Paul Henderson
CHIEF MINISTER
Malarndirri McCarthy
MINISTER FOR STATEHOOD

31 December 2010

100 years of the Territory, over 50,000 years of stories

Chief Minister Paul Henderson and Minister for Statehood, Malarndirri McCarthy, today encouraged Territorians to get involved with commemorations to mark the Territory’s 100th birthday.

“On 1 January 1911 South Australia surrendered the Northern Territory to the Commonwealth,” Mr Henderson said.

“And 100 years ago Darwin officially was named Darwin.

“Although self-government would take another 67 years, this moment marked the beginnings of the Territory we know today.

“Therefore 2011 will be a special year for all Territorians – a time to reflect on the past, to acknowledge how far we have come as a community over the past century and to think about how we can work together to make the Territory an even better place to live.”

A new logo to commemorate the centenary has also been designed by three Territorians artists.

“The theme of the centenary is ‘100 years of the Territory, over 50,000 years of our stories’,” Ms McCarthy said.

“Indigenous artists from Central Australia and the Top End have contributed to the logo that will be used to signify events marking the centenary commemorations.

“The Centenary will also be an important opportunity to progress work towards becoming the 7th state in the Australian Federation.

“The new Northern Territory Constitutional Convention Committee is preparing for a major Constitutional Convention to be held in Darwin in 2011,” Ms McCarthy said.

“To prepare Territorians for this significant event, 50 forums were held across the Northern Territory in 2010 as part of an information road show.”

Ms McCarthy said events and activities to mark the Centenary will be held throughout 2011 and people would be asked to reflect on what the centenary means to them through art, music, dance and time capsules.

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