



Northern
Territory
Government

Media Release

9/06/08

Award Winning road safety play aims to reduce Indigenous road toll

MUTTACAR SORRY BUSINESS, an Aboriginal phrase meaning motorcar grief, is also a free play addressing key road safety issues such as drink and drug driving, overcrowding vehicles, speeding and not wearing seatbelts.

Australia's leading Indigenous theatre company Yirra Yaakin Aboriginal Corporation, has joined forces with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure's Road Safety Branch and Artback NT to tour the play, aimed at reducing road trauma in Indigenous communities.

Statistics show that Indigenous people are three times more likely to die in a car crash or pedestrian incident than non-Indigenous people.

Through the performance and workshop package the audience will meet an Aboriginal family who are caught in life changing circumstances when they experience a car crash on the way home from their local football final.

"MUTTACAR SORRY BUSINESS is a perfect example of how the power of theatre can be used to impart a potentially life saving message to Aboriginal communities," said Executive Producer Sam Cook.

"Road trauma has a devastating effect on communities. We need to ensure people are given the right information, so when they're faced with a situation where they might put themselves or their passengers at risk, they will make the right choices.

"If we work together we can bring about change and reduce road trauma in the Territory's remote communities.

"The play is designed to be performed in a bush setting. Written by Indigenous people for Indigenous people, this play is timely for the Northern Territory," said Mr Cook.

MUTTACAR will tour the central lands regions from Monday 7 July to 8 August 2008.

During the five week tour the team will cover 6,000 kilometres, visiting more than 20 Indigenous communities and playing to senior school students in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek.

ENDS

For media enquiries contact:

Vanessa Hutchins

08 8924 4183

0412 323 607

tour@artbacknt.com.a

Photographs of the cast and crew are available on request.

The Director, cast and Yirra Yaakin are available for interviews.