



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Window on the Wetlands Smoking Ceremony

A smoking ceremony to release the spirit of one of the Territory's most well known and respected traditional owners is set to take place at Window on the Wetlands on 30 September.

Traditional owner Tony Kenyon passed away in 2001 but his son Graham Kenyon said now was the right time to conduct the smoking ceremony.

"The smoking ceremony will not only be beneficial to my father's relations but to non-Indigenous visitors to the area as well," Mr Kenyon said.

"This is our way of gaining my father's permission to continue the good work he started with the handover of Djukbinj National Park and the continuing success of the Window on the Wetlands visitor centre.

"My nephews and uncles will be performing a corroboree so we can all move forward from the past and visitors to the visitor centre won't feel any bad vibes."

Tony Kenyon was a well known senior elder for the Limilngan/Wulna and Waray clans, and a great source of cultural knowledge.

"My dad was a bush gentleman and a very versatile and capable man who lived a full life of family and cultural responsibilities," Mr Kenyon said.

"He enjoyed being a stockman, contributed to local community through culture and sports such as Australian Rules football and kept close ties with the land.

"One thing my dad certainly passed on to his children such as myself is a great sense of community in both Indigenous and non-Indigenous worlds, which is part of a great legacy he created for the rest of his family and something we are very proud of."

Ends

**Media Note – For more information contact Graham Kenyon on 8988 8009. Mr Kenyon said the smoking ceremony would not be open to the public but the media is welcome to attend and report on this special event.**

Issued: 9.30am Thursday, 28 September 2007