

PRESS RELEASE

International Human Rights Day

Wednesday 10 December

NT Anti-Discrimination Commissioner Tony Fitzgerald invites Territorians to celebrate International Human Rights Day, and the 60th anniversary of the UN Declaration of Human Rights, with him on Wed 10 Dec.

"Human rights include access to adequate housing, health, and employment; freedom of speech; safe conditions at work; freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention; and the right to a fair trial", the Commissioner said today.

"Human rights attach to us from birth. They're rights not privileges so no-one has the power to legitimately remove or restrict them -- no matter who we are, where we live, how much we own, what religion we follow or what political opinions we hold. And human rights are a package deal -- freedom of speech means nothing without the right to food, water and shelter."

"All of us, especially governments, have a responsibility to observe, respect and protect peoples' rights and freedoms because without active community support they wither and die. We must all find time to reflect on how to assist people -- even in this fair land -- whose human rights are compromised from birth for cultural, racial, geographical, or political reasons."

Mr. Fitzgerald says that one way to demonstrate support for human rights is to attend the celebration at Darwin Wharf Precinct Function Centre, Stokes Hill Wharf, from 4-30pm. Guest speaker is former Administrator Ted Egan. Snacks and drinks are provided. RSVP to ADC on 1800 813 846 asap.



TONY FITZGERALD
ANTI-DISCRIMINATION COMMISSIONER

8 December 2008