IT’S PAYDAY FOR CYBER SQUATTERS
David Tollner MLA
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The Northern Territory Government has paid $100,000 to purchase three domain names from an unidentified company in a move that is not only an exorbitant waste of taxpayer money but also encourages cyber squatting.

Shadow Tourism Minister, David Tollner, said Tourism NT paid a king’s ransom money for the domain names ‘tourismnorthernterritory.com.au’, ‘tourismnorthernterritory.com’ and ‘northernterritory.com’.

“This purchase will encourage every computer geek in the country to register names with a Northern Territory Government connection,” Mr Tollner said.

“I asked the Tourism Minister, Malarndirri McCarthy, whether paying $100,000 to a cyber squatter was the best way to spend taxpayers’ money.

“I was concerned she said she makes no apology for enticing people to the Northern Territory.

“It’s disturbing that this includes encouraging cyber squatters to register a domain name safe in the knowledge that the Territory Government will take the bait and pay top dollar for it.

“It’s also disturbing that the Government’s culture of cover-up extends to protecting the identity of cyber squatters whose only talent is dreaming up names and demanding ransom money.”

(Transcript attached)

Further comment: David Tollner 0414 690 109