EARLY INTEREST IN CONVENTION CENTRE

Work may only be in the early stages on the Waterfront Convention and Exhibition Centre but there is already strong interest from those who book venues.

Chief Minister Clare Martin met with interstate convention planners at the Waterfront today to let them know what to expect when the convention centre opens in 2008.

“The Waterfront Convention and Exhibition Centre will be a big drawcard for Darwin and we have to get in early to make the most of it,” Ms Martin said.

“We have to get the people who book conventions and exhibitions in Darwin so they can see what our venue and city have to offer.

“The convention centre will provide a top class venue with more than 4000 square metres of exhibition space.

“The footprint of the convention centre will be 9,600 square metres, with a total building area of 22,900 square metres.

“But we have to offer our visitors more if they are to stay longer.

“They won’t have to look far, as soon as they walk out of the convention centre they’ll be greeted with restaurants, shops, a water recreation area and a wave pool.

“We also have to let them know about our wonderful lifestyle, the national parks in our own backyard and other tourist attractions.

“I’d like to congratulate the Northern Territory Convention Bureau for organising this visit in close collaboration with the future operator of the convention centre Ogden IFC.

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