Minister’s Message

Over the past few weeks I have been proud to officially open a number of completed infrastructure projects around the Territory.

Students now have access to a safe and clean environment for preparing and eating meals thanks to the rebuilt $1.2 million Batchelor Outdoor Education Centre Dining Hall.

The dining hall will cater for up to 100 people, in addition to the existing outdoor dining hall capable of holding 70 people.

I travelled to Borroloola to officially open the upgraded primary and secondary school campuses, the new built for purpose facilities are being enjoyed by both students and teachers.

The $1.2 million was committed to the Borroloola School project by the Northern Territory Government to meet the needs of the additional students as part of the Remote Schools Attendance Strategy.

I am proud to be the Infrastructure Minister in a Government that is building a better Northern Territory.

Chief Executive’s Message

The department has finalised end of financial year results with 96.5 per cent of our contracts being undertaken by local companies delivering a spend of over $515 million.

There were also over 948 contracts released to market during this period, an increase of over 190 additional contracts for the previous financial year. So far for July, the department has set a new record with over $44 million spent to-date delivering the Northern Territory Government’s Infrastructure Program and I look forward to what will be achieved next month.

Over the last four weeks, the department has released its weekly tender editorial in the NT News Business section where the release of weekly tenders and contract awards are being advertised. If you have not seen this I encourage you to have a read and provide your feedback to feedback.doi@nt.gov.au.

I would like to congratulate the industry nominations for the upcoming Australian Institute of Project Management Achievement Awards and the Master Builders 2015 Excellence in Building and Construction Awards. Good luck. We will be at the awards so please come by if you would like to discuss our projects.

I have enjoyed my time caretaking the position of Chief Executive in David’s absence and look forward to his return on 17 August 2015.
Tiger Brennan Drive Dumps the Dirt

In May, the Tiger Brennan Drive Duplication project team were approached to donate unneeded fill for the construction of a BMX Pump Track.

The new mountain bike pump track is located at the Charles Darwin National Park and opened in June 2015.

In addition to the fill, the project team were able to donate the use of excavation machinery, which would usually be used to level new roadways.

In total, 40 truckloads of dirt and an excavator were used to build the track. The project team and the Department of Infrastructure were pleased to be able to assist the community with this request.

Alice Springs Police Station

The Department of Infrastructure is pleased to announce the completion of the new Alice Springs Police Station.

This project was designed and constructed by two companies local to Alice Springs; Zone A, an architect firm who designed the state of the art facility; and Asbuild who undertook construction, which commenced in mid-December 2014 and was completed at the end of June 2015.

NT Police are currently in the process of occupying the new Police Station and it is expected to be fully operational by the end of August. Moving into the new facility is being staged to ensure current operations of the NT Police are not impeded.

Chief Minister Adam Giles and Police Minister Peter Chandler opened the new Alice Springs Police Station on Friday 3 July 2015. Chief Minister was quoted as saying “the current government is protecting the community by providing modern 21st century policing facilities” and Minister for Police was quoted as saying “he was delighted to see that state of the art security systems had been included in the project in order to keep the community and the police officers safe”.

The successful completion of this project was a joint operation with multiple NT Government agencies including Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services, Department of Corporate and Information Services, Department of Infrastructure and Power and Water Corporation. The Department of Infrastructure worked meticulously with Asbuild to ensure the project was completed within the allocated budget and to meet the quality standard of Police.

NT Police have expressed their excitement to utilise this new facility and have made reference that this Police Station is to be used as the new benchmark for Police throughout the Territory.
Galiwin’ku Update

The Department of Infrastructure on behalf of the Department of Housing is managing the reconstruction of 80 dwellings in the Galiwin’ku community. Infrastructure in Galiwin’ku received severe damage from Tropical Cyclones Lam and Nathan. Over 81 dwellings were damaged beyond economical repair, rendering more than 300 residents homeless.

Over $50 million is being invested in the community to construct 80 new dwellings, 40 of which are to be completed in one year under the Fast-Build Program and the remaining 40 houses built over four years through a Slow-Build Program.

To provide immediate relief, 30 transportable homes were constructed in Galiwin’ku, to replace the Camp Elcho temporary accommodation. A further 12 transportable homes supplied by Northern Transportables will be installed in August to assist with transitional housing during the first phase of housing reconstruction.

The Department of Infrastructure advertised a tender for the construction of 20 houses in Galiwin’ku in May 2015, as part of the Fast-Build Program to deliver the first 40 houses within one year. A strong field of 14 tenders was received from industry and as a result of a careful evaluation process; two tenders were accepted, each for the rebuilding of 20 three bedroom houses.

One contract was awarded to a Yolngu business partnership, DRG Industries. DRG Industries is an East Arnhem based business with a strong track record of employing and training local Yolngu workers and will also be sourcing materials from the region including locally harvested and milled timber and manufactured blocks. The award of this contract to an East Arnhem Yolngu business partnership supports the Northern Territory Government’s commitment to real jobs for local people and will build regional capacity, providing jobs and skills in manufacturing and construction supply industries.

A second contract was awarded to Ngarda Civil & Mining. Ngarda has operated in the Territory for six years, has a track record in training local workers, and has experience building houses in remote communities. The engagement of Ngarda will ensure the delivery of homes faster in Galiwin’ku and bring significant strength to the housing program.

Options are now being considered to deliver the Slow-Build Program to maximise employment opportunities for the Galiwin’ku community.

Cycle Paths – Casuarina and Lee Point

The Casuarina foreshore path between the Rapid Creek Bridge and Trower Road is being upgraded to improve ride ability and all weather access for cyclists and pedestrians accessing the Charles Darwin University and the Casuarina and Nightcliff areas.

The upgrade will see a new bitumen sealed pavement, line marking, new rails and bollards when completed. The path will also be widened and strengthened; new drainage structures will be installed in various sections to allow water to flow under the path, reducing the risk of flooding on the path during the wet season. The upgrade will also include a new bridge and decking on the two floodway sections of the path that lead to the Charles Darwin University. Construction work commenced on 25 May 2015 and is expected to be completed by the end of August 2015.

Upgrades to the Lee Point beach and WWII site area will see the cycle path and walking tracks improved to provide better access to the beach, picnic areas, and the WWII watch bunker.

The cycle path and walking tracks are used by locals and tourists visiting the area for recreational activities. The construction works commenced in June and are expected to be completed by mid-August 2015.

$350 000 has been allocated to the upgrade which includes a new concrete path section near the bunker; and installation of drainage structures and concrete spillways to improve access during flooding. Between the bunker and the Lee Point turn around road, approximately 600 metres of track has been built up and reformed to improve ride ability along the track. A new rest area has also been installed in the natural shaded section of the track.

Access to the beach will be improved with a new concrete path from the car parks to the beach. The northern most access to Lee Point beach will include a new built up path across the low lying area to provide improved access through the natural pooling water. The picnic area will be graded to level the ground and improve the drainage, followed by re-grassing.
Tier 3, 4 & 5 Contract Award Data

The 2014-15 financial year saw a total of 422 quotations and tenders awarded across Tiers 3, 4 and 5 with a value in excess of $533 million.

Over 95 per cent of tenders awarded by the Department of Infrastructure between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2015 were to local Northern Territory (NT) companies. NT businesses were awarded 98.33 per cent of the value of all tenders.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Tier 3, 4 &amp; 5 - All Public, Select Tenders and Quotations</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>$ Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Territory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interstate</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>$8,905,201.23</td>
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422 Tenders were awarded up to 30 June 2015. 46 tenders were awarded during the month of May 2015. 514 Tender were advertised up to 30 June 2015, with an estimated value of more than $997 million.

CCFNT Earth Awards

CCFNT Earth Awards were held on 17 July 2015, at the Darwin Convention Centre.

The awards, held each year, recognise and acknowledge excellence in the civil construction industry. Awards included:

- Trainee and Apprentice of the Year
- Business Development Award; and
- Earth Award for Excellence in Civil Construction.

The Department of Infrastructure congratulates Drew Thomas, on winning the Indigenous Technical Trainee of the Year Award. The department also nominated Kayanne Shower for the First Year Apprentice Award; and Neville Muggeridge for the Mature Age Achiever Award.

Downer EDI Works were awarded the Earth Award for projects in the category of $2 million to $10 million, for the Department of Infrastructure’s Hidden Valley Race Track Resurfacing Project. Within four days 39,000 sqm of race track was resurfaced using specialised plant from interstate.

The plant enabled the project to achieve the mix and quantity of asphalt required for the tracks new surface. Complexities with the project included strict time frames set by the client and the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS), which stipulated a 60 day no use period after completion of the works.

Is your project here???

On a quarterly basis the Department of Infrastructure publishes the Construction Snapshots.

The publication lists major Northern Territory Government and private sector projects that are ‘works expected to commence’ or ‘works in progress’.

Construction Snapshot has been designed primarily for electronic viewing and each quarter is available at: http://www.nt.gov.au/infrastructure/publications/snapshot/index.shtml

The publication also gives you the opportunity to provide input and feedback on current and relevant information about issues affecting the industry.

The June edition of Construction Snapshot provides an overview of construction industry activity as at 30 June 2015 and focuses on Northern Territory projects valued at greater than $500 000.

Over 100 projects were featured with a combined value of $2.06 billion of works in progress across the Territory. Since it was published, projects valued in the region of $169 million have been completed.

For more information or to provide input and feedback, email: constructionsnapshot.ntg@nt.gov.au, or phone: 8999 4743 or 8924 7303 during business hours.

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