



## **GARY HIGGINS**

### **OPPOSITION LEADER**

**20 August 2018**

*For immediate circulation*

## **Time to shape up**

This week marks two years of a Territory Labor government. August parliamentary sittings resume tomorrow (Tuesday 21 August).

The honeymoon period of blame and inaction should be well and truly over for the Gunner government, because it certainly is for Territorians.

Leader of the Opposition, Gary Higgins said Territorians are tired of the *'we are doing absolutely everything we can'* approach.

"Labor is failing Territorians and the Territory, it is time for some logic and some business acumen to be applied to solve the Territory's dire state of lawlessness and perilous state of the economy.

"Labor promised it would create 14,000 jobs per year, at last count we are at least 25,000 short.

"We are at record lows of business confidence, property prices continue to fall and our debt is expected to reach a record level of \$7.5 billion.

"It is time to send a clear message to the private sector, making it clear the Territory is a place to invest.

"The Treasurer needs to publicly scrap the world's worst mining tax, and the proposed vacant commercial property levy, which is a land tax by any other name.

"The latest crime statistics (year to 30 June 2018) reinstate what Territorians already know – despite the best work of police, Labor has presided over a state of lawlessness.

"Alcohol related assaults are up 19 per cent across the Territory, reinforcing that the Banned Drinker Register (BDR) is not working as a standalone tool.

"So far, Labor has clearly failed to keep Territorians and their property safe," said Mr Higgins.

**ENDS**

**Media contact:** Georgina Murphy 0432 679 567