

MEDIA RELEASE

**LAUREN MOSS
MINISTER FOR TOURISM & CULTURE**



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Cricket in the Red Centre

6 February 2017

Australia's National Indigenous Cricket Carnival, the Imparja Cup is again igniting the Red Centre with teams from across Australia competing in Alice Springs this week.

Minister for Tourism and Culture Lauren Moss said the Imparja Cup is an exciting event showcasing the wealth of Indigenous talent that cricket has to offer.

"The National Indigenous Cricket Championships (NICC) is held in conjunction with the Imparja Cup at Traeger Park and showcases some of the top Indigenous cricketers in the nation," Ms Moss said.

"The event is renowned for celebrating Indigenous culture in a display of competitive sportsmanship.

"The Northern Territory Government is providing \$250,000 over three years to this nationally significant cricket tournament which forms such an important part of the Alice Springs sporting calendar.

"The Gunner Government has an excellent working relationship with Cricket Australia and we are committed to holding sporting events in Alice Springs."

NT Cricket Tournament Director Mitch Farnell is pleased with the strong turn-out of teams from across the Territory.

"We have had a very strong response to our Remote Indigenous Cricket Carnivals and our Remote Red Dust Sports Voucher Program, which has contributed to a 30% increase in Indigenous participants over the past year," he said.

"NT Cricket has been working closely with the Imparja Cup Advisory Committee, which includes Imparja Cup custodians Shane Franey and Rossy Williams, to ensure that the competition is reflective of the entire Indigenous cricket community.

Teams have travelled from across the Top End, including Darwin, Katherine and Timber Creek, with teams expected from throughout Central Australia, including Tennant Creek," Mr Farnell said.

The Major Centres final will take place on Saturday 11 February.

More information can be found at <http://www.ntcricket.com.au/>

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