Jodeen Carney
Shadow Attorney-General,
Shadow Minister for Justice, and Health

Federal Govt push to improve doctor recruitment welcomed - $9.4 million commitment to new organisation

24 November 2004

CLP Shadow Health Minister Jodeen Carney said the Martin Government has failed to show a genuine commitment to the new General Practice and Primary Health Care NT organisation launched by CLP Member for Solomon, David Tollner, today.

"The Federal Government has provided $9.4 million over three years to General Practice and Primary health Care NT showing its very real commitment to the new organisation, but apart from words it seems the Territory Government has provided little else," Ms Carney said.

"The organisation was created by the merger of the NT Remote Health Workforce Agency and General Practice Divisions NT.

"Both these organisations were funded by the Australian Government to undertake programs related to General Practice and Primary Health Care and the merger offers new opportunities for an increasingly comprehensive and responsive health care system in the Northern Territory.

"The federally funded organisation has already facilitated a successful workshop developing ways to improve recruitment and retention of General Practitioners in the Northern Territory, particularly in remote areas.

"This is an area that the Territory Government has failed to deliver meaningful results in with staff shortages across the board."

Ends