance of heritage sites,” she said.

$1.2 million is provided for heritage conservation which includes the Heritage Advisory Council.

“The Martin Government’s support for the Territory’s culture is an important part of securing the Territory lifestyle now and into the future,” Minister McAdam said.

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