

# This Week @ LGANT

Newsletter



03 October 08

**03 OCTOBER 2008**

## **DECLARATION OF NOMINATIONS FOR SHIRE ELECTIONS TODAY**

Candidates for the upcoming Shire elections were announced today. Of the 117 vacancies, over 211 nominations were received. For more information and the published candidates and positions on the ballot papers, please visit the Northern Territory Electoral Commission website at [www.ntec.nt.gov.au](http://www.ntec.nt.gov.au)  
Or call the **Toll Free Inquiry number 1800 019 159**

If you live in Wagait Shire Council, Coomalie Shire Council, Barkly Shire Council, Central Desert Shire Council, East Arnhem Shire Council, MacDonnell Shire Council, Roper Gulf Shire Council, Tiwi Islands Shire Council, Victoria Daly Shire Council, West Arnhem Shire Council or Litchfield Council you must vote on Saturday, 25 October 2008.

**Visit the NT Government website for more information on the elections and the shire elections:**  
[http://www.localgovernment.nt.gov.au/new/shire\\_elections](http://www.localgovernment.nt.gov.au/new/shire_elections)

### **2008 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION TIMETABLE**

<b>Declaration of nominations/draw for positions on ballot paper</b>	<b>12 noon Friday 3 October TODAY!!</b>
<b>Postal vote mail-out commences</b>	<b>ASAP after 3 October</b>
<b>Pre-poll voting commences</b>	<b>Wednesday 8 October</b>
<b>Mobile polling commences</b>	<b>Monday 13 October</b>
<b>Polling day</b>	<b>Saturday 25 October</b>

### **HEALTHY SPACES AND PLACES WORKSHOP IN DARWIN ON 10 OCTOBER**

Healthy Spaces and Places is a unique collaboration between ALGA, the Planning Institute of Australia, and the National Heart Foundation, and is supported by funding from the Department of Health and Ageing.



The next consultation workshop is to be held in Darwin on 10 October 2008. To register for the remaining one day workshops, comment on the guide, or to obtain further information on the Healthy Spaces and Places initiative, go to: <http://www.planning.org.au> and click on the link.

## A SHAPSHOT OF YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, 2006 DATA

If you are looking for information about the social and economic make-up of your Local Government Area, then the updated National Regional Profile may be just what you need. Released on 28 July 2008, the new National Regional Profile contains new and updated data, and many new features that make it easier to find the information you are looking for. This includes a series of on-line videos that explain step by step how to use the National Regional Profile to find regions and data of interest, and how to compare your region to others.

The profiles can be viewed on your screen, or easily downloaded to your computer. You can view/download one or many regions. The latest release contains other new features such as:

- New 'drill down' maps for selecting Local Government Areas
- Step by step guides on 'How to Select a Region' and 'How to Compare Regions'
- Help pages that explain what data are in the profiles and where to find it ('Data Availability' pages) and
- What the different types of regions are ('About the Regions in the NRP').

For more information visit:

<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/webpages/National+Regional+Profile>

## TERRITORY TIDY TOWNS AWARDS AND FORUM - GET INVOLVED!!

The Keep Australia Beautiful Council of the Northern Territory is pleased to inform communities that the popular Territory Tidy Town Awards will be held in Darwin on the 6th and 7th of November 2008. The forum will be held at the Darwin Frontier Hotel and the awards will be held at the Casino on Friday night 7th November.

For more information on the Territory Tidy Towns Forum and Awards or for assistance in community clean ups and litter management call **Heimo Schober on 0407 186 461**. More information on KABNT and the Territory Tidy Town Awards can be found on their web site [www.kab.org.au/nt/](http://www.kab.org.au/nt/)



## AMBITIOUS TARGETS SET FOR FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

The Federal Government has announced ambitious targets in the \$2.25 billion Caring for our Country program. The program will have a strong emphasis on larger projects that bring together primary producers, researchers and scientists, community groups and all levels of government. Caring for our Country aims to achieve an environment that is healthy, better protected, well-managed, resilient and protects essential ecosystems in a changing climate. It will focus on achieving results through investment in six priority areas:

- A National Reserve System
- Biodiversity and natural icons
- Coastal environments and critical aquatic habitats
- Sustainable farm practices
- Natural resource management in remote and northern Australia, and
- Community skills, knowledge and engagement.

For more information visit [www.nrm.gov.au](http://www.nrm.gov.au)

## **NEWS FROM ALGA**

### ***ALGA calls for Government rethink on waste dumps***

The Federal Government should follow Professor Garnaut's recommendations to exclude waste dumps from the early stages of a carbon trading scheme, according to the President of the Australian Local Government Association, Cr Paul Bell.

"There are many problems that need to be ironed out," Cr Bell said. "Professor Garnaut acknowledges this. His report released this week makes it clear that the early inclusion of emissions from waste dumps would be problematic due to the variability of these emissions and the timing of their release. The report recommends that before being covered in the scheme, other policies to encourage mitigation in the waste sector should be pursued."

ALGA's view was that the sector, including local government, should continue to work with the Australian Government on a number of outstanding technical issues which needed to be resolved before waste was included in the CPRS, Cr Bell said.

The issues could be summarised as:

- the absence of accurate and affordable measurement of methane;
- the absence of a grandfathering clause which means that ratepayers will have to pay for waste produced 20 years ago; and
- unintended consequences resulting from the establishment of a low threshold such as providing an unfair advantage to larger landfill operators with little or no effect on emissions reduction.

"In his Interim report, Professor Garnaut nominated the waste sector for later inclusion in the CPRS (2015, in line with the likely inclusion of the agricultural sector)," Cr Bell said. "I urge the Minister to listen to the advice of Professor Garnaut who was appointed by the Rudd Government to provide an independent and expert opinion on this complex issue."

ALGA's formal response to the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Green Paper is on the ALGA website: [www.alga.asn.au](http://www.alga.asn.au)

### ***Vote on-line for Landcare Awards***

There is a new 'local government' category in the National Landcare Awards, which are held every 2 years. This year, for the first time, all of the state winners (nominees for the national awards) are presented on a website aimed at engaging the general public to find out how to get involved, vote, leave a message of support, or even leave a voice message. The finalist that has inspired the most people to vote will be presented with the 'people's choice' trophy, by Jack Thompson, at the national Awards event on October 23, at Parliament House.

The website is [www.landcareheroes.com](http://www.landcareheroes.com)

### ***Local Government Constitutional Summit 8 – 11 December 2008, Melbourne***

Local government has been presented with the challenge - and opportunity - of developing a shared vision of what constitutional recognition should aim to achieve and the shape it should take.

While the decision to hold a referendum for constitutional recognition is one for the Federal Government, we must ensure that the type of recognition reflects local government's own wishes. We know our communities best and we know what type of recognition, necessary to secure their future, is most likely to gain their support. Please see the Constitutional Recognition website for full program information and online registration –

<http://www.alga.asn.au/constitutionalrecognition/summit.php>

## **COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD**

**Event:** Nhulunbuy Corporation Limited – Art & Craft  
**Held:** Last Saturday morning of every month  
**Time:** 9am – Midday  
**Where:** Nhulunbuy Town Hall

NCL Art & Craft is a collaboration of indigenous artwork, local photography, handmade jewellery, precious gems, plants and many unique pieces of art. All of the work is put together by the local community both in Nhulunbuy and from surrounding communities. You will be amazed at all the talented people we have among us! Sit outside under a pandanus, sip a hot cappuccino and nibble on some fresh home made goodies, while getting a back massage!!! Sounds great doesn't it, come along and experience it for yourself! More details: **Kendell Kenway 08 89871933**

**Nhulunbuy Corporation Limited - Plant Operator Wanted:** A copy of the position description including relevant selection criteria may be obtained by phoning the Corporation on (08) 8987 1933. Further information may be obtained by contacting **Kel Brodbeck on (08) 8987 1753**. Closes 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2008.

## **PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY EVENTS**

Do you have a community event that you want to promote across the Territory? The LGANT newsletter is distributed to member Councils, staff and elected members all over the Territory. Please email the details of your community event to [info@lgant.asn.au](mailto:info@lgant.asn.au) or call **LGANT on (08) 8936 2888**.

## **COMING EVENTS**

- Healthy Places and Spaces Workshop – 10 October 2008
- 10 Shires and Litchfield Council Elections – 25 October 2008
- Territory Tidy Towns Awards and Forum – Darwin, 6 & 7 November 2008
- ALGA Board Meeting – 18 & 19 November 2008
- Australian Council of Local Government Meeting – 28 November 2008
- LGANT General Meeting – Darwin, 4 & 5 December 2008
- Local Government Constitutional Summit – Melbourne, 8-11 December 2008

**FOR BACK ISSUES AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION VISIT THE LGANT WEBSITE**  
**[www.lgant.nt.gov.au](http://www.lgant.nt.gov.au)**

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This newsletter is emailed direct to elected members and councils in the NT. For further information on any of the items in this newsletter, please contact the Officer concerned or **LGANT on (08) 8936 2888**.