



Northern Land Council

MEDIA RELEASE

NLC honours award winners

1 November, 2006

Northern Land Council (NLC) Chairman, John Daly, has paid tribute to the inaugural winners of the NLC's *Employer Excellence Awards* held at the Airport Resort in Darwin last night.

Mr Daly said the awards are an opportunity to acknowledge and recognise employers for 'making a difference' through outstanding commitment to improving engagement with Aboriginal people in the area of jobs, partnerships and land use agreements.

"This is an opportunity to thank those who, through their commitment to entering into genuine partnerships with the NLC, have secured long term, real jobs, for Aboriginal people over the past 5-years," Mr Daly said.

"Through our important partnerships, such as our partnership with the Territory Construction Association, the NLC has successfully pursued projects that have resulted in significant economic outcomes for Aboriginal people, bringing real benefits to regional economies and creating employment opportunities."

Since its inception in 2001, the NLC Job's and Careers Service (JACS) has expanded from a single project – The Alice Springs to Darwin railway - to having created jobs for over 800 Aboriginal people.

"Today, the NLC's employment program is widely regarded as the 'best practice' Indigenous employment program in the country - we are proud of that achievement," Mr Daly said.

"We are building on the opportunities that are being presented to Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory, and will continue to negotiate agreements with potential partners in the construction, mining and hospitality industries.

The NLC will continue to pursue partnerships with the private sector, because we believe it is in their's and the Territory's interest, for Aboriginal people to be real contributors to the economy as a whole," Mr Daly said.

"We anticipate that the avenues provided by the NLC's employment program will provide Indigenous job seekers with a path towards employment and develop opportunities that would have otherwise not been available."

The NLC plans to host the *Employer Excellence Awards* as a regular event, in order to recognise the contribution of the business sector to improving the lives of Aboriginal people.

Award winners

****Employer Category**

Top Project

ADrail Construction Project – *(Darwin to Alice Springs railway constructed by the ADrail consortium: Barclay Mowlem; John Holland Group; Halliburton KBR)*

Top Employer

Austrack NT – *(a subsidiary of Barclay Mowlem)*

Top Individual

Marcus Humphreys

****Skills Acquisition & Career Advancement Category**

Top Project

ADrail – *(Darwin to Alice Springs railway constructed by the ADrail consortium: Barclay Mowlem; John Holland Group; Halliburton KBR)*

Top Registered Training Organisation

Charles Darwin University

Top Individual Trainer

Steve Sunk

Special Mention

Bob Cush

Duncan Beggs

Steve Margetic

Steve Tiley

Jon Baker

Neville Driver

Chairman's Award

Territory Construction Association