

MEDIA RELEASE

January 25 2007

SUE BRADLEY COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR

CELEBRATING OUR NATIONAL DAY ... IT'S GREAT TO BE AN AUSSIE AND IT WOULD BE GREAT TO BE A STATE

In 1901 our first Prime Minister, Sir Edmund Barton, famously said "For the first time in the world's history, there will be a nation for a continent, and a continent for a nation".

This Australia Day we celebrate how lucky we all are to be Australians, but here in the Territory we also remember this one sixth of our continent is not an equal part of the nation.

"Our ancestors did a great thing when they made a nation. And it is now up to us to make Territorians equal partners in our nation" Statehood Committee Co-Chair Sue Bradley said today.

In 1911, the Northern Territory was separated from South Australia and lost its rights to representation in Federal Parliament, rights that are still not constitutionally secured today.

In the Northern Territory we have no guaranteed right to self government or right to representation.

Sue noted that "Under the Australian Constitution we have a lesser status than our fellow Australians, as a proud Australian that makes me a bit sad really".

"On Australia Day, celebrate what a vibrant and diverse nation we are, but don't forget, Territorians must work toward Statehood to take their place as equal Australians."

"Australia Day is a day to remember who we are and how much we value equality."

Get more information and get involved at www.statehood.nt.gov.au

Media inquiries Michael Tatham 040 111 9570

