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New Training Centre for Milikapiti

The NT Government has approved funding for the construction of a new Training Centre at Milikapiti.

Minister Scrymgeour was instrumental in securing the funding and for this the Tiwi thank you.

Construction will commence in March and the building will be ready for second semester.

The centre will have the same design as the one at Pirlangimpi as shown in these photos and will include an accommodation block and a ten terminal computer laboratory with satellite connection.

This centre completes our network of centres which we designed in 1999.



The new look Tiwi Barge Services.

Tiwi Islands Training & Employment Board

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Circulating throughout Melville and Bathurst Islands which include the Communities of Pirlangimpi, Milikapiti, Nguu & Ranku

Articles For The Tiwi Times

If you have any articles which you would like to go into the March Tiwi Times please email them to us at tiwitimes@titeb.com

We try our hardest to get your Tiwi Times out by the end of each month and it would be appreciated if you could have your articles to us by Tuesday 24th March



TIWI TIMES

Tiwi Islands Training and Employment Board

More Tiwi Tradesmen

Another three Tiwi men have achieved a very important goal by completing their apprenticeships. Desmond Bruppacher and Gerard Lorenzo are the first Tiwis to finish their Plumbing apprenticeships. Desmond and Gerard both studied at Charles Darwin University (CDU) and were employed and trained at the Tiwi Islands Shire Council. Andrew Warrior has also now finished his carpentry apprenticeship at CDU. Andrew is the sixth Tiwi to become a fully qualified carpenter joining Freddie Puruntatameri, Graham Puruntatameri, Gonzaga Puautjimi, Joseph Tipiloura and Kevin Portamini. With this crew of eight and the seven Tiwis who have finished their trades as Plant Operators, Tiwi tradesmen will have a lot to contribute to the new housing infrastructure program and associated subdivision and road works planned for the Islands. They are also now qualified to train their own apprentices. All three are now enrolled in post trade studies and are studying Small Business Management.

One hundred and fifteen Tiwi apprentices have now completed their apprenticeships with TITEB and there are 70 new positions waiting to be filled. There are agreements in place with all the host employers on the Islands to employ these apprentices and provide them with full time positions off CDEP when they complete their apprenticeships. Real training, real jobs, real outcomes. The NT Government is committed to funding their vocational training and providing literacy and numeracy support. Unfortunately, there is still no Commonwealth support through the Indigenous Employment Program (IEP) to employ these apprentices.

The Directors and staff of the Tiwi Islands Training and Employment Board wish to take this opportunity to congratulate Desmond, Andrew and Gerard on the successful completion of their apprenticeships.



Gerard received the grade of Competent with High Merit for the majority of his subjects through Charles Darwin University. He now works for the Shire at Milikapiti as the Plumber.

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Quote of the Month

"It's hard to beat a person who never gives up"

Babe Ruth



My name is Desmond Brupacher and I just finished a plumbing apprenticeship at CDU while I was working for the Tiwi Island Shire Housing at Pirlangimpi.

During my time I learnt how to do installation and maintenance in plumbing and enjoyed it.

I am now the plumber in the Pirlangimpi housing team.

My name is Andrew Warrior and I am employed by the Tiwi Islands Shire Council as the carpenter in the Pirlangimpi housing team responsible for the community housing repairs and maintenance.

Des and I started our apprenticeships with Jim Groom and finished with John Wilshire, both of whom were former housing managers.

Note from the editor: *What Andrew neglected to tell us was that he was selected as apprentice of the year by the University in 2008.*



Milikapiti Workshop

Bilingual Baby Board Book for Children Aged 0 to 4

The NT Library is developing a bilingual baby board book in Tiwi and English. We will be in the Rec Hall at Milikapiti on Wednesday 25th March and Thursday 26th March.

We have women and children coming from Nguu including The Strong Women Group and choir and we have women and children coming from Pirlangimpi.

During the two mornings there will be a variety of children's activities. There will be four corners set up in the Rec Hall where each community can tell stories, have a 'show and tell', read stories, dance, and health activities such as hand washing. All the activities will be filmed and recorded.

Everyone with small children from Milikapiti are welcome to come and join us at the Milikapiti Rec Hall.

Sandra Stuart

Project Officer

Northern Territory Library

Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport

Northern Territory Government

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To all interested mature aged (for e.g. 17-70) Tiwi people seeking to develop a career in a particular professional field of work, the **FIRST** step is to contact TITEB employees Norm Buchan or Bill Knights to talk about your interest in any one of the course areas advertised. The **SECOND** step is for TITEB to then contact the Batchelor Institute – Academic Advisor (See: Contact details below) with the list of people and course interests to progress their enrolments.



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