

ADDRESS BY  
HIS HONOUR MR TOM PAULING AO QC  
**ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**  
ON THE OCCASION OF  
**OFFICIAL OPENING OF RED CROSS TRAINING CENTRE**  
Darwin Plaza, Darwin  
20 August 2008

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It is a great pleasure for me, and for Mrs Pauling as the Patron of Australian Red Cross NT, to welcome you here this evening.

Australian Red Cross has been helping local communities help themselves across this land for ninety-four years. It was originally formed on 13th August 1914, nine days after the outbreak of World War I.

I know that when your CEO, Robert Tickner, first took office, in 2005, he was determined to bring about greater efficiencies in the work that you do and to ensure that the systems and resources were in place to carry out this valuable work.

These new premises are evidence of this desire. The presence of the Red Cross in Darwin's CBD expands the capacity for the provision of registered training programs, provides an excellent retail outlet, and becomes a focal point for the increased engagement with Aboriginal community programs across more than eighty locations throughout the Northern Territory.

I thank Red Cross for their quality service, undertaken with the help of many dedicated volunteers, for the benefit of the vulnerable within our communities. I have been pleased to be a keen supporter of Red Cross for many years before becoming Administrator so it is doubly pleasing to now declare these premises open.