



Northern Territory

# Budget 2005

Fact Sheet

Backing Territorians...less tax, more jobs, better skills

## Great Lifestyle – Great Environment

Budget 2005 backs our unique Territory lifestyle with more support for sport, fishing, arts and culture, and entertainment.

The Territory Government is also investing in our environment to ensure it remains protected for future generations of Territorians.

### BACKING RECREATIONAL FISHING

Budget 2005 continues the Territory Government's strong support for recreational fishing with:

- A \$2 million four-year program for new fishing infrastructure
- \$900 000 for recreational fishing programs
- Almost \$170 000 for the Amateur Fisherman's Association NT, which includes funding for grants to clubs
- Continuing research on the major fisheries targeted by recreational fishers (barra, Spanish mackerel, black jewfish, mud crabs)
- Continuing fingerling and stocking programs. Fingerlings have already been placed in Manton Dam, Lake Bennett, Lake Todd, Darwin Harbour
- Continuing to improve access at Mule Creek, Rocky Creek and Palmerston boat ramps
- Opening up new recreational fishing areas with \$400 000 for Channel Point Reserve infrastructure and \$1.6 million for Point Stuart Road

### BETTER SPORT FACILITIES

The Territory Government is further backing the Territory lifestyle by investing heavily in sport, with Budget 2005 including:

- \$5.8 million for the home of Darwin soccer
- \$800 000 for the Alice Springs Drag Strip
- \$3.8 million over four years for Hidden Valley upgrades, including \$900 000 for V8 Supercar pit garages
- \$5.95 million for community sports grants
- A funding package designed to build the thoroughbred racing industry

### BRINGING WORLD-CLASS EVENTS TO THE TERRITORY

Government is backing world-class sporting events in the Territory with:

- \$950 000 for V8 Supercars – 1-3 July 2005
- Total funding of \$300 000 for Bass in the Grass in Darwin and Bass in the Dust in Alice Springs
- Around \$2.3 million for the Arafura Games
- Commonwealth Bank Trophy Netball Match – 11 June 2005
- Tasar World Championships – 1-8 July 2005
- Samoa vs Mosquitos Rugby Union – 17 June 2005

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- Carlton vs Bulldogs AFL – 18 June 2005
- Perth Wildcats NBL – January 2006
- Wizard Cup AFL – February 2006
- Wizard Cup Challenge Alice Springs – March 2006

## **ENHANCING THE TERRITORY'S PARKS**

The Territory's world-renowned Parks will receive strong support from Budget 2005 with:

- \$7.5 million over three years for improvements to Litchfield Park
- \$1 million for visitor facilities and other improvements at the West MacDonnells
- \$400 000 for facilities at Channel Point Reserve to support expanded recreational fishing opportunities provided by Government
- \$380 000 in improvements to the Alice Springs Desert Park and the Territory Wildlife Park
- \$150 000 for the Watarrka National Park upgrade

## **BALANCING GROWTH WITH PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

Protecting our environment is an important part of enhancing our lifestyle.

The Territory Government is backing environmental protection, with Budget 2005 including:

- \$4.5 million for the Office of Environment and Heritage
- \$1 million to enhance growth with lifestyle through environmental assessment and compliance monitoring activities of development projects
- \$840 000 to assist the sustainable management of marine activities and species
- \$710 000 for grants and assistance to local environmental groups
- \$500 000 for Mary River Wetlands desalination works
- \$480 000 for programs to protect the environment from cane toads
- \$300 000 for the Darwin Harbour Regional Plan of Management

## **PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE**

Budget 2005 continues the Territory Government's protection and preservation of the Territory's heritage with:

- \$1 million for heritage areas repairs and maintenance
- \$227 000 for the Northern Territory Heritage Grants
- \$114 000 for the National Trust NT

## **ARTS AND CULTURE**

The Territory Government is proud to continue its backing of the arts community, with Budget 2005 containing:

- \$4.3 million for the Arts Sponsorship Program
- \$750 000 increase in base funding for the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory
- \$3.16 million for the 27 public libraries across the Territory
- \$1.1 million in continued support for the Government's Indigenous Arts Strategy

## **CELEBRATING OUR DIVERSITY**

The cultural and ethnic diversity of the Territory is celebrated and supported by the Territory Government.

Budget 2005 includes:

- \$500 000 for the multicultural development program
- \$700 000 for the Multicultural Affairs Sponsorship and Grants program
- \$300 000 for the Translating and Interpreting Services program