



**Marion Scrymgour**

MINISTER FOR ARTS AND MUSEUMS AND WOMEN'S POLICY

March 08 2007

**EMBARGOED TO 6PM TONIGHT**

**TRIBUTE TO NORTHERN TERRITORY WOMEN**

Minister for Women's Policy Marion Scrymgour today congratulated the recipients of the 2007 *Tribute to Northern Territory Women*, and officially opened the National Pioneer Women's Hall of Fame.

The Tribute is designed to honour and acknowledge the contribution that women have made, and are making, to the economic, social or cultural life of the Territory.

The Chief Minister announced the three tribute recipients for 2007 at the International Women's Day breakfast on Tuesday.

They are:

- Penelope Tastula – from Darwin, for her contribution to the development of tourism in the Territory
- Rosalie Kunoth-Monks – from Utopia, for her lifetime of leadership and advocacy.
- Molly Wardaguga – a Burarra elder and retired Senior Aboriginal Health Worker.

"These women have been true leaders, not just in their professional careers but through their contribution to the wider community. Coming from such diverse backgrounds the women have shown strength of character and a commitment to making change," Ms Scrymgour said.

"Too often the contributions that women make are undervalued and unacknowledged. This makes events, such as the Tribute which value and acknowledge the women of the Territory, all the more important."

In addition, Ms Scrymgour made a special *Tribute to Territory Women* to Molly Clark, the founder of the National Pioneer Women's Hall of Fame.

"In the early 90s Molly had a vision – and that vision is now embodied within the walls of the Hall of Fame."

Ms Scrymgour said she was pleased to officially open the new location of the National Pioneer Women's Hall of Fame.

“The NT Government has provided more than \$300 000 funding to the Hall of Fame, including funds to restore and relocate to the Old Alice Springs gaol.

“This new location is excellent, in the centre of town and close to both tourist accommodation and other venues, making it more accessible to view this unique collection.”

Ms Scrymgour said it was important to preserve the outstanding contribution women through the Territory made and continue to make.

“It enables the Territory’s history to be viewed by thousands of visitors and recognises the triumphs women have overcome to get where they are today.”

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