

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **BILL OF RIGHTS FORUM INFORMS STATEHOOD DEBATE**

#### **SUE BRADLEY COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR**

Northern Territory Statehood Steering Committee members who took part yesterday in the Charles Darwin Symposium on Statehood and a Bill of Rights declared the forum a fantastic opportunity to gauge Territorians views on this one issue of constitutional development.

“Our *Constitutional Paths to Statehood* discussion paper is now available and it contains discussions on whether we need a Bill of Rights in the Territory, the Symposium yesterday showed us the wide ranging opinions on this subject.” Said Sue Bradley after speaking at the Forum at the University on Thursday

A range of experts on constitutional and human rights issues came together and debated the merits or otherwise of protecting the needs of Territorians under a Bill of Rights.

Sue said “There were strong positions taken in support of both sides and the debate was always informative, but we need more Territorians to tell us their views as well”.

Territorians now have the opportunity to take part in the debate by making a submission to the Statehood Steering Committee through the discussion paper consultation period which ends on December 31 this year.

The Statehood Steering Committee’s discussion paper can be viewed at [www.statehood.nt.gov.au](http://www.statehood.nt.gov.au) under the ‘publications’ button or a copy can be obtained by calling 1800 237 909

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