

PRESS RELEASE

World Aids Day - 1st December

Northern Territory Anti-Discrimination Commissioner, Tony Fitzgerald, will wear a red ribbon on Friday, December 1st in recognition of World Aids Day.

“Wearing a red ribbon is a sign that as a community, if we remain vigilant, we can stop the spread of HIV and end prejudice,” he said. “This is in keeping with the 2006 Australian theme - *HIV/AIDS: Let’s talk about it: many faces, different stories* - which aims to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS and the need to understand and support people who are living with HIV/AIDS.”

The NT Anti-Discrimination Commissioner reminds Territorians about the need for respect on this day.

“Around 22,000 Australians have been infected with HIV,” said Mr Fitzgerald. “People must be accepted on their merits and not discriminated against because of a medical condition.”

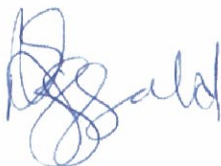
“The NT Anti-Discrimination Act makes it unlawful to treat people unfairly because of any impairment – including HIV/AIDS.”

The Commissioner also stated that it is against the law to ask people for information about their medical records that is irrelevant and intrusive.

Since 1992 the NT Anti-Discrimination Commission has been actively assisting the community to give people a fair go and sending out the message that illegal discrimination and harassment will not be tolerated. The Commission also offers tailor-made training packages to suit all requirements.

Mr Fitzgerald invites Territorians to contact the expert and friendly staff at the NT Anti-Discrimination Commission for general information about discrimination issues, to confidentially discuss a complaint, or to obtain more information about training.

FREECALL 1800 813 846 or www.adc.nt.gov.au



TONY FITZGERALD
NT ANTI-DISCRIMINATION COMMISSIONER

29 November 2006