

Media Release:

21.09.2007

Al Gore's Numbulwar Connection

Numbulwar resident Jocelyn Uibo (pronounced u-beau) will be in Melbourne this weekend to learn more about climate change.

Ms Uibo is one of eight Territorians selected to train with ex-US Vice President Al Gore's Climate Leadership Project at a training event organised by the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF).

"This is a great opportunity for me to learn the latest information about climate change issues on a national and global level and I hope to pass that information on to my community," Ms Uibo said.

Ms Uibo is an elected council member for the Numbulwar Numburindi Community Council representing the Numamurdirdi Clan.

She grew up in Batchelor and Darwin but has lived and worked in Numbulwar for the past five years. Ms Uibo's mother is originally from Numbulwar.

Mr Gore will train volunteers from all around Australia in the presentation of his Climate Change slide show.

The slide show will be adapted for Australian audiences and was promoted in the well known film made about Mr Gore called *An Inconvenient Truth*.

"I read an article in the Northern Territory News and Darwin Sun in July that no Territorians had applied for the climate project leadership program so I submitted an application along with a list of communities in my local area," Ms Uibo said.

"When I found out I was selected I approached my local member, Malarndirri Barbara McCarthy, asking for assistance in attending the program, as trainees attend on a voluntary basis.

"Ms McCarthy kindly donated \$200 towards my expenses and the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts (NRETA) agreed to cover my travel and accommodation costs, which is fantastic.

"I am looking forward to learning more about this important issue and spreading the climate change message in the community."

NRETA Environment and Greenhouse Policy manager Paul Purdon said Ms Uibo's work would complement the Northern Territory Government's efforts in increasing community understanding of the possible impacts of climate change and how we can all act in response.

"Jocelyn wrote to us requesting assistance and we felt it was a great opportunity to support someone from a remote community like Numbulwar to raise awareness about the important issue of climate change," Mr Purdon said.

“We know people in remote areas including Traditional Owners are very concerned about the future health of their country and Jocelyn’s training will help take their level of awareness one step further.

“It’s up to all of us to work hard to understand and respond to the issues raised by climate change and we admire the initiative taken by Jocelyn and others in working with Al Gore to make us all better informed.”

Mr Purdon said all aspects of Ms Uibo’s trip to Melbourne for the training program with Mr Gore would be made carbon neutral by the ACF through its relationship with a carbon offsetting company called Climate Friendly.

Ends

Media Note – For more information contact Paul Purdon on 8924 4070 or Jocelyn Uibo on 0428 361 201

Issued: 2.30pm Friday, 21 September 2007