Media Release

Francis Xavier Kurrupuwu, Member for Arafura

Peter Styles
Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Transport

Investing in Maningrida

7 October 2014

The Territory Government is building the economic future of Maningrida with more than $2 million being invested in local job creation, business development and infrastructure works.

“The most important contribution that we can make to the future of Maningrida is helping local people build their own businesses and take ownership of their future,” Infrastructure Minister Peter Styles said.

“The Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation was the major employer in Maningrida until the organisation got into financial trouble and the community is keen to bring its extensive business interests back to life.

“Community leaders have lobbied us for assistance to obtain a business adviser assigned to Bawinanga, to help get the organisation back on its feet and make more jobs available to locals.

“The Territory Government has agreed to fund a position to work within Bawinanga on economic development, job and wealth creation projects. I know this will be welcomed by the community.

“We want to work with the community to build economic opportunities and this position will provide a link between the community and the Government.

“Another element of our economic development work in Maningrida is a $1.5 million upgrade to the all-important barge landing.

“Work is due to begin this month on temporary repairs with further upgrades due to go out for tender in early 2015.

“This is a vital upgrade for Maningrida residents who receive most of their goods by sea and depend upon quality infrastructure to aid in the economic development of the community.

“The work includes a new hard stand area which has shelter, security fencing and lighting for the distribution of freight arrivals and fuel handling.

"It’s part of a wider infrastructure program involving roads, transport and stormwater drainage. .
“Infrastructure is a key enabler of economic growth in Northern Australia and the Giles Government is proud to be supporting Maningrida build a new economic future.”

Local Member for Arafura Francis Xavier Kurrupuwu said both investments have been raised with him by his constituents and he’s proud they’re now being delivered.

“The people at Maningrida are pleased to see their voices being heard and are keen to see their local businesses like the Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation thrive with the Government’s help,” Mr Kurrupuwu said.

“I know the community is keen to see upgrades to a range of infrastructure in Maningrida and the improved barge landing is adding to the already great works in progress.”

**IMAGE ATTACHED:** On the barge landing, Local Member for Arafura Francis Xavier Kurrupuwu (centre), Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Peter Styles (Right), Deputy Chief Minister Peter Chandler (Left).

**Media Contact:** Renee Miller 0407 400 446

[Barge Landing Maningrida](#)

[Investing in Maningrida](#)