



2024  
AWARDS CEREMONY

## MEDIA RELEASE 31/05/2024 | CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF CREATING TERRITORY FUTURES



GTNT Group celebrated Territory successes on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> of May, holding their annual Awards Ceremony under the stars at Mindil Beach Casino Resort. The awards celebrate the achievements of our GTNT Group apprentices, trainees, students, supervisors and host businesses as well as 35 years of employing and supporting thousands of apprentices and trainees and partnering with host businesses across the Northern Territory.

The Youth Mill opened the evening with a powerful Welcome to Country and Didgeridoo performance. Master of Ceremonies, Amy Hetherington, highlighted that the Awards Ceremony is about recognising, rewarding and celebrating the achievements of our local Territory talent and those businesses that partner with GTNT Group to provide opportunities for Territorians!

This year's event was well supported with memorable night for the 330 guests attending. The event had a great representation of the Northern Territory, from 15-year-old trainees to a pool of mature apprentices, coming from Jabiru, Tennant Creek, Katherine, Alice Springs and of course Darwin to celebrate the night together.

**Guest speakers included the** Hon. Joel Bowden MLA - Minister for Skills, Training and International Education, Platinum sponsor, Dean Calvert – CEO of Calvert Technologies, Media sponsor, Jac Cowan from Hot 100 and GTNT Group CEO, Kathryn Stenson.

Other **special guests** welcomed were:

- Mrs Lia Finocchiaro MLA, Leader of the Opposition
- Minister of Education – Hon. Mark Monaghan
- Mayor of Alice Springs - Matt Patterson
- Member for Port Darwin - Paul Kirby MLA
- Member for Solomon - Luke Gosling OAM MP
- Apprentice Employment Network for QLD & NT Executive Officer – Craig Westwood
- CEO of Power and Water Djuna Pollard
- GTNT Group Chairman Kim Jenkinson and the GTNT Group Board of Directors
- Consulate of the Republic of Indonesia - Consul Bagus Hendraning Kobarsih
- Department of Employment and Workplace Relations NT State Manager – Sarah Whitten
- Pro Vice-Chancellor & Chief Executive TAFE at Charles Darwin University - Michael Hamilton
- Charles Darwin University Fellow – Don Zoellner



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The Awards Ceremony consisted of 11 categories with 42 finalists. Julian Coburn was named the winner of the '2024 GTNT Group Apprentice of the Year'. He has recently completed his Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician and is hosted to Nilsen NT. The '2024 GTNT Group Trainee of the Year' was won by Jessica Porter who completed a Diploma of Leadership and Management, hosted to GTNT Group. The '2024 GTNT Group Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year' was won by Thomas Norris II who completed his Certificate III in Engineering – Fabrication Trade, hosted to Darwin Port. Power and Water Corporation were awarded the '2024 GTNT Group Host Business of the Year' for their demonstrated dedication to delivering quality training programs to suit the needs of their apprentices.

Throughout the evening GTNT Group thanked the **event sponsors**: Calvert Technologies, Hot100, Master Builders NT, Mindil Beach Casino Resort, IntoJobs, Charles Darwin University, YouthWorX NT, Merit Partners, NEC, MATES in Construction and Cultural Journeys. As well as **category sponsors**: Australian Regional & Remote Community Services, Asbuild NT, Bridge Toyota, Charles Darwin University, ISACNT, Kinetic IT, Power and Water Corporation, NAWIC NT, NT Powerlines and Electrical, The Northern Territory Government – Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, WANT Training Services. **Prize sponsors** were thanked for their generous contributions: North Australia Media, Mindil Beach Casino Resort and Milwaukee Tools.

It was also announced by the Hon Joel Bowden MLA that GTNT Group had won a competitive tender to continue delivering apprenticeship support services in the Territory from 1 July 2024. GTNT Group was best able to demonstrate its experience operating in the Northern Territory, including navigating the challenges of remoteness, seasonality, and establishing and maintaining connections over large distances.

GTNT Group would like to congratulate all 2024 finalists and winners and wish them the very best for their careers and future endeavours!

#### **Quotes:**

##### **GTNT Group CEO – Kathryn Stenson**

*"Our mission for 35 years has been to support people, regardless of their background, struggles, or abilities. We believe that everyone's life can be enhanced through education, training and employment. They say it takes a village to raise a child—well, it takes a whole community to Complete an Apprenticeship. I can only quote from the time we have had electronic records but to date we have qualified over 35 000 Apprentices and Trainees."*

*"The Territories success boils down to all the incredible people Past and Present who are passionate about Vocational Education and Training. GTNT Group are proud to contribute to skilling Territorians. Our current Executive team collectively boasts over 194 years of experience! To all the finalists: you're already winners in our eye and we are pleased to help you grow into industry leaders."*

##### **Hon. Joel Bowden MLA - Minister for Skills, Training and International Education**

*"Congratulations to GTNT for being awarded this tender to continue to deliver apprentice support and tonight we celebrate the Territory's outstanding students, apprentices and employers at the GTNT Group Awards Ceremony."*

+ Download the Program on our [website](#)

+ Photos available on [Dropbox](#)

+ Listen to the Awards Night [Spotify Playlist](#)



Below is a summary of the 2024 Category Winners

CATEGORY	NAME	QUALIFICATION	HOST BUSINESS
Apprentice of the Year	Julian Coburn	Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician	Nilsen NT
Trainee of the Year	Jessica Porter	Diploma of Leadership and Management	GTNT Group
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year	Thomas Norris II	Certificate III in Engineering - Fabrication Trade	Darwin Port
Host Business of the Year	Power and Water Corporation		
Supervisor of the Year	Steven Budd	Power and Water Corporation	
Outstanding Apprentice – Stage 1 Southern Region	Oliver King	Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician	Power and Water Corporation
Outstanding Apprentice – Stage 1 Top End Region	Jamil Turpin	Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician	ESPEC / Benash
Outstanding Apprentice – Stage 2	Thomas Marsh	Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician	Power and Water Corporation
Outstanding Apprentice – Stage 3	Abbe Ayers	Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician	South32 - GEMCO
Institute of Skills and Training Australia – Student of the Year	Kayla Glynatsis	Certificate III in Business	ISACNT
NAWIC NT Award for Most Outstanding Female in the Construction Industry	Elisha Wright	Certificate III in Engineering - Mechanical Trade	Territory Generation
<b>Commendation Awards</b>			
Hot100 Rising Star Commendation Award	Alec Blundell	Certificate III in Plumbing	Asbuild NT
Calvert Commendation Award	Josiah Ross-Kelly	Certificate III in Plumbing	Kakadu Contracting NT
GTNT Foundation Commendation Award	Chloe Quill	Certificate III in Hospitality	Airport Development Group

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