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To: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: Embargoed MR
Attachments: FINAL_Administrator MR.pdf

Hi s22(1)(a)(ii) – hope you're well.

For your awareness, pls see attached embargoed MR being issued out tomorrow.

If I don't speak to you before Christmas, have a safe merry Christmas and new year.



s22(1)(a)(ii)
 Senior Media Advisor
 The Hon. Lia Finocchiaro MLA
 Chief Minister of the Northern Territory

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Lia Finocchiaro MLA
Chief Minister

MEDIA RELEASE

22 December 2025

Chief Minister announces appointment of the 24th Administrator of the Northern Territory

Chief Minister Lia Finocchiaro today announced the Northern Territory Government's endorsed nominee for the 24th Administrator of the Northern Territory, Mr David Connolly.

Mr Connolly bringing with him almost four decades of industry leadership, deep regional knowledge, and a strong commitment to building the Territory's economy.

Chief Minister Lia Finocchiaro said Mr Connolly is the embodiment of the Territory spirit.

"He is a true cattleman, a sharp mind, and a respected leader whose life's work has been shaped by the land and the people who depend on it," Mrs Finocchiaro said.

"He has stood with Territorians through good seasons and bad. He knows the challenges, he knows the opportunities, and he understands better than most the economic engines that drive the Northern Territory.

David has been a fearless advocate for pastoralists, for regional communities, and for industry. His leadership as President of the Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association and his national roles have earned the trust of people across Australia.

"David will represent the Territory with integrity, clarity and a keen sense of purpose."

Mr Connolly is an accomplished agribusiness executive with a distinguished career spanning livestock management, pastoral operations, agribusiness investment and organisational governance.

He has played a significant role in national agricultural policy, overseen large-scale pastoral and investment enterprises, and contributed to the long-term sustainability and economic growth of the sector.

Mr Connolly said he was honoured by the appointment.

"The Northern Territory has shaped my life, my work and my family. It is the privilege of a lifetime to serve Territorians in this role," Mr Connolly said.

"I look forward to contributing to the growth and promotion of the Territory, and to shining a light on the many diverse communities that make it so unique."

By this appointment, the Finocchiaro CLP Government acknowledges all those who built the Territory from the ground up. Their hard work and enduring spirit provide us with the platform on which to shape the Territory's future.

Mr Connolly will be sworn in by the Governor-General early next year, following completion of formal processes.

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