

Luncheon for Australia's Biggest Morning Tea
SPEECH by His Honour Mr Tom Pauling AO QC
Administrator of the Northern Territory
Government House – 7 July 2009

Ladies and Gentlemen, this is my opportunity as Administrator of the Northern Territory to thank you for your efforts in 2009 on behalf of the Cancer Council.

Over \$60 million has been raised since the campaign for “Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea” first began in 1994. Last year, a staggering ten million dollars were raised.

This year, dozens of Northern Territory individuals and organisations joined in. From Stiletto Slurpers to Mad Hatters and Palmerston’s Hungry Hearts; from the 1st Aviation Regiment to ConocoPhillips and ISAS. And, of course, once again there was huge support from the Greek community.

Venues varied too. There were schools in Nhulunbuy, shopping centres in Alice Springs, electoral offices, homes and business premises and the temple lawns at the Chung Wah Society.

An estimated 111,000 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in this country in 2009 and more than 42,000 people will die from it. But on the positive side – in excess of 60% will survive more than five years after diagnosis and the survival rate for many common cancers has increased by more than 30% over the past twenty years.

This is why your efforts are so highly prized as much needed funds benefit research, prevention, education and support services. I thank you all.