Minister for Central Australia, Karl Hampton, today congratulated everyone involved in the successful Alice Springs summer school holiday program.

“The holiday program has been well attended and has seen some very positive results for our town.” Mr Hampton said.

“The final event last Friday night, the Cops N Kids Bluelight Splash Party at the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre, saw a record crowd of 395 young people enjoying the evening.

“Overall, the variety of activities on offer throughout the summer holiday season have been well attended with more than 300 people attending most Bluelight Splash Party Discos, and many enjoying the Dive in Movies and Skate Jam with friends and families.

“The popular Cops and Kids Basketball on offer every Thursday and Friday nights also saw up to 150 young people at each event.

“This year the holiday program provided the kids with transport home at the end of the night events, ensuring the safety of young people.

“Activities at the Centralian Middle School were also popular and included hip-hop and drama workshops, sports and even zumba classes.

“I applaud the collaborative efforts of the various government and non-government agencies such as the Alice Springs Youth Hub, Northern Territory Police, YMCA, Alice Springs Town Council, Tangentyere Youth Services, Neighbourhood Watch and Stuart Rotary.

“These organisations and the staff involved were the backbone to ensuring the activities on offer ran smoothly for many young people to enjoy.

Mr Hampton said the Northern Territory Government committed an extra $60,000 to support the wide range of activities aimed to better engage young people over the holiday period in our community.

“I look forward to hearing back from all parties involved in the delivery of such a positive program and any recommendations they may have for the future direction of youth holiday programs in our town.

“The increased effort to provide a coordinated summer holiday program was a key action identified by the Alice Springs Community Action Plan, is an important part of the Alice Springs Youth Action Plan and contributes to the Territory 2030 target of ensuring that Territorians have access to a wide range of facilities and activities that enhance the Territory lifestyle.”

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