Giles makes return to NT

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AUSTRALIA'S richest business woman Gina Rinehart is to have a presence in Darwin and former Chief Minister Adam Giles will be it.

Mr Giles has been appointed the General Manager of External Affairs Pastoral for Australia and he will be basing himself in Darwin.

The business presence of Ms Rinehart in Darwin has been welcomed by the NT Chamber of Commerce which said it will put a much needed national and international focus on Darwin and the Territory.

"An office presence by Gina Rinehart in the Northern Territory's capital, headed up by a former NT Chief Minister who has belief and commitment to the Territory is a good thing," Acting Chamber of Commerce chief executive Brian O'Gallagher said.

"Despite whatever internal problems befell the previous government Mr Giles was astute and passionate about the Territory. Any new business presence in the Territory should be welcomed, anything less sends out the worst possible message to the rest of Australia. "It is no secret Mrs Rinehart had strong regard for Mr Giles when he was Northern Territory Chief Minister after he convinced her to consider building a \$175 million state of the art cancer hospital.