



Northern Territory

BUDGET 2004

Moving the Territory ahead... **less tax, more jobs, great lifestyle**

M E D I A R E L E A S E

Kon Vatskalis

Minister for Ethnic Affairs

18 May 2004

RECORD BUDGET FUNDING FOR ETHNIC AFFAIRS

Ethnic communities are big winners in Budget 2004, Ethnic Affairs Minister Kon Vatskalis said today.

“This Government is making more than \$1.2 million in grants available to migrant and ethnic communities throughout the Territory, which is a 300 per cent increase since the Martin Labor Government was elected in August 2001,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“Today’s Budget launches a new \$500 000 annual Multicultural Community Facilities Fund to provide large grants for the renovation and upgrading of existing ethnic clubs.

“Ethnic community groups will be invited to apply in the very near future for the 2004-2005 program.”

CELEBRATING AND SUPPORTING OUR MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES

To support the Territory’s community diversity, Budget 2004 includes:

- \$500,000 per annum for the next three years to assist multicultural community organisations with the renovation and upgrade of existing facilities
- \$80,000 which helps the Multicultural Council of the NT and the Multilingual Broadcasting Council to move to the Malak Shopping Centre
- \$697,000 for the Ethnic Affairs Sponsorship Program, including \$150,000 for Cultural and Linguistic Awards.

“The diversity of our community is an important part of our unique lifestyle, the best in Australia and this Government is committed to seeing our multiculturalism grow into the future,” Mr Vatskalis said.

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Northern Territory Government