23 May 2005

BUSINESS ROUND TABLE MEETS IN ALICE SPRINGS

Treasurer Syd Stirling and Business Minister Paul Henderson will co-chair tonight’s meeting of the Government’s Business Round Table in Alice Springs, which coincides with the Community Cabinet visit to the region.

Sixteen Alice Springs business people are attending the meeting, which is the fourth so far this year.

“The Chief Minister, Clare Martin, established the Business Round Table to give all Territory businesses, regardless of their size, the chance to talk directly to Government Ministers about any issues affecting their operations,” Mr Stirling said.

“More than 400 people have attended a Business Round Table meeting since they were established in 2001, and we are looking forward to hearing first-hand from tonight’s participants about issues relating to running a business in Alice Springs.”

The Business Round Table participants come from a range of businesses, including a camera shop, an electrical/whitegoods store, the real estate sectors, and the engineering, manufacturing and automotive industries.

The skills shortages, tourism development and land release are just some of the topics expected to be discussed.

“The Business Round Table is another way the Martin Government is backing Territory business,” Mr Henderson said.

“These meetings are a really useful avenue for the Government and business operators to keep in touch, and I encourage all business people to consider attending a meeting in their region this year.”

The next Business Round Table meeting is scheduled for Darwin in June, and will have a special focus on the business and professional services industry sector.

Business people interested in attending future meetings can register at the BRT website, www.businessroundtable.nt.gov.au, or by phoning 1800 193 111.

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