

Barton Deakin Brief: Northern Territory Ministry Changes

15 December 2014

The Northern Territory Chief Minister, the Hon Adam Giles MLA, has announced changes to the Northern Territory Government ministry.

These changes include:

- Gary Higgins MLA has been promoted into the ministry, as Minister for Sport and Recreation, Minister for Senior Territorians, and Minister for the Environment;
- The Environment Portfolio has been introduced as a standalone portfolio;
- The Chief Minister has taken on two additional portfolios, Tourism and Arts & Museums. The Chief Minister remains as Treasurer;
- The Territory's first Ministry for Defence Industries and Veterans Support has been created, and will be headed by the Deputy Chief Minister, the Hon Peter Chandler MLA;
- The Hon Robyn Lambley MLA has moved from Health Minister to the Education portfolio;
- The Hon John Elferink MPA has retained Attorney-General and gained the Health portfolio;
- The Hon Matt Conlan MLA has ceded several portfolios but has retained the Housing portfolio and has gained the Transport and Infrastructure portfolios.

The new appointments came into effect on Friday 12 December 2014 at a swearing-in at Parliament House in Darwin.

A table of the updated Northern Territory Ministry **is provided overleaf**.

About Gary Higgins MLA

Gary Higgins, 60, was elected to represent the seat of Daly in the Daly River Region at the 2012 Northern Territory election, unseating Labor's Rob Knight. He has served as Deputy Speaker, before being elevated into the ministry.

Higgins moved to the Northern Territory in 1986, and worked in the Territory public service in roles including as the Director of Corporate Services with the NT Attorney General's office, as well as Chairman of the Private Security Licensing Authority, Controller of Prices and Acting Commissioner for Consumer Affairs.

After leaving the public service, Higgins bought the Daly River Mango Farm tourist park. Over the subsequent years, Higgins was involved in many community organisations and committees in the Daly Region. He sat on steering committees for the CSIRO, Charles Darwin University, and the NT Horticultural Association. He was Chairman of the Katherine Regional Tourism Association from 2005 to 2008, before it was amalgamated into Tourism Top End.



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In effect from 12 December 2014

Chief Minister Minister for Northern Australia Development Minister for Central Australian Development Minister for Economic Development & Major Projects Minister for Asian Engagement and Trade Treasurer Minister for Tourism Minister for Arts and Museums	The Hon Adam Giles MLA (Country Liberal)	Member for Braitling
Minister for Lands and Planning Minister for Police Fire and Emergency Services Minister for Defence Industries and Veterans Support	The Hon Peter Chandler MLA (Country Liberal)	Member for Brennan
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Minister for Public Employment Minister for Children and Families Minister for Health Minister for Mental Health Services Minister for Disability Services	The Hon Johan (John) Elferink MLA (Country Liberal)	Member for Port Darwin
Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries Minister for Mines and Energy Minister for Land Resource Management Minister for Essential Services	The Hon Willem Westra van Holthe MLA (Country Liberal)	Member for Katherine
Minister for Business Minister for Racing Gaming and Licensing Minister for Multicultural Affairs Minister for Corporate and Information Services Minister for Young Territorians	The Hon Peter Styles MLA (Country Liberal)	Member for Sanderson
Minister for Education Minister for Employment and Training Minister for Corrections	The Hon Robyn Lambley MLA (Country Liberal)	Member for Araluen
Minister for Local Government and Community Services Minister for Women's Policy Minister for Men's Policy Minister for Parks and Wildlife Minister for Statehood	The Hon Bess Price MLA (Country Liberal)	Member for Stuart
Minister for Transport Minister for Infrastructure Minister for Housing	The Hon Matt Conlan MLA (Country Liberal)	Member for Greatorex
Minister for Sport and Recreation Minister for Senior Territorians Minister for the Environment Minister assisting the Minister for Arts and Museums	Gary Higgins MLA (Country Liberal)	Member for Daly

To read the Chief Minister's media release, click [here](#).

For more information on how Barton Deakin can assist your organisation, please contact [Matthew Hingerty](#) or [Lauren Clark](#) or call +(0)407 220 945.