



**Marion Scrymgour**  
Member for Lingiari



**Josh Burgoyne MLA**  
Member for Braitling



**Asta Hill**  
Mayor of Alice Springs  
Town Council

**Bill Yan MLA**  
Member for Namatjira

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM BRINGS YOUNG PEOPLE TOGETHER ACROSS ALICE SPRINGS**

Free ice skating, packed programs and smiling faces have marked the end of a hugely successful school holiday program delivered through a partnership between Alice Springs Town Council, the Northern Territory Government and the National Indigenous Australians Agency.

The highlight for many families was the return of free ice skating, which proved enormously popular and drew children and young people from right across Alice Springs, creating a safe, fun and welcoming space during the school holidays.

Delivered entirely free of charge, the school holidays program offered a wide range of activities designed to keep young people active, connected and engaged, while supporting families during a busy time of year.

Almost twice as many young people took part in the most recent school holiday program in Alice Springs, following a coordinated approach that brought together government and community partners.

- **8,394** ice skating participants
- **15,399** total school holiday participants – almost double last year's figures
- **A record 30,224** people through the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre

Activities included virtual reality workshops, obstacle courses, BMX workshops, graphic novel workshops, 10 pin bowling and much more, with a strong focus on accessibility, wellbeing and positive social connection.

**Quotes attributable to Member for Lingiari, Marion Scrymgour:**

“When we invest time and energy in young people – we see great outcomes for our community.

“The free school holiday program was a massive success and shows what can happen when the Federal Government, the Northern Territory Government and the Alice Springs Town Council work together for the good of people in Central Australia.

“I hope everyone enjoyed the ice rink in Alice Springs and I look forward to another successful year of learning for our young people

“This is just one piece of a record investment from the Albanese Government in Alice Springs, because we care and are committed to this town and its community.”

**Quotes attributable to Alice Springs Mayor Asta Hill:**

“This program shows what’s possible when governments work together with a shared focus on our young people.

“The school holidays can be a challenging time for families. By offering free and welcoming activities right across town, we’re helping kids keep cool, stay active, build friendships and feel connected to their community.

“I’d like to extend a massive thank you to NIAA and the Northern Territory Government for their partnership, and to everyone that delivered a program that helped put a smile on the face of a young person through the holidays.”

**Quotes attributable to Member for Braitling Joshua Burgoyne:**

“It was fantastic to see so many activities happening in Alice Springs across the School Holiday Program that kept our young people active, connected and engaged throughout the school holidays.

“The collaboration between all three levels of government delivered a positive and enjoyable summer with high levels of participation in the program.

“It’s a great example of the community coming together to create a fun, safe and positive summer for everyone.”

**Quotes attributable to Member for Namatjira Bill Yan.**

“This is welcome news for Alice Springs, and the CLP will continue to back effective programs that deliver good outcomes for the community.”

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