



Paul Henderson
CHIEF MINISTER



July 1, 2009

Celebrating Territory Day

Chief Minister Paul Henderson said Territorians have much to be proud of on the 31st anniversary of Self-Government.

Mr Henderson spoke about the Territory's accomplishments and challenges at the Flag Raising Ceremony in Darwin for Territory Day.

"The Territory is a great place to live and work – and I want to keep it that way," Mr Henderson said.

"We've come a long way in just over three decades.

"In 1978 there were just 110,000 Territorians - there are twice as many of us today – and our population continues to grow.

"Thirty-one years ago we dreamt about being Australia's gateway to Asia – and Asia's gateway to Australia.

"Now we have the Australasia Rail Link, a productive port, an LNG plant and another on the way.

"We have a strong economy and many reasons to be optimistic about the future.

"Our achievements are many – but there is still a lot more to do.

"There is still a big gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Territorians – it's a gap we're working hard to close.

"For the first time, the Northern Territory and the Commonwealth are working together to improve health, housing and education.

"We're making progress – we're working hard – and there's a long way to go – but we've committed to the whole journey."

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