



**Syd Stirling**

MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION & TRAINING

8 June 2006

## **TIME TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE 2006 DEET NT TRAINING AWARDS!**

Deputy Chief Minister, Syd Stirling, officially launched the 2006 Department of Employment, Education and Training (DEET) Northern Territory Training Awards at a function at Parliament House this morning.

Mr Stirling said the awards are presented each year to recognise the outstanding achievements of Territorians involved in vocational education and training (VET), and highlight business best practice and the achievements of individuals engaged in VET.

“I urge individuals and also Territory businesses and organisations to get their award nominations together before the closing date of July 27,” he said.

Mr Stirling also encouraged the business community to consider sponsoring the 2006 awards, with such support integral to their ongoing success.

Last year’s sponsors included the Department of Education, Science and Training, Bechtel Australia, New Apprenticeships Centre, Group Training Northern Territory, Chamber of Commerce NT, Alcan Gove Pty Ltd, Australia Post, Night n Day Autocare, and the Rotary Club of Nightcliff.

There are 12 award categories this year including Trainee of the Year, Vocational Student of the Year, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year, Austin Asche Apprentice of the Year, School Based Apprentice of the Year Award, VET in Schools Student of the Year, Small Business of the Year, Training Provider of the Year, Bill McLaren VET in Schools Excellence Award, Training Initiative Award, Employer of the Year – and the new category of VET Teacher/Trainer of the Year Award.

“Through the NT Training Awards, Government and the Department of Employment, Education and Training look forward to highlighting the benefits of training and the successes of our VET system.

Mr Stirling cited the success of Jade Carroll who won last year’s Trainee of the Year Award. Jade completed her traineeship with the NT Government in January 2005 and is now employed as personal assistant for Minister Chris Burns MLA.

Also attending this morning’s event, Jade Carroll said she would encourage other young people to take up an apprenticeship or traineeship.

“It is the best thing I have done. I’ve gained valuable experience, learnt skills and made life-long friends while carrying out my traineeship,” she said. “I was previously working in retail and always wanted to work for the government, so applied to do a traineeship and was successful. The Trainee of the Year

Awards was a huge bonus, and has given me the confidence to now plan for further studies towards a Bachelor of Business”

Further information on the 2006 DEET Northern Territory Training Awards is available at [www.trainingawards.nt.gov.au](http://www.trainingawards.nt.gov.au). For any additional information regarding the awards and how to apply, students are advised to contact Rosemary Carson on 0409 567 097, and businesses/organisations should contact Paul Rousham on 0412 481 696.

***Contact Minister Stirling's Office: 08 8901 4053***