

Media Release:

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Regional Museums Grants Support Program

Museums in the Northern Territory regional areas have been invited to apply for a slice of the \$200,000 Regional Museums Grants Support Program offered by the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts.

Assistant Director of Research and Collections at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Dr Peter Murray said the 2008/2009 Grants Support Program is designed to encourage the development of local community projects and ensure the preservation of Northern Territory heritage.

“We aim to assist regional museums so they in turn can provide an enjoyable learning experience and increase visitation from both locals and tourists through quality interpretation of their collections,” Dr Murray said.

“Grants are not just available towards the development of displays and exhibits but can also assist with administrative tasks such as employment of curatorial staff or specialist services, training and professional development.

“Museums requiring assistance with storage and conservation of collections or accessioning and cataloguing of museum collections are welcome to apply for a grant.

“Applications for collaborative projects involving two or more museums will be considered and projects involving local community outreach work are also encouraged to apply.”

The Regional Museums Grants Support Program has been running since 1997 and is instrumental in fostering a high standard of community museums throughout the Northern Territory.

“Last year we awarded \$52,000 to a collaborative project between the Old Timer’s Museum, Adelaide House and the National Pioneer Women’s Hall of Fame in Alice Springs,” Dr Murray said.

“The grant money allowed them to contract a museum education program consultant to stimulate interest in the collective museums through educational activities for school-aged kids.

“The Historical Society of Katherine also received a \$15,000 grant to produce an interpretive exhibition ‘Morse to SMS’ highlighting the development of communications in the Territory.

Applications for the 2008/2009 Regional Museums Grants Support Program close on 18 May 2008 with the successful applicants to be announced and grants allocated in July 2008.

For more information contact 8999 8264 or visit www.magnt.nt.gov.au for guidelines and an application form.

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Dr Peter Murray on 8999 8173.

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