

Commonwealth Bank

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RT Kolts
Chief Manager
Operational Risk,
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The Honourable Shane L. Stone
Parliament House
GPO Box 3146
Darwin 0801
Northern Territory

15 February 1999

Dear Shane

Thank you for your letter dated 7/2/99.

Your retirement has probably surprised many folk after such a distinguished period as Chief Minister, Northern Territory.

I first met you when I attended a Northern Territory Expo in 1995 in my capacity as Chief Manager, International Marketing, Business Banking. It was the first of several visits to Darwin and I must say how impressed I was with the effectiveness of your administration and that of the NT Expo people. I am also pleased to say that we subsequently established a Business Banking Centre in Darwin with our Mr Michael Ryan.

The professional approach adopted by Mr Lyal Mackintosh, CEO Department of Industries and Development; Minister for Asian Relations and Trade is also acknowledged.

Shane, I wish you and your family continued success with your "next career".

Best wishes for 1999 and beyond.

Yours Sincerely

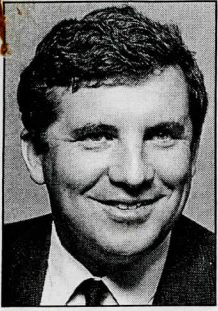


RT Kolts
Chief Manager
BFS - Operational Risk, Insurance and Compliance

cc. Mr Michael Ryan, Chief Manager
Business Banking, Darwin NT



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY



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6 May, 1999

Mr R T Kolts
Chief Manager
BFS - Operational Risk, Insurance and Compliance
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Dear Ross

Thank you for your letter of February 15. I apologise for not responding earlier but I have been endeavouring to deal with an avalanche of mail that I have received from around the Territory following on from my retirement.

It was very kind of you to write to me in such a complimentary way. After 9 years as a Minister, including 4 as Chief Minister, it is time to pick up the threads of the commercial sector that I left behind almost 10 years ago.

I will be remaining in the Northern Territory as I am firmly committed to Darwin as the gateway to the Asian Pacific Region. It is now time for me to apply my networks in different ways.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to me. In the event that I can ever be of any assistance, albeit in a small way, you should not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Shane L. Stone