

.....building our capacity

# acc.TION

NT Area Consultative Committee  
ACC's the Australian Government's Regional Development Network

Newsletter #7

July – September 2005

## Quarterly General Meeting

The quarterly general meeting was held at Jabiru in June. Issues discussed included finalisation of the RTC programme, the 23 Regional Partnerships projects in preparation with NTACC, Indigenous arts and Indigenous small business.

The members visited two Indigenous businesses: Kakadu Native Plant Supplies and Gulyambi Cultural Tour.

Please contact your local member for further information.

## Regional Partnership Projects

The Regional Partnerships programme commenced in July 2000. Since inception NTACC has worked with proponents towards the achievement of their projects. Funded projects to date are:

- Edith Farms Bushfire Brigade headquarters
- Tiwi Islands Training and Employment Board training centre
- Top End Regional Organisation of Councils strategic plan
- National Pioneer Women's Hall of Fame relocation
- CAAMA Regional Indigenous Music Community Partnerships
- Italian Club Multicultural Growth Strategy
- Desert Knowledge Centre Business Centre
- Palmerston City Council Cultural Centre
- Ti-Tree Council Rural Transaction Centre

The Northern Territory has received a total of \$3,619,014 in funding from the programme and together with other funding partners the total funding of projects in the Northern Territory amounts to \$22,827,659.

The programme has been well received across the Northern Territory. There are currently 23 projects being developed.

NTACC has a primary role in promoting the Regional Partnerships programme but can also provide details of other funding opportunities. NTACC's website [www.ntacc.com.au](http://www.ntacc.com.au) provides links to many sites which provide details of other funding programmes.

For further information on the Regional Partnerships programme please contact the NTACC Project Officer on **08 8941 7550**.

# Rural Transaction Centres Open for Service

The Rural Transaction Centres (RTC) programme has provided funds to help small communities establish access to services. RTCs are designed to provide local solutions and each one is unique.

For the past 18 months the Northern Territory Area Consultative Committee (NTACC) undertook the contract to support communities that had received RTC funding but were not yet operational in the NT and the Kimberley. This has provided NTACC with a valuable opportunity to work with and learn from communities.

The RTC programme has wound up, but the good news is that communities can still apply for funding for an RTC-type facility. This is done through the Regional Partnerships programme.

Below is a summary of the RTCs which have recently been completed.



## PALUMPA

The centre was officially opened by Senator Nigel Scullion on 19 May 2005

Services available:

- Internet and bill paying service
- Security boxes
- ATM
- Centrelink agency
- Postal agency
- Point of sale for power and phone cards

Total funding: \$33,630



## ARLTARLPITA

Construction of the RTC is complete with services now operational.

Services available:

- Internet and telephone banking
- General secretariat services and registration point for training
- Community meeting room/training
- Security boxes
- Centrelink (CAP)
- Postal agency
- Visiting room for professionals (Dentist) and Government agencies

Total funding: \$360,288

## NGUIU

Construction of the RTC is complete with services now operational.

Services available:

- PWANGA ladies wear (Small business venture)
- Centrelink Remote Area Service Centre (RASC)
- Australia Post/Commonwealth Bank
- Hairdresser (visiting service)
- Security boxes
- Office x 2 for rent (training facility, visiting professionals)
- Internet facility

Total funding: \$460,350

### GALIWIN'KU (Elcho Island)

Services to be available:  
(incorporated into existing refurbished council office)

- Business centre
- Coordination of indigenous community volunteers office
- Internet access
- Safe deposit
- Internet banking
- Postal services
- Courthouse facility

Total funding: \$425,475



### NAUIYU NAMBIYU (Daly River)

Services available:  
Hairdressing services

Total funding: \$21,780

Further information about RTC-type applications through the Regional Partnerships programme is available from the Project Officer at NTACC on **08 8941 7550**.

### Rural Medical Infrastructure Fund

The Federal Government has announced the establishment of a \$15m Rural Medical Infrastructure Fund (RMIF) which will provide funding to local councils to help them establish community medical facilities, making it easier to recruit or retain a general practitioner.

The RMIF commenced on 1 July 2005 with \$5m available in 2005-2006. Local councils can apply for funding up to \$200,000. The RMIF will operate through Regional Partnerships – however, applicants will need to ensure that their application addresses some specific RMIF issues. These issues relate to the practice management model, recruitment and retention strategies and ensuring that they are working in partnership with key medical stakeholders.

Further information about this programme can be found at [www.regionalpartnerships.gov.au](http://www.regionalpartnerships.gov.au) or by phoning the Project Officer for copies of the guidelines at NTACC on **08 8941 7550**.

### Regulation Reduction Incentive Fund

As part of the 2004 election commitment, Promoting an Enterprise Culture, the Australian Government undertook to establish a \$50 million Regulation Reduction Incentive Fund, which will provide Local Government Authorities with incentives to press ahead with regulatory reforms that will benefit small business, in particular home-based businesses.

The Regulation Reduction Incentive Fund (RRIF) was launched on 5 July 2005. The programme is open for applications from Local Government Authorities until 31 August 2005.

For more information about the RRIF visit the AusIndustry website [www.ausindustry.gov.au](http://www.ausindustry.gov.au).

### Community Water Grants

Applications are invited from schools, local governments, sporting clubs, Indigenous organisations, conservation groups and other community organisations for Australian Government Community Water Grants of up to \$50 000 each to help save, reuse or improve the health of local water sources. Grants are available for projects related to: water saving/efficiency; water reuse/recycling and improving surface and groundwater health.

For an application plus examples of eligible projects visit [www.communitywatergrants.gov.au](http://www.communitywatergrants.gov.au) or freecall **1 800 780 730**. Applications close 4 October 2005.

# Staff changes at NTACC



**Barbara Spencer** has retired from the position of Administration Officer after being with the organization almost since its outset.

Barbara's long and dedicated service was recognised at a dinner during the recent NTACC quarterly meeting at Jabiru.



**Jo Story** has taken up the position of Administration Officer and is settling in rapidly as she learns the language of regional development and the direction of NTACC.



Also leaving the NTACC is **Judy Brennan** who has been in the position of Rural Transaction Centre Support Officer since January 2005. That programme has now wound up and NTACC was fortunate to have Judy in the position for the past 6 months.

# NTACC at Kakadu



NTACC members gather at **Kakadu Native Plant Supplies** during the recent quarterly meeting.

## UPCOMING NTACC MEETINGS

■ 22-23 September  
in Darwin

■ 17-18 November  
in Darwin

## Our People

### Members

Mike Newton

**A/Chairman,  
Deputy Chairman**

Tracey Brand  
**Secretary**

Norm Buchan  
**Treasurer**

Craig Catchlove

David Suter

Julie Newton

Kent Peak

Kerry Moir

Mathew Fagan

Miriam Rose Baumann

Peter Herden

### Ex-Officio Member

Sharon Woon

### Staff

Heather Sjoberg, **Executive Officer**

Jo Story, **Administration Officer**

Kelly Dickens, **Project Officer**

## Advice to Federal Government

NTACC works in partnership with government, business and the community to promote economic, social and environmental development in the Northern Territory. We welcome suggestions that will enable the provision of constructive and regular advice to federal government in order to maximise support for the development of the Northern Territory.