



NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT MEDIA RELEASE

19 February 2004

DR PETER TOYNE MLA Minister for Justice and Attorney-General

TERRITORIAN TO COORDINATE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR CONSUMER PROTECTION

The Ministerial Council on Consumer Affairs has appointed a Territorian Chris Ross to coordinate the National Indigenous Consumer Strategy which will be the blue print for a national approach in consumer protection for Indigenous Australians for the next 5 years.

Dr Toyne said “He was delighted to have someone of Chris’s calibre and experience to carry out this important task.

Chris Ross was born in Alice Springs and comes from a very well know Territory family. She spent most of her life in Darwin, and worked for many years in Indigenous education, both in schools and administration. Chris has spent the last two years lecturing at Murdoch University in Perth.

“The national indigenous consumer strategy will reinforce the work of the Northern Territory Government.”

“We have already introduced changes to prevent the sale of dodgy vehicles by unlicensed traders and make store owners more accountable when they keep consumers debit cards and pin-numbers as security for ‘book-up’” he said”.

“The successful education campaign by Territory AFL legend Michael Long just one of many initiatives we have implemented.

Dr Toyne said “Although the consumer protection strategy is a National project, Indigenous Territorians in remote Aboriginal communities face particular consumer issues that are not experienced to the same extent elsewhere in Australia, and we will continue to build on the good work already being done.

Chris Ross can be contacted on 8982 1772 or 0409532 869