



Syd Stirling

MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING

22 May 2005

NT BUILD BOARD APPOINTED

A Board has now been appointed to oversee the Territory's first-ever Portable Long Service Leave scheme for construction workers.

The scheme allows construction workers to accrue long service leave entitlements even if they move from employer to employer, fulfilling a Martin Government election commitment.

"It is part of Government's effort to attract and retain skilled workers in the Territory," Mr Stirling said.

"To access this entitlement, construction workers need to register with a scheme, NT Build, which will keep track of their length of service. The scheme will start on 1 July this year, although workers' entitlements have been accruing since 1 January.

"Employers and workers are being visited on site to help them with the registration process, while discussions are getting underway with developers and other major contractors.

"The NT Build Board appointed to administer the scheme includes employer and employee representatives.

The Board Members are:

- Barry Chambers (Chair)
- Graham Kemp (HIA NT Manager)
- Dick Guit (Regional Manager Barclay Mowlem and Vice-President Territory Construction Association)
- Joe Gallagher (Organiser: Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union)
- Alan Paton (Organiser: Communications, Electrical and Plumbing Union)
- Tony Stubbin (Assistant Under Treasurer NT Government)

Mr Stirling said building the Territory's population and boosting our skills base were priorities for the Government.

"Making Territory working conditions more attractive through initiatives like portable long service leave for construction workers will help us achieve these goals," he said.

"It comes on top of a range of other Government initiatives, including the Jobs Plan, interstate advertising for skilled workers and boosting efforts to attract skilled migrants, which will help us build a skilled, flexible workforce and keep the Territory moving ahead."

For more information on NT Build visit: www.ntbuild.com.au

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