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29 June 2010

## **Gravity Discovery Centre Funding Extended**

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton welcomed the State Government's announcement that it would provide interim funding of \$178,000 to assist the popular Gravity Discovery Centre near Gingin, about an hour's drive north of Perth, to remain open to the public.

"The Gravity Discovery Centre was established about 10 years ago and many school groups, seniors and families visit the Gravity Discovery Centre each year for interesting and challenging day trips and school excursions," said Dr Nahan.

"It is an important scientific and educational centre and the State Government's interim funding will allow it the additional time it needs to review its operations and to secure new long-term financial support."

Dr Nahan said the Department of Commerce is commissioning and funding an independent report to review operational procedures at the Centre and to identify possible funding sources to assist the Centre to become financially self-sustaining.

"The Department of Commerce will make the report available to the Centre's board by the end of September and the board will utilise the report and its independent recommendations to review and improve its operations, management procedures and to identify new long-term funding sources," said Dr Nahan.

"In addition to the Government-funded report, the Minister for Commerce has approved interim funding of \$178,000 to help the centre continue its operations through until the end of December this year."

"It is hoped that this State Government assistance will provide the Centre and its board with the necessary resources it needs to complete its transition to self-funded status and that it will ensure that the Centre remains open to the public on a permanent basis."

**Media Contact:     Dr Mike Nahan 9457 1282 or 0412 911 969**  
[www.mikenahan.com.au](http://www.mikenahan.com.au)