

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

6 June 2007

### **BARBARA McCARTHY MLA COMMITTEE CHAIR**

#### **Statehood on the Road to Barunga**

Statehood Steering Committee Chair Barbara McCarthy MLA and the team from the Office of the Statehood Steering Committee will be on the road this week in the lead up to the Barunga Festival on the Queens Birthday long weekend.

The Chair will be providing information and presentations to Manyallaluk Community on Wednesday 6 June, Gulin Gulin and Wugularr (Beswick) Communities on Thursday 7 June and Barunga Community on Friday 8 June before settling into the celebrations of the Barunga Festival over the weekend.

The Committee will have a display stand and stall at the Barunga Festival and will be conducting the Mock Referendum that started at the Freds Pass Show and continues through the 2007 Show Circuit.

The Mock referendum asks Territorians if they support Statehood and also the kind of Statehood they might support (an equal state?) and whether we should have the same representation in the Commonwealth Parliament as existing States.

“This is a great opportunity to meet people face to face and talk about the challenges and opportunities of Statehood”. Barbara McCarthy said today.

“By taking Statehood on the road to a number of communities we are reaching out to people where they live, we are showing them this is not just for the people in the cities and towns but for all Territorians.

“Our Committee plans to visit people all over the Territory over the next year or two and this trip is another one of the many to schools, communities and individuals we plan for the Statehood journey.”

NOTE - Barbara McCarthy will be available for interview at the Barunga Festival this weekend

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