

MEDIA RELEASE

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SUE BRADLEY COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR

FAIR GO AT THE SHOW

Fairness will be the focus of the Statehood Steering Committee on the 2006 show circuit. With renewed calls today for cooperative Federalism it's the perfect time to think about the terms of Territory Statehood.

Speaking at a recent Northern Territory Library Lunchtime Talk, Committee Co-Chair Sue Bradley spoke on the theme is *Territory Day Here to Stay?* She concluded the real celebrations will be when we have equal democracy for the Northern Territory: "Democracy under the Australian Constitution means the Commonwealth would have to treat us equally and could not override the will of our State government when the State government has made valid laws.

Democracy and Fairness are important and 2006 show goers will be asked to consider if they would agree to an unequal form of Statehood.

277 people so far this year have taken the new Statehood survey at the Alice Springs Expo, Fred's Pass Rural Show, Palmerston Festival and the Barunga Festival. Results will be published later this year.

"Our surveys inform the work we do. They are a great example of democracy in action, said Sue Bradley.

"Last year's survey showed 53% of participants are not comfortable about or not sure what Statehood means.

"In response, we have produced 32 detailed Fact Sheets, developed an informative website, published a newsletter to distribute to the more than 800 Territorians who have asked to be on our mailing list and conducted 54 public appearances including public forums; school sessions, community talks, workplace visits and social club presentations." Sue Bradley said.

The Statehood Steering Committee remains the place for all Territorians to have a say.

"People should visit us at the shows or invite us to come to them wherever they are. The opportunity for Statehood remains until the day it is achieved.

Sue Bradley tells Territorians "If you can't see us at the shows, get on-line and complete the new survey on our website. This is where your voice can be heard on Statehood."

Statehood will be at: the Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine and Darwin Shows during July and at the Garma Festival in August.

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Sue Bradley's speeches are available on the website under the newsroom link

