

## Lendlease to sponsor 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Barunga Festival

**Katherine, 20 April, 2016:** Lendlease's Building business today announced they will be this year's Gold Sponsors of the Barunga Festival, one of Australia's largest and longest-running remote Indigenous community festivals.

Held between 10 and 12 June in the community of Barunga, 70 kilometres south-east of Katherine, the Barunga Festival attracts about 4,000 people from across the country.

In its 31st year, the festival is a unique blend of music, sport and culture, with a strong emphasis on cultural exchange and collaboration.

Dale Connor, Managing Director of Lendlease's Building business in Australia said the company was proud to be sponsoring the Barunga Festival for the first time.

"Lendlease has completed many projects in the Northern Territory over the last 40 years. We recently opened a new office in the Top End which reflects an ongoing commitment to the community and the region.

"Sponsoring and attending the Barunga Festival is a way we can contribute to the communities we are working with and in.

"Key to delivering major public projects such as the Palmerston Regional Hospital in Darwin, and work for the Department of Defence at Tindal RAAF Base in Katherine, is providing local opportunities for employment and training.

"Since 2011, we've been investing in our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and RAP Partnerships to acknowledge and celebrate the proud heritage of Australia's first people, and promote opportunities for career development, sustainable business growth, and economic participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

"At Palmerston Regional Hospital, we are putting a training package together for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander jobseekers for a Certificate II in Construction to be managed and delivered by our partner, Carey Training in coming months," said Dale.

Barunga Festival Project Manager, Angela Kelly welcomed Lendlease's sponsorship of the festival.

"This year's Barunga Festival will highlight the role, influence and importance of women in community life with a strong line-up of events, activities and local and national performers, including Grammy-nominated Courtney Barnett and Indigenous all-girl band Wildflower, to showcase the talented and inspiring women in all of our communities.

"Lendlease's commitment to diversity made them the perfect Gold Partner for the festival this year," said Angela.

For more information about the festival, visit [www.barungafestival.com.au](http://www.barungafestival.com.au) .

**ENDS**



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**About Lendlease**

Lendlease is a leading international property and infrastructure group. Listed on the Australian Securities Exchange and with circa 11,900 employees worldwide, Lendlease's capabilities span the property value chain.

In Australia we offer development management; investment management; project management & construction and asset & property management. Our expertise covers multiple sectors including commercial, residential, retail, retirement and infrastructure.

