

NEWSLETTER

March 2020



**CIVIL CONTRACTORS
FEDERATION NT LTD**

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Tom Harris
CEO

CEO COMMENTS

Keeping Our Industry Moving

A key focus for CCF over the past few weeks as the COVID-19 crisis has deepened has been to ensure that civil construction sites remain open and that all layers of government look to bring forward projects that are currently in planning to tender and award.

We have also been involved in trying to ensure that when the interstate border closures came into place, that key supply items and labour force support that are needed for civil infrastructure projects are able to move around the nation with appropriate management measures in place. This like all current COVID-19 related issues is still a work in progress and we will notify members of updates as they are available, especially in relation to contractors who have projects in the NT and neighbouring states and are rotating staff.

We are still looking for further clarifying information relating to the Intra-Territory movement restrictions that came into effect on Friday the 27th of March. The overarching protocol is understandable, but as always, the devil is in the detail.

Currently if you are required to deliver essential activities in Northern Territory designated areas, each employee in your organisation will need to apply for an Approved Remote Essential Worker ID card and there will also be other related documentation that will need to be completed. The following link has all of the relevant information:

<https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/travel/designated-areas-and-remote-communities/approved-remote-essential-workers>

Essential contractors will be requested to return the completed forms as a matter of urgency to the relevant Land Councils with a copy to remote.travel@nt.gov.au as the Department of the Chief Minister will be issuing identification lanyards in consultation with Land Councils. Note that essential contracts are those that are already underway i.e. capital and minor new works as well as period contracts for maintenance.

The best link for all COVID-19 related information is:

<https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/>

See map below of the NT Designated Biosecurity Areas as at 26th March 2020.

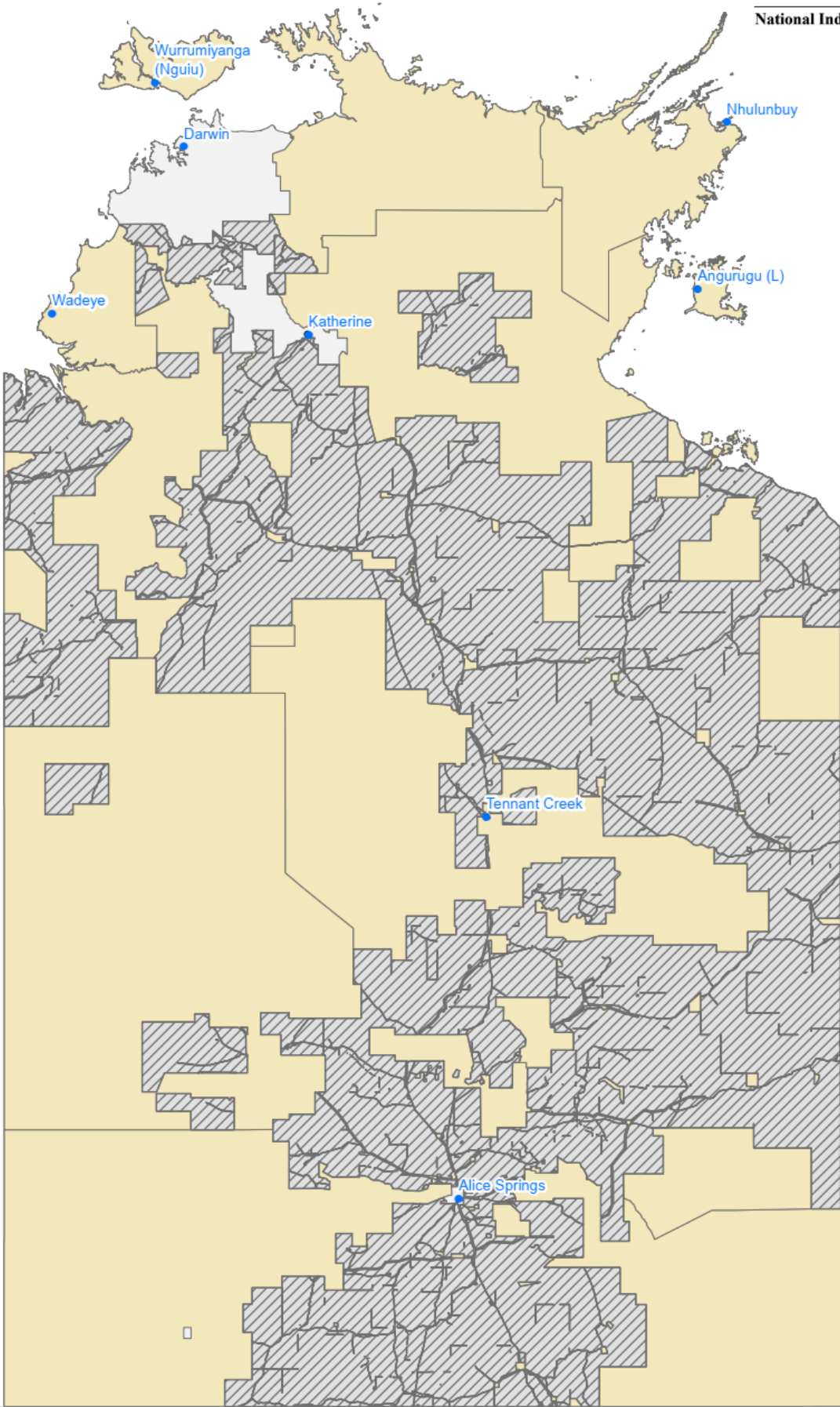
Designated Biosecurity Areas - Northern Territory

Basic



Australian Government

National Indigenous Australians Agency



- Locations
- Excluded Pastoral Lease
- Designated Biosecurity Areas



**East Arnhem - Including the Town of Nhulunbuy Uninc. Area
**Victoria Daly - Excluding the Pine Creek Ward
**Barkly - Excluding the Town of Tennant Creek

Keeping Our Industry Moving (cont..)

As part of our advocacy we have been working to ensure that all layers of government clearly understand that our industry has the ability to continue to operate and underpin economic activity and advancement opportunities during the COVID-19 crisis. The civil sector due to its nature, is able to continue with elevated human safety protocols in place. Our advantages include:

- Ability to manage most processes with minimal interaction between staff
- Ability to stage project components
- Projects can be managed via phone, two-way radio and other technology
- Generally, a high single operator machinery component
- High mechanisation
- Split shifts
- Many current projects being undertaken in more remote locations and serviced from work camps – high level of isolation

As a sector, we believe that we have the ability to manage the critical human elements on our worksites to ensure that there is compliance and worker safety. We can distance our workers, clean machinery for change overs, communicate via phones, two-way radios etc, better stage processes and continue to provide employment and economic advancement for many Territorians. If we have contractual flexibility from the NTG and other clients, most projects should be able to be successfully completed (or substantially completed) during this crisis and keep more Territorians working.

We are an essential service to the Territory and current projects need to continue and projects in planning need to hit the ground across a range of contract values. The civil sector will play a significant role in assisting the economic recovery of the Northern Territory.

Many of you have contacted me in recent weeks to discuss a range of issues and I would encourage you to continue doing this. I can only assist the industry if I have the relevant information.

Take care and stay safe.

Cheers,

Tom Harris
CEO

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Helpline for Businesses Impacted by COVID-19

The Federal Government has announced its business hotline will give more support to small and medium businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Operations at the business.gov.au 13 28 46 Contact Centre will increase from five days per week to seven days per week, and provide additional hours of support outside standard operating hours for the first month, answering calls from 7am to 11pm AEST.

The operations of the Government's business 13 28 46 contact centre, are being expanded to provide specialist advisers and extended support hours.

For more information, visit www.business.gov.au. This page has a dedicated link to all of the recently announced support packages including the Job Keeper program.

Earth Awards and Training Awards

While we have postponed until further notice all of our events, it is still our intention to move forward with the expression of interest and submission process for all of our Earth Award categories and training awards. We want to celebrate our excellence and success and we will - we just don't know when.

All Earth Award category expressions of interest will now close on the 31st of May with final submissions closing on June 30th. Trainee award entries will also close on June 30th 2020.

NT Scheduled Essential Air Services to 30 April 2020

Current as at 1 April 2020 (Version 1)

The Northern Territory Government is supporting aviation companies to provide Scheduled Essential Air Services 2020 for the delivery of critical freight and essential personnel to Northern Territory remote communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information, visit coronavirus.nt.gov.au.

The minimum level of scheduled services is listed below. The schedule is subject to change and aviation companies should be contacted directly for the most up to date schedules, including departure and arrival times and other important travel information.

Operators

Scheduled Essential Air Service (includes a "return" service)	Number of Services Per Week
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Airnorth <https://www.airnorth.com.au/>

Darwin to Gove and Groote Eylandt*	3 services per week: Tue, Thu, Fri
Darwin to Gove	5 services per week: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri
Darwin to Groote Eylandt*	3 services per week: Mon, Wed, Thu
Darwin to Mililingimbi and Maningrida	2 services per week: Tue, Thu
Darwin to Elcho Island (Galiwinku) and Maningrida	5 services per week: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri
Darwin to Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs	3 services per week: Mon, Wed, Fri

Fly Tiwi <http://www.flytiwi.com.au/> & Murin Travel and Freight <https://murin.com.au/>

Darwin to Port Keats (Wadeye) (Bookings through Murin Travel and Freight)	5 services per week: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri
Darwin to Snake Bay (Milikapiti) and Garden Point (Pirlangimpi)	3 services per week: Mon, Wed, Fri
Darwin to Bathurst Island (Nguui)	5 services per week: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri
Darwin to South Goulburn Island (Waruwi) and Croker Island (Minjilang)	5 services per week: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri
Darwin to Ramingining	5 services per week: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri
Darwin to Lake Evella (Gapuwiyak)	5 services per week: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri
Darwin to Mililingimbi	5 services per week: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri

Chartair <https://chartair.com.au/>

Darwin to Groote Eylandt*	3 services per week: Mon, Wed, Fri
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Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) <https://maf.org.au/>

Gove to Elcho Island (Galiwinku)	2 services per week: Mon, Thu
Gove to Groote Eylandt*	1 service per week: Thu
Gove to Lake Evella (Gapuwiyak), Elcho Island (Galiwinku), Mililingimbi and Ramingining	2 services per week: Tue, Fri

*The status of travel to Groote Eylandt should be checked at: <https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/travel/designated-areas-and-remote-communities>

Australian Government's Remote Air Services Subsidy Scheme

See <https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/aviation/regional/rass.aspx>

Contractors continue to operate freight services to a large number of remote NT locations and passenger services to some locations under the scheme:

Chartair:	https://chartair.com.au/
NT Air Services:	https://ntas.com.au/
Katherine Aviation:	https://www.katherineaviation.com.au/contact/

NT Project News

Kindly supplied by ICN NT <https://icn.org.au/northern-territory>

ICN is working with government at all levels throughout Australia in response to COVID-19. ICN NT in support of initiatives by the Northern Territory Government and other industry bodies has established a gateway page to facilitate the promotion of local opportunities. The portal aims to promote business opportunities of any size, without restrictions around particular sectors. ICN is offering this as a free service to support the local industry during these challenging times.



Tanami Expansion 2 (TE2)

Newmont has published a new ICN Gateway page for the project with a Bulk Earthworks package open for EOI's until 2nd April 2020.

Suppliers interested in the project should register an EOI against the 'General Updates' work package.

[Go to the ICN Gateway page](#)



Middle Arm Battery Project

The Middle Arm Battery project is an early works package that will later form part of the Sun Cable Australia-ASEAN Power Link (AAPL) project.

An ICN Gateway page has been published with (11) work packages open for EOI's until 1st May 2020.

[Go to the ICN Gateway page](#)



John Stokes Square

Halikos is tendering for the construction of the new Residential Precinct as part of the Redevelopment of John Stokes Square project.

Territory Subcontractors and Suppliers are encouraged to submit EOIs and pricing for the (26) work packages. EOI submissions will close on the 16th April 2020.

[Go to the ICN Gateway page](#)

NT Project News (cont...)



Project Sea Dragon

Seafarms has successfully raised \$12.5 million.

The company plans to use the funds to further progress Project Sea Dragon including developments at Exmouth WA, Bynoe Harbour NT and Legune Station NT.

[Go to the ICN Gateway page](#)



Finniss Lithium

Core Lithium has released metallurgy results with a concentrate grade of 6% and 65-72% recovery.

An update to the feasibility study, planned for Q2 2020 is expected to show increased mine-life and improved economics.

[Read more](#)



Larrakeyah Defence Precinct

Laing O'Rourke has published 3 Request for Tender documents to the Project's Gateway page. The new RFT's are for Electrical, Bulk Earthworks & Civil and Defence Fuel Infrastructure.

[Go to the ICN Gateway page](#)



* EVENTS POSTPONED *

All CCFNT Ltd events are currently postponed until further notice

2020 Election Platform Priorities

While the 2020 NT Election is scheduled to be held on the 22nd of August, there is a fair chance that we may see a delay in that process. But CCFNT are moving forward with our platform document and the summary points below are extracted from the draft document.



Increased Investment in Civil Infrastructure

Civil Infrastructure underpins all economic advancement opportunities and if we are to see growth in tourism, agriculture, horticulture, mining, gas exploration, defence, as well as improvements in health and education outcomes across our vast land mass, increased investment in enabling infrastructure must be a priority for all levels of government. This is now more important than ever given what has occurred as a result of the COVID-19 crisis.

Increased internal resources for the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL) need adequate resources to deliver their capital works and repair and maintenance programs in an efficient, timely and consistent manner.

Given the importance of the civil sector to the broader economic development of the Northern Territory, it is critical that the lead agency delivering much of this infrastructure is well resourced.

Consistency of works packages

There needs to be better coordination and communication between all agencies involved with infrastructure delivery in the Northern Territory to ensure that we maximise the economic impact of the investment. This includes involvement and funding from the Federal Government and their budget cycle.

In recent years we have seen investment in new infrastructure projects, but repair and maintenance (R&M) programs have been poorly funded. There needs to be appropriate funding for R&M on all our key infrastructure to ensure the investment is protected into the future.

Changes to procurement processes inclusive of Local Content Assessment

Red tape in the civil construction sector is detrimental for infrastructure project delivery. There is too much ambiguity and uncertainty in the current procurement system and changes need to be made from the planning for a Request for Tender document being prepared to the tender assessment and award.

CCFNT believe that the procurement process needs to be better planned, procedures need to be better understood, staff involved in procurement need to be better trained and have the required skills and knowledge to perform the tasks they are allocated.

Procurement processes must be reviewed and streamlined to ensure transparency, fairness and efficiency during tender assessment and an opportunity for decision review.

Recognition of Indigenous employment within the Federal Indigenous Procurement Policy

While this is a Federal Government policy, we feel that there needs to be a discussion about Indigenous employment initiatives in relation to Federal Government funding for projects managed by the Department of Infrastructure Planning and Logistics in the Northern Territory.

CCFNT believe the Indigenous Procurement Policy (IPP) in its current form, carries significant risk that some indigenous businesses are being set up to fail as the policy only recognises indigenous ownership, not capacity, capability or, most importantly, indigenous employment outcomes.

Employment is a key pathway to economic and social advancement. Employment options for Indigenous Australians should be expanded, not restricted. Without Indigenous employment targets within the IPP, the policy will not achieve the expected outcomes. Businesses who employ Indigenous Australians should also be supported as part of the Commonwealth Indigenous Procurement Policy. Our local civil industry is a significant employer of Indigenous Australians, providing pathways for career development, and in some cases, assisting the creation of business enterprises.

CIVIL CONTRACTORS
FEDERATION

MESSAGE FROM CHRIS MELHAM, CEO, CIVIL CONTRACTORS FEDERATION NATIONAL

Dear CCF Members

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the significant impact that COVID-19 is having on the health and economic wellbeing of all CCF members and your businesses across Australia.

The CCF National Secretariat in Canberra and your National Board is working around the clock to respond to developments and represent your interests at the highest levels within the Morrison Federal Government. In addition, CCF State and Territory Offices continue to also advocate on your behalf to State, Territory and Local Governments.

The purpose of this message is to provide you with an update on the advocacy efforts of CCF National and I look forward to keeping you updated on a regular basis.



CCF NATIONAL PUTS FORWARD STIMULUS MEASURES TO PM

CCF National put forward a set of stimulus measures to the Prime Minister aimed at contributing to the viability of the civil construction sector both during and beyond COVID-19. These measures include:

Measure 1 - Keeping Civil Construction Sites Open

- Encouraging the Federal Government to ensure civil construction sites remain open as an essential service.
- Lobbying to ensure state and territory border closures do not impact on the ability of civil construction workers to travel across borders.

Measure 2 - More Streamlined Procurement Process

- Fast track, accelerate and simplify the procurement process where possible.

Measure 3 - Civil Infrastructure Investment Strategy

- Bringing forward Federal Government civil infrastructure expenditure from its 10-year rolling \$100 billion infrastructure investment program.
- Increasing the level of infrastructure investment by using debt funding for productive infrastructure projects to stimulate the economy.
- To accelerate shovel ready civil construction projects to support small to medium civil construction companies.
- To disaggregate major civil construction projects and spread them across as many tier 2 and tier 3 companies in all state and territory jurisdictions.

Measure 4 - Fair and Equitable Contract Terms

- To ensure that the civil construction companies are not unfairly penalised or exposed to increased risk allocation on Federal Government funded projects impacted by COVID 19 when contractual obligations may not be met because of unavoidable delays.

This is an extract from a recent CCF National Dispatch.

Practising Cyber Hygiene during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Dr Ritesh Chugh is a senior lecturer and discipline leader (Information Systems and Analysis) in the School of Engineering and Technology at CQUniversity.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, apart from the coronavirus attempting to infect our bodies, online scammers are also trying to infect our computers and perpetrate a range of other scams.

That's according to CQUniversity's Information Systems and Analysis Leader, Dr Ritesh Chugh who says everyone needs to stay on guard as these threats are global.

Dr Chugh has reflected on the various coronavirus-related scams and what the public should do to stay safe online.

After receiving nearly 100 reports of coronavirus-related scams, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has warned that more people will fall victim.

"Similar to the vulnerability of older people to coronavirus, scammers also find them an attractive target. INTERPOL, the FBI and the UK's Metropolitan Police Service have also warned the public to be aware of coronavirus-related scams, particularly as they continue to rise," Dr Chugh says.

"The unsuspecting public needs to watch out for the numerous COVID-19-related scams currently circulating. These scams are usually spread through email, text messages and social media to extract personal and financial information such as usernames, passwords and addresses. In some cases, links and attachments are also transmitted, which could install malicious software on user computers."



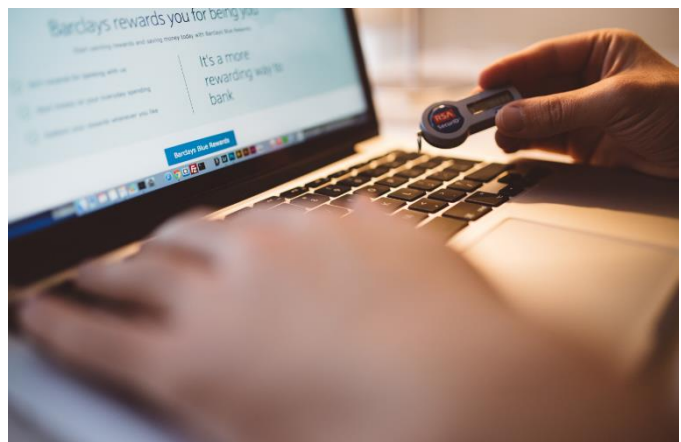
Watch out for

Email phishing

There are Emails offering coronavirus-related advice (with attachments) appearing to be from legitimate organisations. Opening the attachments could download malicious software to your computer. Sometimes, there will be links rather than attachments, which take users to a spoofing site to capture personal information.

Ransomware attack

Spam emails can also contain links or attachments that install ransomware on your computer. Ransomware encrypts files or locks computers, with the perpetrator then asking for a ransom to decrypt the files, or unlock infected machines.



Practising Cyber Hygiene during the COVID-19 Pandemic (cont...)

Spoofing sites

These are lookalike fraudulent websites with similar content and URLs to legitimate sites, with the intention to capture login information or download malware. The malware could be a keystroke logger that transmits every keystroke back to the fraudster. These websites may offer fake treatments or cures for coronavirus.

Impersonations

These are scammers posing as health agencies and asking for credit card details for medical prescriptions under false pretences.

Text scams

There are Coronavirus-related text messages that appear to be from government-related agencies spreading disinformation and harvesting users' personal and financial information.

Social media advertisements

There are fraudulent COVID-19 home test kits being peddled on social media.

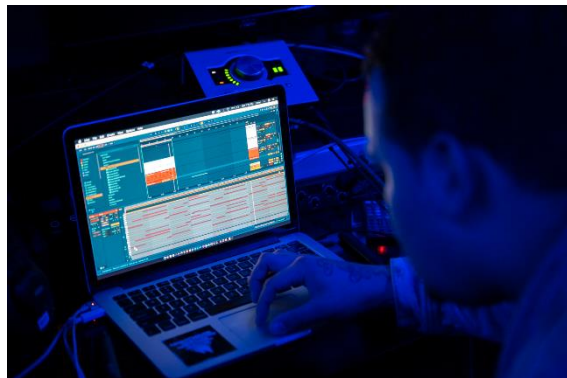
Faux fundraising

Scammers are creating fake charities or impersonating real ones to capitalise on the goodwill of people during this pandemic.

Practice Cyber Hygiene

To stay safe from these online scams, users need to take precautionary steps to protect their valuable data from being stolen and the integrity of their computer systems from being compromised. Some cyber hygiene tips are:

- Be wary of clicking on hyperlinks in emails and text messages from unknown people or mobile numbers.
- Don't reply to text messages or emails soliciting your personal information. Government agencies and financial institutions do not email or send text messages asking for personal or financial information.
- Check the URLs to ensure they are legitimate. Watch out for misspellings, grammar mistakes or other glaring errors in email or text messages.
- Verify all web links by hovering your mouse over the link. This will show you the exact website address as it could be a misspelt variation. And to be safe, type the web address in your browser rather than clicking on the provided link.
- Install anti-virus software and ensure it is up to date.
- Check security information of websites by clicking the padlock symbol adjacent to the address bar.
- Use multi-factor authentication, which makes it difficult for scammers to access your sensitive information.



"Finally, don't fall victim to coronavirus-related fears, be diligent and stay vigilant. You don't want to unsuspectingly give your personal information to scammers or pay for a product or service that you will never receive!" Dr Chugh says.

This article was republished with permission from CQUniversity.

POSTPONED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

**2020 Civil Contractors Federation NT
Earth Awards Gala Dinner**

incorporating the

**CCFNT Trainee and Apprentice Awards
Subcontractor of the Year Award**



CIVIL CONTRACTORS FEDERATION
EARTH AWARDS
Excellence in Civil Construction

****POSTPONED****

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE NOTE

Please continue to submit Expressions of Interest

**Excellence & success in the Civil Industry 2020
will be celebrated at a later date**

Expressions of Interest

NEW CLOSING DATE

FRIDAY 31 May 2020

Submissions

NOW DUE

FRIDAY 30 June 2020

EOI Forms are available to download [here](#) or from ccfnt.com.au



2020 TRAINEE & APPRENTICE AWARDS

nominations are open for

- **First Year Apprentice of the Year** *Sponsored by Dial Before You Dig*
- **NT Mature Age Achiever** *Sponsored by ETAS*
- **Indigenous Trainee Award** *Sponsored by NT Government*
- **Rae Snodgrass Apprentice of the Year** *Sponsored by Civil Train*

These Awards recognise the outstanding work of Trainees and Apprentices while also recognising their employer. Winners will be awarded with a framed certificate and prize of \$750.

Nominees will be a resident of the Northern Territory who has completed or is enrolled in a Vocational Education and Training Course that leads to a nationally recognised outcome between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020.

Adult or mature age nominees must be 21 years or older when they commence their apprenticeship and will complete, or are due to complete their training course between July 2019 - June 2020.

Nominations due date has been extended to Friday 30th June 2020

Nomination Booklet available to download [here](#) or from ccfnt.com.au



2020 SUBCONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Nomination due date has been extended to Friday 30th June 2020

Nomination Booklet available to download [here](#) or from ccfnt.com.au



Contact ccfnt@ccfnt.com.au | 0418 826 168 (Ann)



* EVENTS POSTPONED *

All CCFNT Ltd events are currently postponed until further notice

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*Ian Hinchliffe
President*