



Malarndirri McCarthy

MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

3 December 2009

Call for Territory Businesses and Organisations to Support the Companion Card

A new Companion Card scheme was launched by the Territory Government today, giving people with a disability who require attendant care support from a companion better access to events and activities.

Minister for Children and Families, Malarndirri McCarthy, today called for businesses and organisations to support the NT Companion Card (NTCC) scheme, which offers free entry at participating community venues and activities for the companions of people with a disability.

“It is International Day of People with a Disability and I encourage Territory businesses and organisations to join the NTCC scheme,” Ms McCarthy said.

“By participating, businesses and organisations will be showing a real commitment to supporting Territorians with a disability.

“In the past, people with a disability who required the assistance of a companion were required to pay admission fees for both themselves and their companion.

“Cardholders will be able to present their card when booking or purchasing a ticket from a participating business, and receive a free ticket for their companion.

“Already CMax Cinemas Palmerston, Birch Carroll and Coyle Cinemas in Darwin and Casuarina, and AFLNT have signed up – I thank them for their support and look forward to seeing more participants.”

NT card holders will also benefit from reciprocal arrangements across Australia, so NTCC holders will have access to over 2000 affiliates nationwide.

“I thank all of the people and organisations supporting Territorians with a disability and participating in International Day of People with a Disability,” Ms McCarthy said.

“The Territory Government is committed to delivering the best possible services for people with disabilities and I look forward to opening a new Office of Disability early in 2010.”

Businesses and organisations interested in joining the NTCC scheme, or individuals interested in getting a card should contact 1800 139 656 or visit www.companioncard.nt.gov.au

Media Contact: Nicole Manison 0448 693 279

