Ede to Canberra

Territory Labor Leader Brian Ede leaves today for Canberra to hold discussions with new Federal Treasurer Ralph Willis.

Mr Ede said that he would be discussing the forthcoming Federal Budget, the continuation of the Wran Committee’s work and prospects for Economic Development in the Territory.

"The statement yesterday by Dr Williams the head of Australian National Railways that a Working Party would be established to seek private investment in the railway is great news."

"This is the first positive result from the Wran Committee and we must keep up the pressure."

"It is not going to be easy to get the Canberra hardheads to put up $500 million. We have to demonstrate the viability of the project and its essential place for long term Territory Development."

"We must capture a portion of the Australia Asia trade task to open up regular shipping links to Asia. This will provide the impetus for very substantial growth of primary and secondary exports from North and Central Australia into Asia.

Mr Ede leaves on the 1.05pm flight today and will meet with Mr Willis tomorrow morning and fly back to the Territory on Saturday.

Ends.

13 January 1994

Contact G Roche ph. 817 666