10 May 2013

$10M HOLE WHERE ARAFURA GAMES SHOULD HAVE BEEN

Tomorrow marks the occasion of a $10 million dollar hole in the Darwin economy due to the cancellation of the Arafura Games by the CLP, Shadow Minister for Sport and Recreation Ken Vowles said today.

“Saturday May 11 would have been the opening ceremony of the Arafura Games. Instead of celebrating this important sporting, cultural and economic event we simply have a big void left in our community by the CLP’s decision to scrap the games,” Mr Vowles said.

“There is no doubt the CLP’s decision to cancel the games hurt Territory business and hurt our relationship with our regional neighbours.

“Darwin should today have been full of tourists and competitors and locals would have been enjoying participating in and watching the events.

“Sadly, the CLP’s priorities are just wrong. They have spent more money employing their former failed members and unsuccessful candidates than the entire cost of staging the Arafura Games.

“The CLP’s failure to listen to the thousands of people who signed a petition against their decision to cancel the Games remains a testament to their arrogant attitude towards Territorians.

“Tourism is struggling badly under this Government and people will remember that tomorrow marks the day the CLP chose to impose their wrong priorities by cancelling the Arafura Games.”

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