Media Release

Peter Chandler, Member for Brennan
Minister for Education

**NTOEC designer appointed**

6 October 2014

Leading Australian and international design consultant MODE Designs has been selected to design the brand new, purpose-built NT Open Education Centre (NTOEC) after a competitive tender process.

The new facility will be co-located with Darwin High School and has been backed by an $11.6 million investment from the Territory Government in partnership with INPEX’s Ichthys LNG project.

Minister for Education Peter Chandler said the concept designs are very striking and portray an image of what will be a modern, state-of-the-art facility.

“The NTOEC is an essential part of Territory education that uses the latest technology to remotely deliver lessons to over 600 students from right across the Territory,” Mr Chandler said.

“With the Country Liberals Government’s push to improve outcomes in our bush schools the centre’s role will become increasingly important.

“Many remote schools rely on the NTOEC to effectively deliver a wide ranging secondary program. I’ve always said we cannot put the best science teacher in every remote classroom but we can use technology to achieve the next best thing.

“Preliminary designs propose a 2,100 square metre facility over three levels with the latest technological capabilities integrated into the design. This is a far-cry from the centre’s original home which was a retrofitted and run down office building.

“For the first time the students from the NTOEC will benefit from a purpose built facility that is co-located with a full-service secondary school, allowing collaboration between teachers and students during the residential component of their courses.

“This new arrangement is not only a long time coming, with many unfunded promises from previous governments, it will ultimately lead to improved outcomes for students.
“The Country Liberals have consistently invested in areas of proven effectiveness as we look to turn around 11 years of declining results, attendance and government school enrolments.”

Detailed designing will now commence with construction to begin in April 2015 and the new NTOEC should be operational for Semester Two 2016.

Image of winning design attached.

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NTOEC