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MEDIA RELEASE



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For immediate release

Broome Civic Centre Shuts Its Doors

After 36 years of hosting wedding receptions, concerts and community events the Broome Civic Centre is closing its doors on 12 February 2009.

Officially opened in 1973, the venue was designed as a town hall and doesn't provide adequate acoustics or air conditioning. It no longer meets hirers expectations and with hotels providing venue alternatives, the centre is no longer in demand as the venue of choice.

Shire President Graeme Campbell said the centre does not adequately meet public health and safety requirements and its rundown condition makes it unsuitable for venue hire.

"With no venue bookings confirmed for 2009, we are taking this opportunity to shut the doors and use \$40,000 from the \$45,000 set aside for Civic Centre maintenance to further drive the Broome Performing Arts Centre Project," he said.

"The Broome Performing Arts Centre Trust fund will assist in ongoing capital infrastructure for the Broome Performing Arts Centre. This fund will provide leverage to attract further government and private sector funding for the Broome Performing Arts Centre.

"The remaining \$5000 for Civic Centre maintenance has been set aside for the Civic Centre closure which may include removal of props and equipment from the venue," said Cr Campbell.

"For those in the community that fondly remember the Civic Centre during its heyday, we plan to substantially investigate the opportunities to redevelop the building into a Performing Arts Centre and if we can reuse materials or maintain elements of character from the original Civic Centre building we will do so," he said.

A design tender process is currently underway by the Western Australian Local Government Association Tendering Service.

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