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### **Terry Mills Leader of the Opposition**



#### ***Govt alcohol ban should be reversed***

16 January 2004

Banning Territorians from having a tippie of champagne or beer to celebrate the arrival of the historic freight train from Adelaide to Darwin is un-Territorian and ranks alongside the Martin Government banning satay sticks from Parliament House, CLP Leader Terry Mills said today.

Mr Mills called on the Government to reverse the decision and have designated drinking areas set aside on the wharf for the members of the public who wish to toast the train's arrival with a sip of alcohol.

"If you can have an area set aside to serve alcohol to 'VIPs' to celebrate the train's arrival then you must be able to create an area for others," Mr Mills said.

"Any number of things could have been looked at to accommodate the public that wanted to celebrate this historic occasion with an alcoholic toast. Rather than a total ban other restrictions could have been looked at.

"The Government doesn't blink an eye lid over marquees worth around \$1 million. Surely it can afford to buy Territorians a few drinks.

"The public is being transported too and from the wharf gates so one would think they will not be in an active working part of the wharf.

"The Martin Government should give Territorians some credit for being responsible drinkers.

"Sadly it's going to be a dry celebration except for the select few."

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