It is an exciting time for Infrastructure with projects being advertised, works commencing and projects finishing all over the Territory.

I was thrilled to open the refurbished Greatorex building in Alice Springs, which is now home to 240 Police officers, announce the commencement of stage 3 and 4 of the Alice Springs Youth and Community Centre and officially launch the commencement of construction on the NT Open Education Centre.

We are a government focused on building the Territory and these are just a few of many projects that are aimed at making lives simpler for all Territorians.

In October 2014, the Department of Infrastructure implemented the Indigenous Employment Provisional Sum on all DoI construction tenders over $500 000 (Tier 4 and Tier 5).

Your feedback during the regional Procurement Workshops on this initiative was appreciated and to hear your concerns regarding the procurement process was beneficial to the department.

The regional Procurement Workshops were a great success thanks to all staff involved. I value all of your hard work and look forward to hosting these again in the near future.

The department is committed to improving employment opportunities and outcomes for Indigenous Territorians and this initiative is progressively contributing to real employment outcomes. Over 136 tenders have been released, totalling over $687 million. A portion is being contributed to the Indigenous Employment Initiative.

Lastly, I am heading off on leave from 6 July 2015 to 14 August 2015 inclusive. Brett Brogan will be Acting Chief Executive during this period. If you have any issues I encourage you to contact Brett via the Chief Executive office on 8946 5157.
Palmerston Road Projects

Palmerston Road and Cycle Path
Upgrades in 2015-16 include:

- Extension of the Tiger Brennan Drive off-ramp to Roystonea Avenue;
- Duplication between Roystonea Avenue and Gurd Street including upgrading the Temple Terrace intersection;
- Elrundie and Bonson Avenue intersection upgrade; and
- Continuation of the Lambrick Avenue cycle path.

The civil infrastructure upgrades aim to create greater capacity on Palmerston roads and reduce traffic queuing at peak periods.

The Tiger Brennan Drive off-ramp to Roystonea Avenue project will extend the current off ramp by 525 metres. The increase in length will improve road safety and traffic management, and increase capacity for future growth in the area. A contract is scheduled to be awarded in July 2015, with completion anticipated in December 2015.

The civil infrastructure upgrades to Gurd Street and upgrade of the Temple Terrace intersection will relieve queuing at the intersection through additional turning and through lanes. The project is currently in design, a tender is scheduled to be released in July, with completion of the works anticipated in March 2016.

Elrundie and Bonson Avenue intersection upgrade will see the construction of a left turn lane into Bonson Avenue, resurfacing of the intersection and four new street lights to improve lighting around the intersection. The project is currently in design, and is expected to release a tender in August 2015. Completion of the upgrade is scheduled for November 2015.

The continuation of the cycle path along Lambrick Avenue will link the existing cycle path on Howard Springs Road to the Lambrick Avenue cycle path, which currently ends at the Roystonea Avenue and Lambrick Avenue intersection. The project is in the final stages of design, the construction works are expected to commence in August 2015.

V8 Supercars another huge success

Tiger Brennan Drive - Hidden Valley Bridge works were programmed to ensure no disruption to the V8 Supercar event.

This year’s race goers enjoyed the same easy access as they did in past years.

Hidden Valley Bridge was restored to pre-construction status prior to the V8 Supercars coming to town. As with every year, event traffic management provided organised direction for all event visitors.

The Amy Johnson Avenue exit was well used, and the bus services ran smoothly from the Mud Racing Association entry / exit.

The temporary road detour, which was decommissioned during the event has now been reinstated.

Bridge works have recommenced and again there will be minimal disruption to motorists.

Tiger Brennan Drive Update

The Tiger Brennan Drive Duplication is well underway, with works clearly visible to passing motorists, as the Project team take advantage of the dry season.

Works around the Hidden Valley Bridge area are progressing well, in preparation for switching traffic onto the new bridge ramps mid-August 2015. This will allow the completion of the new bridge and road section underneath.

Clearing along the total alignment is almost complete with the removal of the rocky hill sections well underway. Teams have established themselves along the majority of the works now, with drainage, electrical and earthworks all taking place concurrently.

The final Road Package section RP1, Woolner Road to Bowen Street, is under review for award. This takes the project’s major procurement packages awarded to date to 14, with five remaining for advertising or award, over the coming months. Outstanding are landscaping, pavement Seal and Asphalt, 11kV electrical works, Water, Sewer and Telecommunications relocations.
Indigenous Employment Program

The Department of Infrastructure continues to develop its capacity to employ Indigenous Territorians. The department will work with the Department of Corporate and Information Services (DCIS) to deliver another Technical Indigenous Employment Program for five Indigenous Technical Trainees through the Northern Territory Government’s Indigenous Employment Program, commencing in July 2015.

DCIS’ Indigenous Employment Program is specifically designed to attract Indigenous jobseekers through a 20 week pre-employment program which provides participants with skills relevant to entry level positions, and incorporates a Certificate II in Resources and Infrastructure Work Preparation. DCIS also delivers a Business Administration program for whole of government, with successful applicants to complete a Certificate III in Business Administration.

Recruitment commenced with a community information session which was held in mid June and attracted 105 Indigenous Territorians seeking employment with the Northern Territory Government. Thirty eight applications were received for the Technical Indigenous Employment Program and a further 53 for the Administrative Entry Level placements.

Participants who successfully complete the Technical Indigenous Employment Program will commence with the department as T1 Technical Trainees and will have an opportunity to be seconded to a contractor to further develop their skills and knowledge of government and industry.

For further information please contact Tracey Mehonoshen
Indigenous Employment and Training Coordinator Phone: (08) 8946 5012, or Email: tracey.mehonoshen@nt.gov.au

Richardson Park

The Richardson Park project is moving forward with the next steps in the process being consultation with key stakeholders from the Department of Sport and Recreation, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Touch Football and Soccer.

The Northern Territory Government has committed $20 million through Budget 2015-16 to expand facilities and seating capacity at the facility to support national events.

The investment will provide additional spectator capacity and facilities, upgraded lighting, car parking, a new field and media / corporate areas.

The Department of Infrastructure has prepared concept drawings below for the proposed redevelopment as part of the consultation with user groups. A tender for the design and construction is anticipated to be released in the first quarter of 2016.

Galiwinku Cyclone Recovery Update

30 temporary homes for 300 residents have now been occupied in Galiwinku. They were supplied by Northern Transportables with community members moving into the last 12 homes in August this year.

Families have moved back into nine homes that have been substantially repaired by Delta Reef Gumatj and a further 31 homes will progressively be repaired between now and the onset of the wet season.

Tenders for the first package of 20 new homes are being assessed and the department anticipates that some of these homes will be complete by the end of this year.

An interdepartmental working group is considering the most effective way of configuring construction of the remainder of the replacement homes to maximise local employment, training and economic development.
**First Quarter Staff Recognition Award Winners – January to March 2015**

The Department of Infrastructure continues to recognise and reward outstanding staff contributions that support the Department’s Strategic Plan and Values.

The department is pleased to announce the winners for the first quarter individual and team awards.

**Winner Individual Award:**
Mark Taylor - Director Building Maintenance and Minor Works

Mark was nominated for his extraordinary commitment to managing the recovery efforts post Cyclone Lam in three communities Galiwinku, Ramingining and Millingimbi. Mark led a group of project managers and contractors to conduct aerial and ground level inspections and assessments. Mark arranged the removal of trees and debris from these communities and made housing assets and schools safe and watertight without a bulk of materials which had not yet arrived.

**Winner Team Award:**
Civil Design Darwin

The Civil Design team were nominated for showing a superior level of commitment and dedication to their roles to ensure a continued high standard of service delivery. The Civil Design section is a service delivery team that provides assistance to all staff and clients on all matters regarding project design.

All quarterly award recipients will be evaluated to determine the Annual Awards recipient for an individual and a team. The Annual Awards recipients will be announced at a morning tea during December which will be hosted by the Chief Executive or an Executive Director within the agency.

The second quarter award winners will be announced in July 2015.

Nominations are open to both internal staff and external clients all year and can be made at any time via the online nomination form.

The link to the nomination form can be found on the department’s home page under the tab called Staff Recognition Awards. [http://www.nt.gov.au/infrastructure/awards/index.shtml](http://www.nt.gov.au/infrastructure/awards/index.shtml)

**Tier 3, 4 & 5 Contract Award Data**

During the period 1 July 2014 – 31 May 2015 a total of 363 quotations and tenders were awarded across all Tier 3, 4 and 5 for a total value in excess of $480 million.

96.54 per cent of all tenders awarded by the Department of Infrastructure between 1 July 2014 and 31 May 2015 were to local Northern Territory (NT) companies. NT businesses were awarded 98.89 per cent of the value of all tenders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier 3, 4 &amp; 5 - All Public, Select Tenders and Quotations</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>$ Value</th>
<th>% Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Territory</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>$474 982 158.60</td>
<td>96.54%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interstate</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>$5 353 264.23</td>
<td>3.46%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>98.89%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

376 Tenders were awarded up to 31 May 2015. 58 tenders were awarded during the month of May 2015.

453 Tender were advertised up to 31 May 2015, with an estimated value of more than $737 million.

**DoI Procurement Industry Workshops**

June saw the department visit each region to deliver Procurement Workshops to Industry.

Key elements of government procurement and procurement stage 2 reforms were covered.

Department of Infrastructure initiatives that were also discussed included:

- Referencing Contractor Accreditation Limited (CAL);
- Indigenous Participation on Construction Projects;
- Managing Contractor Contracts; and
- Sub-contractor protection.

**Contacts**

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