



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Freedom of Information Publication Coversheet

The following information is provided pursuant to section 28 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*.

FOI Reference: CMTEDDFOI 2021-243

Information to be published	Status
1. Access application	Published
2. Decision notice	Published
3. Documents and schedule	Published
4. Additional information identified	No
5. Fees	Waived
6. Processing time (in working days)	35
7. Decision made by Ombudsman	N/A
8. Additional information identified by Ombudsman	N/A
9. Decision made by ACAT	N/A
10. Additional information identified by ACAT	N/A




Good afternoon,

RE: FOI REQUEST – CMTEDD BRIEFS (REVENUE/INVESTMENT/BUSINESS)

I write to request under the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* the following briefs:

- Update to residential conveyance duty revenue as at 18 June 2021 (CMTEDD2021/3016)
- Approval of the CBR Innovation Network (CBRIN) 2021-22 Annual Work Plan (24/05/21)
- Business and Innovation - Instacluster Payroll Tax Exemption (CMTEDD2021/3259)
- Business and Innovation - 2020-21 Invitational Funding Round Outcomes (CMTEDD2021/3115)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business Support - 2021-22 Budget Business Case Phase 2 (CMTEDD2021/3008)
- Withdrawal of Priority Investment Program (conditional) funding offer to Space Services Australia's project "Space Innovation lab - Cyber Physical Testing to Accelerate Safe Space Innovation) (30/04/21)
- Future Jobs Fund 2020-21 (15/02/21)
- University of Canberra Creative Industries Proposal - Funding Approval (30/04/21)
- Canberra Convention Bureau Board Annual Lunch Programme details (16/12/20)
- 2020-21 Priority Investment Program - Jobs and Economic Recovery funding round outcomes (12/04/21)
- Lodgement - Cabinet Appointments Paper- Canberra Economic Recovery Advisory Group (10/12/20)
- Proposed Operations of Canberra Economic recovery Advisory Group (CERAG) (08/02/20)
- 2021-22 Budget Business Case - The Future Jobs Fund (10/05/21)
- 2021-22 Budget Business Case - Economic Development Innovation and Investment (16/04/21)
- Proposal to run an invitational round of the Priority Investment Program (20/04/21)
- Forum Report- ACT Economic Recovery Industry Engagement Forum (03/12/20)
- CM - Festival of Ambitious Exporting Ideas (EK) - (20/07/21 – CMTEDD2021/3153)

For background, these briefs were referred to in [CMTEDDFOI 2021-105](#) and/or [CMTEDDFOI 2021-171](#). Dates and/or CMTEDD reference have been included wherever possible for assistance.







ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Our ref: CMTEDDFOI 2021-243



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the Act), received by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) on 13 September 2021, in which you sought access to multiple briefs held by CMTEDD.

Specifically, your request sought the following:

- *Update to residential conveyance duty revenue as at 18 June 2021 (CMTEDD2021/3016)*
- *Approval of the CBR Innovation Network (CBRIN) 2021-22 Annual Work Plan (24/05/21) (CMTEDD2021/2414)*
- *Business and Innovation - Instacluster Payroll Tax Exemption (CMTEDD2021/3259)*
- *Business and Innovation - 2020-21 Invitational Funding Round Outcomes (CMTEDD2021/3115)*
- *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business Support - 2021-22 Budget Business Case Phase 2 (CMTEDD2021/3008)*
- *Withdrawal of Priority Investment Program (conditional) funding offer to Space Services Australia's project "Space Innovation lab - Cyber Physical Testing to Accelerate Safe Space Innovation" (30/04/21)*
- *Future Jobs Fund 2020-21 (15/02/21)*
- *University of Canberra Creative Industries Proposal - Funding Approval (30/04/21)*
- *Canberra Convention Bureau Board Annual Lunch Programme details (16/12/20)*
- *2020-21 Priority Investment Program - Jobs and Economic Recovery funding round outcomes (12/04/21)*
- *Lodgement - Cabinet Appointments Paper- Canberra Economic Recovery Advisory Group (10/12/20)*
- *Proposed Operations of Canberra Economic recovery Advisory Group (CERAG) (08/02/20)*
- *2021-22 Budget Business Case - The Future Jobs Fund (10/05/21)*
- *2021-22 Budget Business Case - Economic Development Innovation and Investment (16/04/21)*

- *Proposal to run an invitational round of the Priority Investment Program (20/04/21)*
- *Forum Report- ACT Economic Recovery Industry Engagement Forum (03/12/20)*
- *CM - Festival of Ambitious Exporting Ideas (EK) - (20/07/21 – CMTEDD2021/3153)*

On 20 October 2021 you agreed to exclude access to any documents that required third-party consultation.

Authority

As an appointed Information Officer under section 18 of the Act, I am authorised to make a decision on access or amendment to government information in the possession or control of CMTEDD.

Timeframes

In accordance with section 40 of the Act, CMTEDD was required to provide a decision on your revised access application by 12 October 2021 however, following third-party consultations (that were withdrawn), the due date is now 2 November 2021.

Decision on access

Searches were completed for relevant documents and 17 documents have been identified that fall within the scope of your request.

I have included as **Attachment A** to this decision the schedule of relevant documents. This provides a description of each document that falls within the scope of your request and the access decision for each of those documents.

I have decided to grant access in full to seven documents and partial access to four documents relevant to your request. I have also decided to refuse access to six documents as I consider them to be:

- contrary to the public interest information under schedule 1 of the Act; or
- information that would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest to disclose under the test set out in section 17 of the Act.

My access decisions are detailed further in the following statement of reasons and the documents released to you are provided as **Attachment B** to this letter.

In accordance with section 54(2) of the Act a statement of reasons outlining my decisions is below.

Statement of Reasons

In reaching my access decisions, I have taken the following into account:

- the Act,
- the content of the documents that fall within the scope of your request,
- the *Human Rights Act 2004*, and
- the *Information Privacy Act 2014*.

Contrary to the public interest information under schedule 1 of the Act

Documents 13-17 identified as being within the scope of your request, contain information that was prepared for, or would disclose, the deliberations of Cabinet. This information is considered to be contrary to the public interest under section 1.6 of Schedule 1 of the Act and therefore has been withheld from release. The primary purpose of the 'cabinet exemption' is to maintain the confidentiality of the cabinet process and to uphold the principle of collective ministerial responsibility. This was discussed in *The Commonwealth v Northern Land Council* [1993] HCA 24; (1993) 176 CLR 604 (21 April 1993). Paragraph 6 of the decision, states that:

... it has never been doubted that it is in the public interest that the deliberations of Cabinet should remain confidential in order that the members of Cabinet may exchange differing views and at the same time maintain the principle of collective responsibility for any decision which may be made.

In reviewing the documents, I consider they contain information which has been developed as part of the Cabinet consideration process (s 1.6(1)(a)) or is directly related to the deliberation and considerations of Cabinet (s 1.6(1)(d)). I am satisfied that release of this information would disclose information which has not been 'officially disclosed'. In making this decision, I note the decision of Deputy President Forgie in *Re Toomer and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and Ors* [2003] AATA 1301 who stated:

.... deliberations are its thinking processes, be they directed to gathering information, analysing information or discussing strategies. They remain its deliberations whether or not a decision is reached. [Cabinet's] decisions are its conclusions as to the courses of action that it adopts be, they conclusions as to its final strategy on a matter or, its conclusions as to the manner in which a matter is to proceed.

Accordingly, I have decided to withhold documents 13-17 from release under the Act.

Information that would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest to disclose under the test set out in section 17 of the Act

Public Interest

The Act has a presumption in favour of disclosure. As a decision maker I am required to decide where, on balance, public interest lies. As part of this process, I must consider factors favouring disclosure and non-disclosure.

In *Hogan v Hinch* (2011) 243 CLR 506, [31] French CJ stated that when 'used in a statute, the term [public interest] derives its content from "the subject matter and the scope and purpose" of the enactment in which it appears'. Section 17(1) of the Act sets out the test, to be applied to determine whether disclosure of information would be contrary to the public interest. These factors are found in subsection 17(2) and Schedule 2 of the Act.

Taking into consideration the information contained in the documents found to be within the scope of your request, I have identified that the following public interest factors are relevant to determine if release of the information contained within these documents is within the 'public interest'.

Factors favouring disclosure in the public interest:

(a) *disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to do any of the following:*

- i) promote open discussion of public affairs and enhance the government's accountability*
- ii) contribute to positive and informed debate on important issues or matters of public interest*

I am satisfied there is a public interest in the contents of government briefs, and I consider that disclosing the contents of the information would significantly contribute to open discussion and informed debate on the matters contained in the briefs. The release of this information would help to create positive and informed debate on issues of importance to the public including those included within the scope of your request.

I am satisfied that these are relevant considerations favouring disclosure in this case, and in the interests of enhancing transparency and accountability, I afford them significant weight.

Factors favouring nondisclosure (Schedule 2.2(a))

(a) *disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to do any of the following:*

- (ii) Prejudice the protection of an individual's right to privacy or other rights under the Human Rights Act 2004*
- (xi) Prejudice trade secrets, business affairs or research of an agency or person*

Having reviewed the documents, I consider that the protection of an individual's right to privacy, especially the details of non-ACT Government employees whose information was provided in a brief for the relevant member of the ACT Government. Individuals are entitled to expect that the personal information used in ACT Government briefs is dealt with in a manner that protects their privacy. Considering the type of information to be withheld from release, I am satisfied that the factors in favour of release can still be met while protecting the personal information of the individuals involved. I therefore weight the factor for non-disclosure more highly than the factor in favour of release in this instance.

As a result, I have decided that release of photographs of non-ACT Government employees included in the Festival of Ambitious Exporting Ideas arrangements brief, and private mobile numbers, where applicable, if released could prejudice their right to privacy under the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

I have also considered the impact of disclosing information which relates to business affairs. In the case of *Re Mangan and The Treasury [2005] AATA 898* the term 'business affairs' was interpreted as meaning 'the totality of the money-making affairs of an organisation or undertaking as distinct from its private or internal affairs'. Schedule 2 section 2.2(a)(xi) allows for government information to be withheld from release if disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to prejudice the trade secrets, business affairs or research of an agency or person.

I have decided to withhold document 12 from release in its entirety as I am advised by the relevant business area that contract negotiations with the successful businesses are still underway. The information withheld from release could reasonably be expected to unfairly prejudice the business affairs of these businesses by disclosing the business cases and funding sought before the final contracts are agreed by all parties. I have also decided to withhold from release parts of the information contained in document 3, namely the identifying information of contributing partners to the Space Services Australia Project and their financial contributions as disclosure could unfairly prejudice the business affairs of each contributor by disclosing the amount that was to be contributed to the project. I note that this information is also not publicly available. Finally, I have decided to withhold the engagement fee of the facilitator of the ACT Economic Recovery Industry Engagement Forum as disclosure could unfairly prejudice the business affairs of the facilitator by disclosing her rate for service.

Having applied the test outlined in section 17 of the Act and deciding that release of some personal and business information contained in the documents is not in the public interest to release, I have chosen to redact this specific information in accordance with section 50(2). Noting the pro-disclosure intent of the Act, I am satisfied that redacting only the information that I believe is not in the public interest to release will ensure that the intent of the Act is met and will provide you with access to the majority of the information held by CMTEDD within the scope of your request.

Charges

Pursuant to *Freedom of Information (Fees) Determination 2017 (No 2)* processing charges are applicable for this request because the total number of pages to be released to you exceeds the charging threshold of 50 pages. However, the charges have been waived in accordance with section 107(2)(e) of the Act.

Online publishing – Disclosure Log

Under section 28 of the Act, CMTEDD maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. Your original access application, my decision and documents released to you in response to your access application will be published in the CMTEDD disclosure log 3 days after the date of my decision. Your personal contact details will not be published.

You may view CMTEDD disclosure log at <https://www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/functions/foi>.

Ombudsman Review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the Act. You have the right to seek Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is published in CMTEDD disclosure log, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

We recommend using this form [Applying for an Ombudsman Review](#) to ensure you provide all of the required information. Alternatively, you may write to the Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) Review

Under section 84 of the Act, if a decision is made under section 82(1) on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision. Further information may be obtained from the ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal
Level 4, 1 Moore St
GPO Box 370
Canberra City ACT 2601
Telephone: (02) 6207 1740
<http://www.acat.act.gov.au/>

Should you have any queries in relation to your request please contact me by telephone on 6207 7754 or email CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Katharine Stuart
Information Officer
Information Access Team
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

2 November 2021



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST SCHEDULE

WHAT ARE THE PARAMETERS OF THE REQUEST	Reference NO.
Request for briefs	CMTEDDFOI2021-243

Ref No	Page number	Description	Date	Status	Reason for Exemption	Online Release Status
1	1-3	Update to residential conveyance duty revenue as of 18 June 2021 (CMTEDD2021/3016)	21 Jun 2021	Full release	N/A	Yes
2	4-8	Approval of the CBR Innovation Network (CBRIN) 2021-22 Annual Work Plan (24/05/21) (CMTEDD2021/2414) – applicant withdrew access to the attachment.	24 May 2021	Full release	N/A	Yes
3	9-12	Withdrawal of Priority Investment Program (conditional) funding offer to Space Services Australia's project "Space Innovation lab - Cyber Physical Testing to Accelerate Safe Space Innovation) (30/04/21) (CMTEDD2021/1723). Applicant withdrew access to the attachment.	30 Apr 2021	Partial release	Schedule 2(a)(xi)	Yes
4	13-17	Future Jobs Fund 2020-21 (15/02/21) – (CMTEDD2021/300)	15 Feb 2021	Full release	N/A	Yes
5	18-21	University of Canberra Creative Industries Proposal - Funding Approval (30/04/21) (CMTEDD2021/1830) Applicant withdrew access to the attachment.	23 Apr 2021	Full release	N/A	Yes
6	22-28	Canberra Convention Bureau Board Annual Lunch Programme details (16/12/20) – Arrangements Brief	16 Dec 2020	Partial release	Schedule 2(a)(ii)	Yes
7	29-41	CMTEDD2021/1337 – Priority Investment Program. Applicant withdrew access to the attachments B, C, D).	12 Apr 2021	Full release	N/A	Yes
8	42-48	Proposed Operations of Canberra Economic recovery Advisory Group (CERAG) (08/02/20) (CMTEDD2021/356)	8 Feb 2021	Full release	N/A	Yes
9	49-52	Proposal to run an invitational round of the Priority Investment Program (20/04/21) (CMTEDD2021/1732). Applicant withdrew access to the attachment.	30 Apr 2021	Full release	N/A	Yes
10	53-65	Forum Report- ACT Economic Recovery Industry Engagement Forum (03/12/20) – (CMTEDD2020/5521)	3 Dec 2020	Partial release	Schedule 2(a)(ii)	Yes

11	66-72	CM - Festival of Ambitious Exporting Ideas (EK) - (20/07/21 – CMTEDD2021/3153) Arrangements Brief	1 Dec 2020	Partial release	Schedule 2(a)(ii)	Yes
12	N/A	Business and Innovation - 2020-21 Invitational Funding Round Outcomes (CMTEDD2021/3115)	13 Jul 2021	Exempt	Schedule 2.2(xi)	No
13	N/A	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business Support - 2021-22 Budget Business Case Phase 2 (CMTEDD2021/3008)	7 Jul 2021	Exempt	Schedule 1 1.6 Cabinet Information	No
14	N/A	Lodgement - Cabinet Appointments Paper- Canberra Economic Recovery Advisory Group (10/12/20) (CMTEDD2020/5659)	10 Dec 2020	Exempt	Schedule 1 1.6 Cabinet Information	No
15	N/A	2021-22 Budget Business Case - The Future Jobs Fund (10/05/21) (CMTEDD2021/1833)	10 May 2021	Exempt	Schedule 1 1.6 Cabinet Information	No
16	N/A	2021-22 Budget Business Case - Economic Development Innovation and Investment (16/04/21) (CMTEDD2021/1834)	16 Apr 2021	Exempt	Schedule 1 1.6 Cabinet Information	No
17	N/A	DRAFT - Business and Innovation - Payroll Tax Exemption (CMTEDD2021/3259) - Preparation for Cabinet submission	27 Jul 2021	Exempt	Schedule 1 1.6 Cabinet Information	No

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

To: Treasurer

Tracking No.: CMTEDD2021/3016

Date: 21/06/2021

From: Executive Group Manager, Economic and Financial Group

Subject: For information – update to residential conveyance duty forecasts

Critical Date: 21/06/2021

Critical Reason: Timing to allow legislative instruments to be prepared ahead of the new financial year.

- UT 21/06/2021
- DUT 21/06/2021

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the Under Treasurer has approved updated forecasts for residential conveyance duty revenue to allow rates to be set for conveyance duty from 1 July 2021.

Noted / Please Discuss

2. Note strong price growth and turnover have led to an increase in residential conveyance duty estimates of \$136.2 million over four years from the 2020-21 Budget estimates.

Noted / Please Discuss

Andrew Barr MLA  25/6/21

Minister's Office Feedback

Background

1. Forecasts of residential conveyance duty revenue have been updated to reflect the strength in the housing market in the latter half of 2020-21. Given both ACT and Commonwealth stimulus measures, exceptionally low interest rates, and the current momentum in the market, this strength is expected to continue into 2021-22 and 2022-23, before moderating in the final two budget years.
2. Recent data show the continuing strength in the housing market and support an upward revision to conveyance duty forecasts.
 - a. Auction clearance rates are running above 90 per cent, indicating a strong sellers-market which will take some time to unwind.
 - b. Total new housing finance commitments for owner-occupiers and investors in the ACT rose by 42.8 per cent over the year to April 2021.
 - c. The ABS residential property price index shows that residential property prices in Canberra rose by 10.9 per cent over the year to the March quarter 2021.
 - i. In addition, CoreLogic data shows Canberra's residential property prices rose by 15.6 per cent over the year to May 2021.¹
3. We expect solid price growth, although coming of the current high rates, and elevated transaction levels through the majority of 2022, with higher prices (supported by exceptionally low interest rates) continuing to encourage more supply onto the market before easing in the second half of 2023.
4. Table 1 presents forecasts for residential conveyance duty. Revenue is expected to peak in 2021-22, remaining above trend levels in 2022-23, before easing in the final two forecast years back towards historical trend levels.
 - a. This represents a \$136.2 million upward revision, over the four years to 2023-24, to the estimates in the 2020-21 Budget and reflects a stronger market than expected prior to the pandemic.
 - b. The 2020-21 Budget noted potential upside risks to the revenue estimate for residential conveyance duty in 2020-21 if strong market conditions persisted. In 2020-21 revenue was \$41.7 million higher than anticipated at Budget.

¹ CoreLogic Hedonic Home Value Index, May 2021
Tracking No.: CMTEDD2021/3016

Table 1: Forecasts of residential conveyance duty revenue

	2020-21 (\$'000)	2021-22 (\$'000)	2022-23 (\$'000)	2023-24 (\$'000)	2024-25 (\$'000)	Total over four years from 2020-21 to 2023-24 (\$'000)
2019-20 Budget Review	191,892	196,637	196,486	197,702	n.a.	782,717
2020-21 Budget	160,921	186,853	190,807	196,099	n.a.	734,680 (-48,037) ¹
2021-22 Budget	202,620	234,349	227,983	205,908	200,283	870,859 (136,179) ²

Notes:

- Variance from the 2019-20 Budget Review estimates to the 2020-21 Budget estimates
- Variance from the 2020-21 Budget estimates to the proposed 2021-22 Budget estimates

- The forecasts of residential conveyance duty revenue reflect the Expenditure Review Committee decision on the \$1 million cap on transactions under the Home Buyers Concession Scheme (HBCS) and the use of the revenue from introducing the cap to further reduce the lowest conveyance duty rate for owner occupiers in 2021-22 and the continuation of the concession for off-the-plan units (Table 2).

Table 2: New policy for the 2021-22 Budget

	2021-22 (\$'000)	2022-23 (\$'000)	2023-24 (\$'000)	2024-25 (\$'000)	Total (\$'000)
Cap the HBCS concession amount	950	970	1,000	1,025	3,945
Use revenue from HBCS cap for reduction in lowest conveyance duty rate for owner occupiers in 2021-22	-950	-970	-1,000	-1,025	-3,945
Conveyance duty concession for off the plan units purchased by owner-occupiers valued at \$500,000 or below	-1,900	-1,900	-1,900	-1,900	-7,600
Total policy impact	-1,900	-1,900	-1,900	-1,900	-7,600

Financial Implications

- The forecasts increase revenue over the four years from 2020-21 to 2023-24 by \$136.2 million above the 2020-21 Budget estimates.

Benefits/Sensitivities

- There continues to be a high level of uncertainty due to COVID-19 impacts.

Signatory Name: Kim Salisbury Phone: x70010

Action Officer: David Hedley Phone: x59121

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Residential conveyance duty forecast update

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

To:	Minister for Economic Development	Tracking No.: CMTEDD2021/2414
Date:	24/05/2021	
CC:	Assistant Minister for Economic Development	
From:	Executive Branch Manager, Business and Innovation (B&I)	
Subject:	Approval of the CBR Innovation Network (CBRIN) 2021-22 Annual Work Plan.	
Critical Date:	Nil.	
Critical Reason:	In the normal course of business.	

- DDG 27/05/21
- EGM 26/05/21

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief;

Noted / Please Discuss

2. Agree CBRIN's 2021-22 Annual Work Plan at Attachment B; and

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

3. Sign the attached letter.

Signed / Not Signed / Please Discuss

Andrew Barr MLA  22/6/21

Minister's Office Feedback

Background

1. Clause 10 of the Funding Agreement between the Territory and CBRIN (Attachment A) requires that by 31 May of each year of the Funding Period CBRIN submit its Annual Work Plan to the Territory for approval.
2. On 3 May 2021 CBRIN submitted its Annual Work Plan for 2021-22 (Attachment B).
3. CBRIN's Work Plan has been developed to deliver against CBRIN's new strategic directions that were agreed by the CBRIN Board in February 2021. A copy of the 2021- 23 Strategic Directions is at Attachment C.

Issues

4. CBRIN's 2021-22 Work Plan will deliver against three Strategic Directions:
 - a. Innovation Capacity – build capability and innovation capacity in segments of the community that do not identify as entrepreneurs with the aim to drive more innovation, collaboration and job creating entrepreneurship.
 - b. Entrepreneurial Capacity – grow the entrepreneurial capacity of our innovation ecosystem by developing, delivering and linking programs and resources that support growth of ambitious innovation and technology companies.
 - c. Placemaking – strengthen the role of CBRIN as the ACT's central innovation hub with active linkages to growing network of innovation precincts that work together to create new industries and solve complex problems by leveraging science, innovation and entrepreneurship.
5. The 2021-23 Strategic Directions and the 2021-22 Annual Work Plan were developed after extensive consultation. This included:
 - a. The CBRIN Board and key stakeholders (including senior officials from Economic Development) attending a session in November 2020, facilitated by PricewaterhouseCoopers;
 - b. Regular collaboration and consultation with members of the CBRIN extended team throughout 2020-21;
 - c. Input provided by representatives from Foundation Members in individual meetings with CBRIN's CEO;
 - d. CBRIN Advisory Committee consultations throughout 2020-21; and
 - e. CBRIN team work-planning session on 17 March 2021.

Innovation Capacity

Innovation Skills

6. CBRIN will scope and deliver events and initiatives that introduce and enhance innovation skills and capability in the broader community, including students, researchers, government and trades and reach underrepresented groups.
7. The key performance indicators (KPIs) for *Innovation Skills* is 10 events delivered to over 200 participants with all target audiences involved and for 20 participants to graduate into other programs.

Collaborative Innovation

8. CBRIN will design and deliver collaborative events, challenges and hackathons that activate partnerships, support growth of key sectors and help government, corporates and community address 'wicked' problems.
9. KPIs for *Collaborative Innovation* include 12 events with over 200 participants; eight teams/projects progress into other activities; and three sectors/partners involved.

Entrepreneurial Capacity

Entrepreneur Pipeline

10. CBRIN will build a strong pipeline of entrepreneurs and innovators and triage them into programs and services that support their progress. CBRIN will link them to funding, entrepreneur education and mentoring.
11. The KPI for *Entrepreneur Pipeline* is over 200 participants; two programs delivered; six other events; growing diversity of participants; over 200 introduction meetings (triage); 80 invitations to apply for two Innovation Connect funding rounds; and over 10 grantees awarded funding.
12. CBRIN delivers Innovation Connect in partnership with the ACT Government with funding for Innovation Connect ceasing 30 June 2021. A continuation of funding and the partnership arrangement is being considered as part of the 2021-22 Budget. Should this funding not be successful it will require CBRIN to reconsider some of its KPIs under this Strategic Direction.

Growth Programs

13. CBRIN will deliver programs and services that contribute to the growth of innovative ventures, including deep tech, social impact, start-ups and small-medium enterprises (SMEs).
14. The KPI for *Growth Programs* is 20 ventures assisted in programs; 60 founder coaching sessions; 10 growth lab workshops; and 80 mentors engaged.

Placemaking

Ecosystem Engagement

15. CBRIN will collaborate to design and deliver a comprehensive set of engagement activities and events that connect, grow and diversify the innovation ecosystem and support delivery of other objectives of the Work Plan.
16. KPIs for *Ecosystem Engagement* include 100 events with over 2,500 participants; 12 stories; four events for underrepresented groups; one showcase; and one international, one national and one regional engagement.

Innovation Hubs

17. CBRIN will deliver and grow co-working in the central innovation hub, work with others to connect their hubs into a network offering for entrepreneurs and innovators in Canberra and beyond.
18. KPIs for *Innovation Hubs* include 125 co-workers in 50 companies in the central location; space expansion; 300 capacity connected; 20 events across connected spaces; and growing diversity.
19. Economic Development was consulted during the development of the 2021-22 Annual Work Plan and is satisfied that it meets the requirements of the Funding Agreement.
20. Provided at Attachment D is a letter to CBRIN's CEO informing CBRIN that the Territory approves the 2021-22 Work Plan.

Financial Implications

21. Nil.

Consultation

Internal

22. Nil.

Cross Directorate

23. Nil.

External

24. The innovation community, including CBRIN's Foundation Member organisations were consulted on the development of the 2021-22 Work Plan.

Work Health and Safety

25. Nil.

Benefits/Sensitivities

26. Nil.

OFFICIAL

Communications, media and engagement implications

27. Nil.

Signatory Name: Jenny Priest

Phone: X72070

Action Officer: Brent Chick

Phone: X77215

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	CBRIN Funding Agreement 2019-23
Attachment B	CBRIN Annual Work Plan 2021-22
Attachment C	CBRIN Strategy 2021-23
Attachment D	Letter to CBRIN CEO

.Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

To:	Minister for Economic Development	Tracking No.: CMTEDD2021/1723
Date:	30/04/2021	
CC:	Assistant Minister for Economic Development	
From:	Executive Branch Manager, Business and Innovation	
Subject:	Withdrawal of Priority Investment Program (conditional) funding offer to Space Services Australia's Project ' <i>Space Innovation Lab – Cyber Physical Testing to Accelerate Safe Space Innovation</i> '	
Critical Date:	05/05/2021	
Critical Reason:	To seek your agreement to withdraw the conditional funding offer made to Space Services Australia.	

- EGM 02/05/21

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief; and

~~Noted~~ / Please Discuss

2. Agree to withdraw the Priority Investment Program conditional funding offer to Space Services Australia's Project '*Space Innovation Lab – Cyber Physical Testing to Accelerate Safe Space Innovation*'.

~~Agreed~~ / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

Andrew Barr MLA  3.15.21

Minister's Office Feedback

Background

1. In May 2020, Space Services Australia (SSA), a UNSW Canberra spin out company, was a successful proponent in the 2019-20 funding round of the Priority Investment Program (PIP).
2. SSA received a conditional funding offer of \$600,000 for their project, '*Space Innovation Lab – Cyber Physical Testing to Accelerate Safe Space Innovation*'. The conditional offer (Attachment A) was subject to SSA's demonstration prior to execution of the funding agreement that all the cash and in-kind contributions outlined in the business case were secured.
3. This condition was included in the offer as none of the collaborating partners' cash or in-kind contributions had been secured at the time of presenting their business case.
4. 2.2(a)(xi) [REDACTED]
5. However, since the conditional offer was made, all collaborating partners with the exception of 2.2(a)(ii) [REDACTED] had withdrawn their funding commitment. This resulted in a shortfall of matched cash contributions which SSA attributed to COVID-19 impacts.

Issues

6. During 2020, Business and Innovation worked with SSA to reach a mutually satisfactory outcome including new opportunities to secure new partners and submit a modified project in the context of the changed project environment.
7. On 11 February 2021, SSA presented a revised proposal to the PIP Advisory Panel that included the following:
 - a. SSA and 2.2(a)(xi) [REDACTED] would become the major collaborating partners noting that consultations with several other potential collaborators/funding sources was ongoing.
 - b. 2.2(a)(ii) [REDACTED] would host and operate the 2.2(a)(xi) [REDACTED] 2.2(a)(xi) [REDACTED] while SSA would develop the software platform and marketplace that will enable activity in the lab.
 - c. There was a significant decrease in the level of cash being contributed to the project which was offset by an increase of in-kind contributions.
 - d. The revised budget included:
 - i. 2.2(a)(xi) [REDACTED]
 - ii. [REDACTED]
 - iii. [REDACTED]

8. Following this presentation, the Panel requested further information in relation to the following matters:
 - a. Clarity on the project's budget and financing;
 - b. Clarity on proposed key project collaborators and opportunities mentioned during the presentation to the panel; and
 - c. how Intellectual property (IP) would be managed within the project.
9. SSA were provided the opportunity to respond to these queries and were also requested to present a revised business case including a fresh project budget that clearly identified all the secured cash funds (and in-kind support), their sources (with evidence) and how these funds will be expended within the Space Innovation Lab project activities.
10. The PIP Advisory Panel met again on 7 April 2021 to review SSA's responses to its queries. The PIP Advisory Panel recommended the project no longer be recommended for funding and that the initial conditional offer be withdrawn. A summary of comments from the Panel is at [Attachment B](#).
11. The Panel also advised that if the ACT Government still considered the investment into the ^{2.2(a)(xi)} to be beneficial to Canberra, it should consider supporting the outside the existing PIP process and guidelines.
12. Business and Innovation undertook a review and risk assessment of the revised business case ([Attachment C](#)). The review showed that the revised business case satisfactorily met two of the six PIP merit criteria.
13. Business and Innovation supports the Panel's advice to withdraw the conditional funding offer that was made to SSA's '*Space Innovation Lab – Cyber Physical Testing to Accelerate Safe Space Innovation*'.
14. Subject to your agreement, Economic Development will write to SSA about the ACT Government's decision to withdraw the \$600,000 and offer a debriefing session to provide feedback on the decision.
15. A separate brief is being prepared to provide options for the utilisation of the \$600,000 in funding originally allocated to this project, which will now revert to the PIP budget appropriation.

Financial Implications

16. If you agree the recommendations in this brief, \$600,000 in funding originally allocated to this project, will revert to the PIP budget appropriation.

Consultation

Internal

17. Nil

Cross Directorate

18. Nil.

External

19. Business and Innovation has worked with the PIP Advisory Panel and the project proponents for several months to provide every opportunity to deliver a revised project that delivered against the criteria.

Work Health and Safety

20. Nil.

Benefits/Sensitivities

21. Subject to your agreement, this will be the first conditional offer of funding to be withdrawn under the Priority Investment Program. SSA has been provided with additional time and opportunity to resolve issues faced by the project as a result of the impacts of COVID-19.
22. The PIP Advisory Panel and Business and Innovation carefully considered the risks and benefits to the Territory in forming the recommendation to withdraw the conditional offer to SSA. It is likely the project proponents will be disappointed at a decision of withdrawal; however, they will be provided with a debriefing session on the reasons for the decision and potential future opportunities for funding.

Communications, media and engagement implications

23. The conditional funding offer to SSA has not been publicly announced.

Signatory Name: Jenny Priest Phone: x72070
 Action Officer: Sean Kelly Phone: x58602

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Conditional offer letter to Space Services Australia
Attachment B	Summary of PIP Advisory Panel comments
Attachment C	Business and Innovation internal review and risk assessment of the <i>'Space Innovation Lab – Cyber Physical Testing to Accelerate Safe Space Innovation'</i> revised business case

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

To:	Minister for Economic Development	Tracking No.: CMTEDD2021/300
Date:	15/02/2021	
CC:	Assistant Minister for Economic Development	<i>JC 25/2/21</i>
From:	Deputy Director General, Economic Development	
Subject:	Future Jobs Fund 2020-21	
Critical Date:	26/02/2021	
Critical Reason:	To enable the timely implementation of the Future Jobs Fund programmatic activity following the budget announcement on Tuesday 9 February 2021	

Recommendations

That you:

1. note the information in this brief;

Noted / Please Discuss

2. agree assessment criteria for the 2021-22 Future Job Fund;

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

3. agree to the following allocation of funding for the Future Jobs Fund in 2020-21:
 - a. Up to \$1.0 million to supplement the current Priority Investment Program - Jobs and Economic Recovery Funding Round.

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

- b. Up to \$0.8 million to fund emerging priorities assessed against the Future Job Fund Criteria.

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss



Minister's Office Feedback

Background

1. The \$30 million Future Jobs Fund (FJF) is designed to implement the Government's election commitments to support economic recovery in the ACT. The FJF has a focus on the higher education and research sector and the creation of future jobs in growth industries. *+ Key industry capability areas*
2. It is intended to support universities with applied research partnerships and small-scale campus projects that will boost productivity and create jobs as Canberra *+ organisations* recovers from the impacts of COVID-19. It will also enable universities to conduct new research, purchase technology, or commercialise intellectual property that will lead to the creation of new high-value jobs.
3. The budget announced 9 February 2021, includes \$2.165 million 2020-21 and \$7 million provisioned in 2021-22 for a combination of grants, repayable grants, guarantees, convertible notes or equity injections to projects or proposals that protect or create new jobs in ACT universities and the private sector.
4. This brief seeks your agreement to criteria and disbursement options for 2020-21 funding. You will be briefed on options for design of the FJF for 2021-22 and beyond separately.

Issues

5. Options for disbursement on the FJF were discussed with your office on 21 January 2021 and included:
 - a) Supplementing funding of the PIP - Jobs and Economic Recovery competitive funding round, and
 - b) A fund to respond to emerging priorities.
6. An amount had also been allocated for delivery costs, design of the FJF and secretariat for the Canberra Economic Recovery Advisory Group (CERAG).
7. The proposed options for 2020-21 acknowledge the timeframes associated with the budget cycle, seek to make funding available to the sector as quickly as possible and be consistent with the intent and objectives of the fund.
8. Your agreement is sought to the following criteria to inform assessment of proposals and initiatives under the FJF for 2021-22:
 - a) projects have a potential high job yield; *(creating or saving)*

- b) projects leverage matched investment (not necessarily 1:1) from universities, the private sector, Commonwealth Government or other sources to amplify the ACT Government's investment;
- c) projects have high economic impact that will have long-term benefits and job creation potential; or
- d) projects create and support local industry capability in high-potential sectors to give our city the skills it needs for the future.

Supplementing funding under the PIP - Jobs and Economic Recovery Funding Round

- 9. Economic Development is seeking your agreement to up to \$1 million in 2021-22 of the FJF to supplement the current PIP – Jobs and Economic Recovery funding round.
- 10. The Priority Investment Program (PIP) was announced as part of the 2018-19 Budget and ceases at the end of 2020-21 and provides a useful governance framework for delivery of funding under the FJF. However, the program's application process will not allow for another full funding round to be completed before the end of this financial year.
- 11. Business cases are currently being assessed for the most recent funding round in which \$1 million was made available and prioritised the creation of jobs and economic recovery.
- 12. There are currently six shortlisted proposals under consideration with a cumulative total of \$2.816 million in ACT Government funding being sought.
- 13. If agreed, this would result in \$2 million to be provided through the final competitive grant round for the PIP pending suitability of the proposals.

Response to emerging priorities

- 14. Your agreement is sought to notionally allocate up to \$0.8 million from the 2021-22 FJF to emerging priorities.
- 15. You agreed to fund \$0.25 million (CMTEDD2021/38) to the Australian National University led bid for the Australian Space Agency's Payload Qualification Facilities funding grant if successful.
- 16. Currently two projects have been identified to progress the Cyber Super Cluster that align with the assessment criteria above for the 2021-22 FJF. These initiatives have the potential to leverage high economic impacts with long term benefits and leverage investment from the Commonwealth and other sources.
 - a) You agreed (CMTEDD2021/382) to \$0.5 million to advance the development of education pathways and a portal. *agreed already*
 - b) Your agreement is also sought (CMTEDD2021/233) to fund the Canberra Innovation Network (CBRIN) proposal for a Cybersecurity Business

OFFICIAL

Accelerator/Catalyst program, including grants to assist Cyber Security SMEs establish and /or scale up quickly.

17. Should further proposals be received, or priorities identified, these could be assessed against the criteria for the FJF for access to finding.

Financial Implications

18. The following table details the level of funding that has either been committed or has been assessed as a priority under the FJF appropriation in 2020-21.

2020-21 Future Jobs Fund Budget	
Total Funding Appropriation \$2,164,000	
Project	Funding '000,000
Priority Investment Program supplement	\$1.0
ANU Bid for the Australian Space Agency's Payload Qualification Facilities funding grant (agreed)	\$0.25
Progress activities to accelerate implementation of a Canberra Cyber Security Cluster, including a portal and progress an ACT Government bid for The Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources' <i>Cyber Security Skills Partnership Innovation Fund</i> (CMTEDD2021/382) - Agreed	\$0.5
CBRIN Accelerator Proposal (CMTEDD2021/233) -To be considered	\$0.2
Internal Resourcing (1.0 GC FTE and 0.5 x SOGB FTE)	\$239,266
Current Total Call on Funding	\$2,189,266

19. \$7 million has been provisioned under the Future Jobs Fund in the 2021-22 budget. Programmatic activity for 2021-22 and beyond will be subject to the development of a budget business case which will be informed by the outcomes of the first phase of the Future Jobs Fund as well as a review into the guidelines, application, and assessment processes associated with the Priority Investment Program (PIP).

- a) A position description for 1 x SOG C FTE has been drafted to engage an officer for one year to support the design, development and implementation of the FJF for 2021-22 and beyond. This officer will commence duties in March 2021.

Consultation

Internal

20. Arrangements and recommendations for the disbursement of 2020-21 FJF funding was discussed with your office on 21 January 2021.

Cross Directorate

21. Economic Development will lead ongoing discussions with Treasury on this aspect of FJF to inform arrangements for implementation in 2021-22 and beyond.

External

22. Further details have been sought regarding the initiatives proposed in the brief.

Work Health and Safety

23. Nil.

Benefits/Sensitivities

24. Disbursing funds via the two mechanisms outlined above will ensure that funding is made available to projects as quickly as possible.
25. Supplementing the current PIP funding mechanism precludes new applicants applying in this current budget cycle. The risks associated with this would be relatively low given the large number of expressions of interest that were received under the latest PIP funding round that have already been assessed as not suitable and the relatively short period of time that has lapsed since the PIP funding round commenced.
26. Any new proposals that come forward this financial year could be assessed against the FJF criteria and considered for remaining emerging priorities funding.
27. Your office has sought advice on a request from UNSW Canberra for \$500,000 to support the expansion at UNSW Canberra's Australian National Concurrent Design Facility (ANCDF) to enable the facility to cater to a growing Australian space sector need for micro satellites is being considered. You will be briefed separately on this proposal.

Communications, media and engagement implications

28. Nil for the purposes of this brief. However, there will be several future opportunities for ministerial announcements on outcomes associated with the FJF and PIP Jobs and Economic Recovery funding round.

Signatory Name:	Jenny Priest	Phone:	*72070
	Ash Balaretnaraja	Phone:	*75252
Action Officer:	Sean Kelly	Phone:	*58602

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

To:	Assistant Minister for Economic Development	Tracking No.: CMTEDD2021/1830
Date:	23/04/2021	
From:	Executive Group Manager, Economic Development	
Subject:	University of Canberra (UC) Creative Industries proposal	
Critical Date:	28/04/2021	
Critical Reason:	To provide a response to the UC ahead of the Collaborative Innovation Lab on Creative Industries on 5 May 2021	

- DDG 25/04/2020

Recommendations

That you:

1. Agree to fund the UC \$133,650 for the Creative Industries proposal (Attachment A) pending resolution of items identified in this brief

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

2. Sign the letter to the Minister for Economic Development (Attachment B), seeking agreement to fund UC \$133,650 (GST incl) from funding currently allocated to Study Canberra.

Signed / Not Signed / Please Discuss

3. Sign the letter to UC Vice Chancellor Professor Nixon (Attachment C) pending agreement of the Minister for Economic Development to allocate funding.

Signed / Not Signed / Please Discuss

Tara Cheyne MLA

Joe Chye 29/4/21

Minister's Office Feedback

Will date letter to Paddy following CM approval.

Background

1. You met with University of Canberra (UC) Vice Chancellor Paddy Nixon on 1 April 2021 to discuss UC's *ACT Creative Industries; an Environmental, Economic and Policy Assessment* proposal (the Proposal).
2. UC's Proposal, to be led by Professor Jason Bainbridge outlines an approach which would define creative industries in the ACT, identify relevant data sets and studies to measure their contribution to economic and wellbeing indicators, and analyse creative industry growth areas which will provide options for jobs growth.
3. Following this meeting you requested advice on funding options for this project, and a response back to Vice Chancellor Nixon.
4. There is a Canberra Innovation Network (CBRIN) convened Collab Lab scheduled for 5 May 2021 that provides an opportunity for some early work to define the creative industries and help set the parameters and tone for the proposal. Professor Bainbridge from UC is among the key participants in this Collab Lab.

Issues

5. The proposal from UC describes creative industries in ACT including digital, audio-visual, arts, tourism, media, communications, heritage, animation, games, craft and immersive technologies. The ACT has existing competitive advantages in creative industries including the Screen and Gaming sector, National Cultural Institutions and local arts organisations. Canberra also hosts important events such as DESIGN Canberra which showcase its urban design and place planning strengths.
6. UC considers there is potential to deliver economic uplift and jobs growth in the local creative industries through asset creation, tourism, social enterprise, soft power, exploitation of intellectual property and sustainable technologies development.
7. UC's proposal includes a team experienced in developing creative industries strategies for other Australian tertiary institutions, and related work for the City Renewal Authority. Several academics from the UC-based National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling are part of the proposed project team, whose teaching and research interests will help underpin this evidence-based study.
8. Project members have undertaken national work shared through the former Meeting of Cultural Ministers Statistics Working Group which is also relevant for the development of a Creative Industries Strategy.

OFFICIAL

I have amended language in letter to make this a specific request -

9. At your meeting with UC, it was acknowledged that it will be important to develop a common understanding of the scope and definition of creative industries and economic impact in the ACT.

10. In considering the Proposal from UC, in addition to clarity around scope and definition, further issues for resolution included:

- a. reference to indigenous creative industries, particularly opportunities for growth;
- b. an environmental scan that covers the entirety of the arts and creative sector, rather than narrowing it from the beginning, with the view of identifying where the ACT's competitive advantage lies,
- c. alignment with UNESCO city of design definitions, noting that this project could be a foundation piece of work for a decision about whether we pursue UNESCO status; and
- d. suitable governance arrangements with UC to ensure recommendations are translatable and actionable.

11. These considerations have been referenced in the letter to Vice Chancellor Nixon at Attachment C.

Financial Implications

12. A one-off contribution of 50 per cent of project costs equates to \$133,650 (GST incl) from the ACT Government, with UC contributing an equal amount. Two funding sources have been identified:

- a. Re-allocate funding from Business and Innovation, Study CBR (Preferred). There are currently \$500,000 unspent funds within Study Canberra previously allocated for activities to welcome international students and assist promoting Canberra based universities.
- b. Allocate funding from the Future Jobs Fund. In February the Minister for Economic Development agreed assessment criteria for the 2020-21 Future Jobs Fund (FJF) allocation (CMTEDD2021/300) by which proposals and initiatives received through competitive grant rounds or emerging priorities could be assessed. An assessment of the UC proposal against the criteria for the FJF is at Attachment D.

13. Under the *Administrative Arrangements 2020*, University and research policy is the responsibility of the Minister for Economic Development. A letter has been prepared at Attachment B seeking agreement to fund the proposal from within existing resources in Study Canberra.

Consultation

Internal

14. artsACT has been consulted on the UC proposal and note that the scope of the work should capture a broad spectrum of creative industries, including the arts and design sectors.
15. Finance and Business Services were consulted regarding funding options.

Cross Directorate

16. Nil

External

17. Nil.

Work Health and Safety

18. Nil.

Benefits/Sensitivities

19. Economic Development administers a number of competitive grant processes such as the Priority Investment Program (PIP) and Arts Program funding. The UC Creative Industries proposal is unlikely to be eligible for either of these programs as currently designed.

Communications, media and engagement implications

20. Subject to your agreement to the recommendations of this brief and agreement to funding by the Chief Minister, Economic Development will work with UC and your office to develop an appropriate announcement for the initiative. There may be an opportunity for an announcement to occur around the time of the 5 May Collab Lab.

Signatory Name: Kate Starick Phone: 59828

Action Officer: Guy Bromley Phone: 72352

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	ACT Creative Industries – University of Canberra proposal
Attachment B	Letter to Chief Minister for Future Jobs Fund budget appropriation
Attachment C	Letter to UC Vice Chancellor Professor Nixon
Attachment D	Assessment matrix against Future Jobs Fund criteria



Andrew Barr MLA

Chief Minister

Treasurer

Minister for Climate Action

Minister for Economic Development

Minister for Tourism

Member for Kurrajong

ARRANGEMENTS BRIEF

FUNCTION:	Canberra Convention Bureau Board Annual Lunch
VENUE:	The Boat House Grevillea Park, Menindee Dr, Barton ACT 2600
HOST:	Michael Matthews - CEO Canberra Convention Bureau Mobile: 2.2(a)(ii)
DAY:	Wednesday
DATE:	16 December 2020
TIME:	12.00pm – 1.30pm
TIME COMMITMENT:	1.5 hours
CATERING:	Informal luncheon
DRESS CODE:	Business
YOUR ROLE:	You have no formal role requirements for this event.
WHERE TO PARK:	A parking spot has been reserved for you at the venue.
WHO WILL MEET YOU:	Michael Matthews will meet you at the entrance of the restaurant.
ADVISOR ATTENDING:	Yersheena O'Donoghue
AUDIENCE:	Canberra Convention Bureau board members in attendance: - Jure Domazet, Managing Director, Doma Group (Chair)

Andrew Barr MLA - Arrangements brief

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stephen Wood, General Manager, National Convention Centre Canberra, (Deputy Chair) - Rob Stefanic, Secretary, Department of Parliamentary Services (Treasurer) - Fredrick Arul, General Manager, Hyatt Hotel Canberra - Rien Donkin, General Manager, Iconic Hotels - Adriaan Du Plessis, General Manager, Novotel Canberra - Barry Neame, Director, Consec Conference Management - Jane O’Dwyer, Vice-President (Engagement and Global Relations), ANU - John Russell, Director, Pialligo Estate - Michael Thomson, Head of Aviation, Canberra Airport <p>Others in attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Michael Matthews, Chief Executive Officer, Canberra Convention Bureau - Kareena Arthy, Deputy Director-General, Economic Development, ACT Government - Jonathan Kobus, Executive Branch Manager, VisitCanberra
VIPs:	N/A
PAST INVOLVEMENT:	You attended this event in 2019 at Pialligo Estate and in 2018 at the Hyatt Hotel.
SENSITIVITIES:	Nil.
ORDER OF CEREMONIES	<p>There are no formalities at this event.</p> <p>12:00 – Chief Minister to arrive and be met by Mike Matthews</p> <p>12:05 – Lunch to commence</p> <p>13:30 – Lunch to conclude</p>
MEDIA:	There is no media at this event and there is no formal statement to be issued.
SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS	N/A
OUTSTANDING REGULATORY ISSUES	The Boat House has a Covid-Safe plan in place. See Attachment A for details.

The Boat House COVIDsafe Plan

Version 1.4 Nov 2020

Change log:

Updated to reflect capacities at 2 sq metres inside. Adjusted foyer capacities of remeasured dimensions.

Version 1.3 Oct 2020

Change log:

Updated outside space to reflect 2 sq metres

Version 1.2 26th June 2020

Change log:

Updated information around gathering contact details for every guest, not just the host

Updated buffet information to allow buffets using individual serving cutlery

Version 1.1 28th May 2020

General

The general safety information we should all be aware of. Guests are encouraged to follow this behaviour via signage around the venue:

- Allow fresh air into the building and work areas as much as possible
- Wash hands regularly with good technique. With published guides on how to wash correctly.
- Hand sanitizer with Covid-19 signage to be placed strategically around the venue.
- Always cover your mouth/nose with a tissue or elbow when you cough or sneeze.
- Avoid touching your mouth/eyes/nose.
- Avoid close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness such as coughing and sneezing.
- Contactless meetings for weddings, events and venue viewings
- Eftpos and credit card payments only, where possible payments paid prior to bookings.
- Signage on entry for customers and staff to provide information about
 - Entering the venue if you have symptoms such as a cough or fever.
 - Maintain a minimum distance of 1.5 metres from one another
 - Sneezing etiquette
 - Unnecessary physical contact
 - Adhering to floor signage and distance guides

Bookings and walk ins

- It is a requirement that we capture contact details for each guest who attending The Boat House. Not just the host but each guest.
 - Now Book It emails contain a link where guests can complete this information. To resend this email open the booking, check “resend confirmation” and ask the customer to click the link to complete contact details. Alternatively you can enter them under the guest names tab of the booking
 - Function bookings will be required to complete a spreadsheet of names and phone numbers prior to the event.
- It’s important that we capture that information in our booking system for any walk in guests
- This would not apply to guests coming to view the venue briefly, who aren’t staying or a meal service

Setup and cleaning

- Clean linen including table cloth, napkin for each guest at each service
- Single use menus handled only by one guest (IE individual single use menus for each guest)
- No physical wine lists, the use of digital menus on people personal devices. QR codes to replace the use of wine lists .
- Keep tables a minimum of 1.5 metres apart
- Chock bathroom entry doors open

Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)

As recommended by the Restaurant and Catering Association as well as relevant health departments it is not required that staff or guests wear PPE while at The Boat House including masks. Gloves are options when preparing food, alternatively a detailed 20 second hand wash is also sufficient before and after handling food.

Canape, shared food and buffets

- Shared food to be discouraged where possible.
- Current regulations say buffet food can not be self service due to high contact with shared utensils. Instead we have approval to provide individual serving utensils to guests. It is possible to have a buffet style menu as long as it is served by staff.
- Canape service is possible but considerations should be taken including
 - Spacing out canapes to ensure guests only touch the canape they intend to pick up

Room capacities

Under the current rules we must ensure guests have 4 square metres of space each.

Room	Max Capacity under 4 sq metres per person	Max Capacity under 2 sq metres per person
Walters	16	32
East	16	32
Foyer and hallway	20	40
West	32	64
East and West combined	48	96
Whole Venue inside (sticking to max per room)	Talk with James	Talk with James
Outside	2 sq metres per person	2 sq metres per person

Social distancing plan

- Avoid unnecessary physical contact with anyone such as shaking hands, hugs or kisses
- Even if you're personally close with another employee, at work you must maintain proper social distance processes.
- The Rostered start times of staff must be staggered where possible and allocated to specific areas. A good example is; 1 Manager in West 3:00pm start, 1 Bartender 5:00pm start, 1 staff in East 5:30pm start, 1 staff in Walters 6:00pm start.
- The rosters and assigned areas must be recorded accurately.
- Staff will be rostered with the same group of staff as much as possible to reduce risk.
- 1.5m minimum separation between staff must be adhered to at all times where possible and no more than 1 person in the Front of House storeroom, Cellar and Bar at a time. (Markings placed on floor)
- Uniforms and aprons must be **cleaned** every day in warm/hot water and detergent. (This includes chefs)

- Uniforms and aprons must **not** be shared without being laundered first. (This includes chefs)
- Staff can direct customers when needed to the Covid-19 signage that has social distancing protocols in line with the requirements of the Australian Government Health Department guidelines.
- Ride sharing between staff is discouraged, if possible use your own mode of transport to arrive to and from work.
- Measures are to be made to serve only a small number of guests per waitstaff, where possible, serving them drinks, food and taking the orders.

Illness

- Never come in to work with COVID-19 symptoms, these include;
 - Fever (Temperature above 37.5C)
 - Sore Throat
 - Cough
 - Tiredness
 - Fatigue
 - Difficulty Breathing
- Notify James if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19
- Anyone who has been in contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 must isolate for 14 days
- Managers to keep a concise and documented record of staff for each shift and their allocated sections. To assist the health department to COVID-19 tracing.
- **Illness register created.** If you take a shift off from work due to illness the relevant manager should record this in the illness register

Cleaning

- Professional cleaners engaged each night after there has been a service.
- Always wear plastic gloves when cleaning, especially when cleaning bathroom areas.
- Clean frequently touched areas with disinfectant regularly as per schedule, these include;
 - Door/Cupboard handles
 - Chairs/Tables
 - Light switches
 - Computers/Phones/iPad etc
 - Toilets
 - Taps
- Wash cutlery twice at 80 degrees
- All plates, glassware and cutlery to be washed if it has been on a table with a customer (even those that appear clean)

Kitchen specific processes

- Maintenance Logs for equipment ie. Washing machine temperature and glass washing units
- Signage in key positions for regular hand washing hygiene
- Auto sensor hand wash taps to be installed where possible in kitchen

- Tasting spoon stations. Regular replacements and washing of spoons on a schedule, NO DOUBLE DIPPING or TASTING WITH FINGERS
- Mark out floor spacings in kitchen

Cleaning schedule

Area	Instruction	Frequency	✓
Front door handles, handles to guest rooms	Spray with sanitiser and wipe away. If possible leave for up to 10 minutes if a guest is unlikely to touch during that period	After arrival periods for service After breaks during conferences	
EFTPOS Machine	Wipe down with alcohol wipes, or spray a cloth and wipe down (avoid spraying directly on unit as it may damage it)	After each use	
Guest chairs	Spray with sanitiser and wipe down with a clean cloth	After each chair is used during service and before the next guest arrives.	
Bathroom	Extreme caution should be taken when cleaning bathrooms. This is a high risk area. Gloves must ALWAYS be worn. Spray down high touch surfaces including - Taps - Door handles to each stall - Flush buttons - Push panels - Toilet seats	Must be cleaned between each service and or each break period in conference. For days with a single service under 30 guests leave cleaning to nightly professional cleaners unless visibly soiled. Check frequently to ensure	
Laptop and Phone	Use alcohol wipes or spray a cloth and wipe down	Every 2 hours	
Kitchen entry doors	Spray and wipe	Before and after each service	
Kitchen surfaces - Taps - Fridge doors and push areas - Basins	Spray and wipe	Every 3 hours	
Staff storage area and office bench	Spray and wipe benches and chairs	Each evening during pack down	

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

To: Minister for Economic Development Tracking No.: CMTEDD2021/1337

Date: 12/04/2021

CC: Assistant Minister for Economic Development *gc s/stran*

From: Director, Investment Facilitation and Programs

Subject: 2020-21 Priority Investment Program - Jobs and Economic Recovery funding round outcomes

Critical Date: 20/04/2021

Critical Reason: To enable Business and Innovation to advise applicants of the funding round outcomes

- DDG 16/04/21
- EGM 15/04/21

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief;

Noted / Please Discuss

2. Agree to allocate Priority Investment Program- Jobs and Economic Recovery funding to the three projects recommended by the Assessment Panel, subject to successful negotiation of each project's funding agreement:
 - a. Academy of Interactive Entertainment Ltd;
 - b. Liquid Instruments Pty Ltd; and
 - c. Penten Pty Ltd

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

3. Agree to allocate Priority Investment Program- Jobs and Economic Recovery funding to the University of Canberra subject to addressing the industry and tertiary collaboration requirement.

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

- additional scope for the project.

- Note the feedback that will be provided to all the unsuccessful applicants.

Noted / Please Discuss

Andrew Barr MLA  21 / 4 / 21

Minister's Office Feedback

Background

- In September 2020 you agreed to open the \$1 million Priority Investment Program - Jobs and Economic Recovery (PIP-JER) competitive funding round as part of the ACT Government response to the impact of COVID 19 on the Territory's economy (CMTEDD2020/4106).
- The application process for the 2020-21 PIP-JER comprises two stages:
 - Stage 1: The submission of an expression of interest (EOI); and
 - Stage 2: The submission of a detailed business case by applicants shortlisted in the EOI.
- The independent PIP Advisory Panel is responsible for reviewing applications at both stages and provides advice to the ACT Government. The PIP Advisory Panel includes three members: Professor Frances Shannon (chairperson); Ms Hala Batainah; and Mr Neville Stevens. The ACT Government is represented on the Panel by a senior officer from the Business and Innovation branch.
- The Stage 1 funding round (EOI) opened on 10 September 2020 and closed on 6 October 2020, a total of 22 EOIs were received. The applications were assessed against the feasibility, impact, and jobs and economic recovery criteria outlined in the funding guidelines at Attachment A.
- On 15 October 2020, the PIP Advisory Panel met to review the EOIs and provide its shortlist for Stage 2 business cases. Six EOIs were shortlisted and invited to submit business cases by 16 February 2021. A brief description of the six proposals is provided at Attachment B.

Issues

- Of the six applicants invited to submit a business case, one applicant withdrew. The proponent of the 'Canberra Clinical Phenomics', was unable to submit a business case due to uncertainty surrounding ANU's Recovery Plan and impacts on the ANU College of Health and Medicine.
- The following business case applications were received:

- a) Academy of Interactive Entertainment Ltd – *Film Plus Virtual Studio* (\$389,401).
 - b) Liquid Instruments – *Enabling World-Leading Remote Education and establishing a New Advanced Manufacturing Capability* (\$1,000,000).
 - c) University of Canberra – *Digital Building and Built Environment Hub for the Building and Construction Industry* (\$369,574).
 - d) Australian National University – *Aerial technology for bushfires detection* (\$438,020).
 - e) Penten – *Sync – The Secure Innovation and Collaboration Hub* (\$415,182).
8. The PIP Advisory Panel met 9 March 2021 to review the business cases and provide advice to the ACT Government. All applicants that submitted their business cases were invited to the Panel session to pitch their project and respond to questions from the Advisory Panel. The Advisory Panel’s recommendations are provided at Attachment C.
9. Business and Innovation also undertook an internal review of the benefits and risks of each project to inform the final funding recommendations for each project. Based on the PIP Advisory Panel recommendations and the ACT Government internal review, the following projects are recommended for funding.

Lead Project Proponent	Project Title	Recommended funding amount
Academy of Interactive Entertainment Ltd	Film Plus Virtual Studio	\$389,401
Liquid Instruments Pty Ltd	Enabling World-Leading Remote Education and establishing a New Advanced Manufacturing Capability	\$650,000
Penten Pty Ltd	Sync – The Secure Innovation and Collaboration Hub	\$415,182

10. The two projects that were not recommended for support by the Panel were:
- a) University of Canberra – *Digital building and Built Environment Hub for the Building and Construction Industry*; and
 - b) Australian National University (ANU) – *Aerial technology for bushfires detection*.
11. The Advisory Panel advised that the University of Canberra proposal was sound and addressed an industry need, however the panel agreed it did not strongly demonstrate the required industry and tertiary collaboration. Notwithstanding this, the project has met all eight of the PIP-JER criteria and the CMTEDD internal review considers the project to be viable, well designed, and sustainable.
12. The ANU proposal met six of the eight criteria. The project is proposed as a pilot and did not adequately demonstrate that it would be sustainable. The Panel and Directorate

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also questioned how this research would translate into economic benefits in the ACT context beyond the ANU Centre of Excellence and has not demonstrated clear competitive advantages for the ACT.

13. Your agreement is sought to allocate funding towards the University of Canberra proposal subject to the concerns of the Panel regarding industry and tertiary collaboration being addressed.
14. The business case assessment summary report including Panel observations and advice on each project is provided at Attachment D.
15. Should you agree to the recommendations of this brief, Business and Innovation will communicate the outcomes to the applicants. Conditional funding offers will be made to the successful applicants subject to contract negotiations.
16. The unsuccessful applicant/s will be provided with feedback on their business cases including advice and recommendations on alternative opportunities for their proposal.

Financial Implications

17. \$1 million from the Priority Investment Program was made available for the PIP- JER competitive round in September 2020. A further \$1 million from the FJF 2020-21 budget allocation was also committed to supplement the current PIP-JER funding round, making \$2 million in total available to deliver PIP-JER (CMTEDD2021/300).
18. The below table outlines the financial implications of the recommendations in the brief:

Lead Project Proponent	Project Title	Recommended funding amount
Recommendation 2		
Academy of Interactive Entertainment Ltd	Film Plus Virtual Studio	\$389,401
Liquid Instruments Pty Ltd	Enabling World-Leading Remote Education and establishing a New Advanced Manufacturing Capability	\$650,000
Penten Pty Ltd	Sync – The Secure Innovation and Collaboration Hub	\$415,182
Total		\$1,454,583
Recommendation 3		
University of Canberra	Digital Building and Built Environment Hub for the Building and Construction Industry	Up to \$369,574
Total		\$1,824,157

Consultation

Internal

19. Business and Innovation consulted internally on the guidelines for this funding round, which were modified to ensure that the round was responding to address the immediate impacts of COVID 19 on the economy.

Cross Directorate

20. Nil response.

External

21. Throughout the PIP-JER funding round, Business and Innovation has worked with the Advisory Panel to review the applications received.

Work Health and Safety

22. Nil response.

Benefits/Sensitivities

23. There is likely to be disappointment among the unsuccessful applicant/s. However, the overall decision on which projects to fund was informed by the evaluation of projects against the funding guidelines for the round. These state that only those projects that satisfy the 'feasibility' criteria and demonstrate the strongest claims against the 'impact and the jobs and economic recovery' criteria will warrant funding in this round.

24. Business and Innovation will provide the unsuccessful applicant/s with the opportunity for a debrief on their application as part of the communication of funding outcomes.

Communications, media and engagement implications

25. There will be opportunity to make announcements once the funding offers have been made and accepted by the successful funding recipients.

Signatory Name: Sean Kelly Phone: x58602

Action Officer: Chimwemwe Mpasu Phone: x75843

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	2020-21 Priority Investment Program -Jobs and Economic Recovery funding guidelines
Attachment B	Summary of the proposals shortlisted for the PIP -JER Business case stage
Attachment C	PIP Advisory Panel recommendations to ACT Government
Attachment D	Business Case Review Summary Report



PRIORITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM JOBS AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY FUNDING GUIDELINES

BUILDING COLLABORATION TO ATTRACT INVESTMENT AND JOBS
INTO CANBERRA'S KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY



SEPTEMBER 2020

Produced by: Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate.

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BACKGROUND

A strong, sustainable and diversified economy is essential to meet the needs of Canberra, now and into the future. In particular, the tertiary education and research sector, and its strengths, specialisations and growth building assets within its resources and people, are seen as a driver of investment attraction, long term wealth creation and jobs in Canberra.

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in significant economic losses for the ACT. It is particularly important that the ACT Government continues to support job creation and stimulate the ACT's knowledge-based economy during this period in order to position the Territory on the path to recovery beyond the pandemic.

The Priority Investment Program - Jobs and Economic Recovery Round is a part of the ACT Government's response to economic challenges in 2020-21 and will support ACT based businesses to create jobs, become more competitive and sustainable.

The Priority Investment Program - Jobs and Economic Recovery Round is a special round of the Priority Investment Program (PIP), a funding program aimed at facilitating collaboration between the ACT Government, industry, research and the tertiary sectors to attract investment and grow the established and emerging priority sectors of Canberra's economy.

The Program targets the sectors of the ACT's economy that warrant a priority for investment including but not limited to: cyber security, space, defence, renewable energy, agri-technology and plant sciences, healthy and active living and education, where Canberra has known and established strengths to capitalise on the rapidly growing global opportunities. The PIP is designed with the flexibility to enable the ACT Government to respond to other emerging investment opportunities that demonstrate strong potential, including from non-priority areas.

The PIP- Jobs and Economic Recovery Round builds on the significant investment the ACT Government has delivered in recent years to the tertiary education and research sector and industry to facilitate collaboration and unlock capability in the sectors that can significantly contribute to the ongoing growth and diversification of Canberra's economy.

While the Program's overall goal is to attract and retain business investment and talent, and to grow and enhance Canberra's competitive advantage by developing the strengths in the priority sectors, the additional focus of the 2020-21 PIP -Jobs and Economic Recovery Funding Round is the creation of sustainable jobs for the Territory's workforce.

The ACT Government has committed a total of \$1 million to the 2020-21 funding round. This funding will be offered on a competitive basis to projects or proposals that:

- Create sustainable jobs for the Territory's workforce.
- Demonstrate how the project will attract and retain an inward flow of investment and talent into the priority sectors with activity concentrated in the ACT.
- Establish or deepen collaboration between industry, higher education and research and ACT Government to align capabilities in priority sectors.
- Realise and sustain both latent and actual growth opportunities for the ACT's knowledge-based economy.
- Demonstrate a diverse mix of participants including business and research activity, intra or inter industry growth and representation of firm sizes (i.e. small to medium enterprises (SMEs), corporations and multinational corporations (MNCs)).

OBJECTIVES OF THE 2020-21 PIP - JOBS AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY FUNDING ROUND



Support projects or proposals that will directly contribute to long-term job creation and economic recovery in the priority sectors;



Attract and retain investment to grow Canberra's knowledge-based economy;



Make strategic investments that will unlock opportunities in the priority sectors and;



Build sustainable partnerships between the ACT Government, education and research institutions, industry and investors

FUNDING ROUNDS AND ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

\$1 million is available under the 2020-21 PIP -Jobs and Economic Recovery funding round. This is a one-off funding round with the successful projects expected to commence within the financial year.

APPLICANT CONTRIBUTIONS AND COMMITTED COLLABORATION

A successful project must clearly demonstrate partner contributions that will, at the minimum, match the requested PIP funding amount either in cash or fully costed and committed in-kind support. Priority will be given to projects that leverage a substantial amount of other funding to complement the ACT Government's contribution.

Priority will also be given to applications that demonstrate strong potential to create sustainable jobs, protect existing jobs and, where practicable, ongoing collaborations across industry, Canberra's research/education institutions and current and future investment opportunities.

Projects that are a consortium between stakeholders must demonstrate clearly the functions and roles of each partner, the resources (financial, material and in-kind) that each party will bring to the project, and partnership/funding agreements that will be in place to facilitate the collaboration in project implementation.

Any partnership and/or funding agreements that are essential for the implementation of the project will be considered as a key part of the funding agreement that the successful applicant will enter with the ACT Government.

APPLICATION AND ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Applications for funding will undergo a two-stage assessment process. Previous applicants that were unsuccessful in past PIP funding rounds are welcome to resubmit their proposals provided they address the jobs and economic recovery criteria for this round and the feedback that was provided on their original project or proposal.

Stage 1 – Expression of Interest

To apply, you must submit your expression of interest through the online application management system. Contact us with any questions and to discuss your proposal before you submit your expression of interest.

Expressions of interest will be assessed against the evaluation measures by an assessment panel agreed by the ACT Chief Minister and chaired by a senior officer in the Economic Development Division. The assessment panel will assess which EOIs should be invited to submit a stage 2 application.

Stage 2 – Business Case Submission

If your expression of interest is successful, you will be invited to submit a detailed business case. Applicants are required to submit their business case including any required supporting material (such as partnership agreements) via online delivery using the Smarty Grants online application management system.

Applicants that have been invited to submit a business case will be provided with a unique access link to submit online via the online application management system.

Following submission of the business case applicants may be required to pitch/present their project to the assessment panel. Following this assessment, proposed projects will be recommended to the ACT Government for funding. The ACT Chief Minister will make the final funding decisions based on the recommendations from the Assessment Panel and the ACT Government's own internal assessment.

EVALUATION MEASURES

Funding applications will be assessed against the feasibility, impact and the jobs and economic recovery criteria outlined below. Projects will be required to satisfy all the criteria under the feasibility and the jobs and economic recovery categories. They should also adequately address the impact criteria. Priority will be given to projects that satisfy feasibility requirements, create jobs and support economic recovery, and demonstrate the strongest impact.

Evaluation	Factors	Meaning	Merit outcomes	
Feasibility	Well designed	Meets critical sector(s) needs.	Proposal defines needs and outcomes in sector (s).	
		Project is well scoped and managed.	Defines strategy, milestones and budget. Comprehensive approach including people and infrastructure and identifies required enablers.	
	Sustainable	Demonstrates project is financially viable	Clear evidence project will sustain and grow when PIP funding ends	Pathway to local, national and MNC investment attraction.
			Pathway to local, national and MNC investment attraction.	
	Viable	Evidence that project and project team are investment worthy	Evidence of existing activity in the sector for project foundation	Project and the project team have strong credentials.
			Project and the project team have strong credentials.	Proven competitive advantage over other markets.
			Proven competitive advantage over other markets.	Identifies enablers critical to success.
			Identifies enablers critical to success.	

Evaluation	Factors	Meaning	Merit outcomes
Impact	Inspiring	Clear long term vision to inspire sector and community	Project inspires imagination of sector and community.
			Project demonstrates national leadership
			Project builds ACT's Brand. Project has visible and tangible outcomes.
	Catalytic	Shows catalytic rather than incremental outcomes	Project leverages other funding and can attract and leverage investment.
			Project opens up new opportunities
			Feasible pathway to global markets.
			Likelihood of attracting or growing medium-sized enterprises.
	Collaborative	Involves multiple partners and/or sectors	Develops talent (e.g. via work integrated learning, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) skills development, applied Masters and PhD, industry placements, skills training, international education)
			Minimum of two partners
			Breadth and diversity in partners e.g. mix of sectors, mix of organisations, mix of business (MNCs plus SMEs)

Evaluation	Factors	Meaning	Outcomes
Jobs and Economic Recovery	Employment creation	Clear contribution to the creation and sustaining of local jobs	Create and sustain new local jobs for the business
			Demonstrated ability to stimulate jobs creation in other local businesses and/ or the local supply chain.
			Protection of existing jobs

CONTRACTING AND FUNDING DISBURSEMENT

Successful applicants will enter into a funding agreement with the ACT Government with the funds disbursed according to agreed project milestones, adequate reporting and acquittal of activity and the timing of other relevant funding contributions and agreed outcomes.

For each approved project the ACT Government will require:

- Acknowledgement of ACT Government support and collaborative promotion of: project establishment; ongoing progress and final outcomes; investment opportunities and economic and industry achievements and impacts for the duration of the project.
- The right of approval/consultation over any changes to the project scope, team, budget and the collaborating partners.
- The funding recipient to agree on a suitable method of reporting and acquittal.
- The recipient to participate in interviews or surveys related to the PIP's evaluation.

CONTACT

If you would like to discuss your project or the Priority Investment Program - Jobs and Economic Recovery Round please contact the Innovation Industry and Investment team through email at investcanberra@act.gov.au to arrange a meeting.



Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic
Development Directorate

2020

**Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic
Development Directorate**

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To:	Minister for Economic Development	Tracking No.: CMTEDD2021/356
Date:	8 February 2020	
CC:	Head of Service	
From:	Deputy Director-General, Economic Development	
Subject:	Proposed Operations of the Canberra Economic Recovery Advisory Group (CERAG)	
Critical Date:	12 February 2021	
Critical Reason:	To enable Economic Development to organise the first meeting of CERAG by the end of February, and to progress letters for your signature appointing members.	

- DDG: 8/2/2021

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief;

Noted / Please Discuss

2. Agree that Economic Development prepare letters for your signature appointing the Government-endorsed members of CERAG for a period of six months;

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

3. Approve the overarching theme, and two sub-themes, to be explored and advised upon by CERAG outlined in this brief; and

with amendments as marked.
Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

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4. Approve the provisional output and meeting schedule outlined in this brief.

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

Andrew Barr MLA



10/2/21

Minister's Office Feedback

Background

1. The Canberra Economic Recovery Advisory Group (CERAG) was established on 3 September 2020 (CMTEDD2020/4185).
2. CERAG was originally devised in August and September 2020 to provide advice to Government on how to protect and create local jobs in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Per its Terms of Reference ([Attachment A](#)) areas of focus include advice on regulatory reforms, how to support long term growth and resilience of the ACT economy, the identification of barriers to growth, means of attracting new investment, and tax reforms. It was anticipated that it would operate for a minimum of one year on the basis that the ACT's economic recovery would be a medium to longer term proposition.
4. On 15 December 2020, Government agreed to the appointment of 11 members to CERAG (CAB2020/591), seven of whom had been recommended for direct appointment and four of whom had submitted expressions of interest.
5. On 21 December, the ACT Remuneration Tribunal released Determination 14 of 2020 (*Part-time Public Office Holder – Canberra Economic Recovery Advisory Group*), which sets the remuneration for members of CERAG at \$16,000 per annum.
6. Members of CERAG will be formally appointed on receipt of letters from you as Minister for Economic Development. This is yet to occur pending finalisation of the themes of work to be pursued by the group in line with the Terms of Reference, and the meeting structure. This brief seeks your agreement to both. Issues
7. Given the current economic environment, you requested Economic Development provide advice on a potential six-month work program and structure for CERAG members.

8. The ACT's economy has demonstrated more resilience than had been anticipated when CERAG was conceived. Economic indicators sourced from ABS data show strong labour force data and resilience in residential building approvals and housing finance. The ACT is currently one of the strongest economies in Australia.
9. Recovery has not been consistent across sectors. For example:
 - a. Despite whole-of-job market recovery, payroll jobs in most industries were still below March 2020 levels in December 2020, noting ongoing volatility in this measure. The accommodation and food services sector continues to be the most heavily affected, with payroll jobs down 19.4% in the week ending 16 January 2021 compared to that ending 14 March 2020.
 - b. The effect of international travel restrictions on the ACT's largest export, international education, will continue to be significant. This is illustrated by zero international student arrivals in November 2020 compared to 550 in November 2019.
10. While established in a COVID-19 pandemic context, CERAG's core function and areas of focus remain relevant regardless of the ACT's economic circumstances. A group like CERAG could provide valuable input into longer term economic recovery and diversification, rather than focusing on more immediate measures, as originally envisioned. A six-month appointment period also facilitates the rapid provision of advice by CERAG, into addition to its timely input to possible measures for the 2021-22 budget process.

Work Themes

11. Consistent with the Terms of Reference, it is recommended that the **primary theme** of CERAG's work be the ACT's long-term economic growth and resilience. As part of this work, CERAG should:
 - a. Advise on the maturity of the key capability areas identified in the ACT Government's Jobs and Economic Recovery Plan (the Plan);
 - b. Identify global megatrends and assess their implications for ACT, particularly in relation to trade and export (including international education and international tourism) and the ACT's target markets; and
 - c. Advise, in broad terms, what the ACT Government should be doing now to position the ACT's economy for success over the next ten to 15 years with reference to lessons learned in other cities or jurisdictions in Australia and overseas.
12. Drawing on the Plan, CERAG's primary thematic focus should be supported by a consideration of two **sub-themes**:
 - (i) Knowledge, Creativity, and Innovation

The Plan, in focusing on supporting industries and creating opportunities, identifies 15 sectors whose growth will support the ACT Government's target of 250,000 jobs in the Territory by 2025. CERAG is well-placed to investigate how the ACT's existing capabilities in knowledge, creativity, and innovation can be leveraged to grow all these sectors in seeking to reach the jobs target.

~~(ii) Removing Barriers and Promoting Growth~~

leave this out.

X

The Plan also identifies a need to create an environment for long-term growth. This means making it easier for businesses to open and grow while balancing regulatory responsibilities. The expertise of CERAG could be drawn upon by Policy and Cabinet and the Better Regulation Taskforce to identify high level regulatory barriers to doing business, and considerations in pursuing regulatory settings which promote business growth.

Taskforce can focus on these issues.

Provisional Outputs and Meeting Schedule

13. The 11-member CERAG, comprised of individuals with significant expertise and experience across the public, private and academic sectors, carries significant intellectual weight. As a result, its outputs should not be unduly defined or prematurely limited by the ACT Government.
14. However, in line with the overall thematic focus suggested for CERAG, it is proposed that it be requested to produce a communiqué at the end of its six-month work period on long-term economic growth and resilience for the ACT. This communiqué should draw the ACT Government's attention to priority areas to achieve this goal.
15. Further outputs of CERAG will be agreed in consultation with the ACT Government, whether related to its primary thematic focus or the two sub-themes of knowledge, creativity, and innovation; and better regulation.
16. It is proposed that CERAG meet formally and in full on four occasions over the members' six-month appointment period as follows:

Meeting	Theme and agenda summary	Chief Minister attendance
End February (two hours) <i>Mon 1</i> <i>March</i> <i>12-2pm</i> <i>OR</i> <i>Wed 3</i> <i>March</i>	Long-term Economic Growth and Resilience, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a Treasury briefing on the ACT's economic situation; • an Economic Development briefing on the ACT's key capability areas and existing Government strategies; and • a roundtable session for members to speak for up to five minutes on their initial ideas. 	Attend in full.

Preferred ->

1:30pm - 3:30pm

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End April (half day)	Sub-theme (i): Knowledge, Creativity, and Innovation, including an externally facilitated session to seed discussion and ideas.	For end-of-session summary and networking.
End May (half day)	Sub-theme (ii): Removing Barriers and Promoting Growth, facilitated by Policy and Cabinet in support of the Better Regulation Taskforce.	For end-of-session summary.
End June (two hours)	Long-term Economic Growth and Resilience, including a wrap up and presentation to Chief Minister.	Attend in full.

17. In consideration of member remuneration and the scope of work required, it is expected that CERAG, in whole or in part (such as without yourself or the Head of Service), meet and continue work outside of this formal meeting schedule.
18. Economic Development will plan and facilitate formal meetings, informal meetings, and produce research and discussion pieces for CERAG as required.

Financial Implications

19. As part of the 202-21 Budget, Budget Committee of Cabinet has agreed to fund the *Knowledge Capital – Future Jobs Fund* initiative, which includes funding for a SOG B officer (0.5 FTE in 2020-21) to be allocated to Economic Development for CERAG-related activities.
20. It is further expected that CERAG will require considerable attention from a Senior Director, the Executive Group Manager and myself as Deputy Director-General.
21. Economic Development does not have the capacity to absorb member remuneration, which would total \$88,000 to appoint the 11 members for six months in line with the remuneration tribunal determination. The business case for the *Knowledge Capital – Future Jobs Fund* initiative noted that these costs were unknown at the time of writing the business case. These costs were still unknown at the time of Budget deliberations in early-mid December 2020.
22. This amount will need to be cost managed across CMTEDD, and if this is not possible at the end of the 2020-21 financial year a Treasurer’s Advance may need to be sought.

Consultation

Internal

23. Policy and Cabinet was consulted on the proposed focus theme of better regulation for CERAG.
24. Strategic Finance was consulted on financial implications.

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Cross Directorate

25. Nil.

External

26. Nil.

Work Health and Safety

27. Nil.

Benefits/Sensitivities

- 28. The ACT Government announced the formation of CERAG in the Jobs and Economic Recovery Plan in August 2020. Setting the work themes and meeting schedule of CERAG are important last steps in finalising the appointments process and allowing the group to meet, enabling it to deliver short and sharp advice to the ACT Government by June 2021.
- 29. Neither the successful nor unsuccessful membership candidates who submitted expressions of interest to join CERAG in October 2020 have been informed of the outcome of that process. Candidates should be informed prior to any further public announcement about CERAG.

Communications, media and engagement implications

- 30. Economic Development will work with your Office on a media release for use at the time of CERAG's first meeting, or prior if so directed.

Signatory Name: Kareena Arthy Phone: x75564
Action Officer: Morgan Campbell Phone: x50931

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Canberra Economic Recovery Advisory Group Terms of Reference

Canberra Economic Recovery Advisory Group

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Background

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the ACT economy and business community has been significant; entire industry sectors have been devastated and thousands of jobs lost. The ACT government has implemented a range of measures to support business during this time. These economic survival measures have helped the Territory manage the first stages of the pandemic. However, there remain significant challenges as we navigate the road to recovery.

Having a strong and resilient economy is fundamental to the long-term wellbeing of the ACT. Jobs, income equality, business performance and economic diversity are critical factors to individual and collective wellbeing in the Territory.

Purpose

The Canberra Economic Recovery Advisory Group (CERAG) has been established to bring together economists, industry representatives, community sector partners and unions to provide advice to the government on how we can continue to protect and create local jobs.

Areas of focus will include, but not be limited to:

- ~~Advice on regulatory reforms and other process improvements to increase the flexibility of business and reduce red tape;~~
- Advice on additional opportunities and actions for government, private sector and relevant institutions to support growth and resilience in the ACT economy;
- Identification of systemic issues and barriers to achieving sustainable growth in the ACT economy and advice on strategies to address these issues;
- Advice on government measures to attract new investment to the ACT;
- Advice on future stages of tax reform to increase productivity; and
- Advice on opportunities for jobs growth ~~and options to ensure Canberrans have access to real jobs.~~

Membership

The membership of the CERAG will be:

- Chief Minister (Chair)
- Head of the ACT Public service (Deputy Chair)
- Five members appointed by the Chief Minister
- Additional members appointed following a public expression of interest.

Members will be appointed for up to one year.

Non-government members will be remunerated (level of remuneration to be confirmed).

The Chair may invite relevant experts and observers to attend meetings as required.

Subcommittees

Subcommittees may be established to assist the advisory group fulfil its purpose. Each subcommittee must have its own terms of reference, which must be agreed by the Chair.

Meetings and Secretariat

Meetings will occur monthly, either face-to-face or via video conferencing technology. Other meetings or out-of-session consideration of matters may occur from time to time.

Secretariat functions will be provided by Economic Development, Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate.

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

To: Minister for Economic Development Tracking No.: CMTEDD2021/1732

Date: 30/04/2021

CC: Assistant Minister for Economic Development *2.15/21*

From: Executive Branch Manager, Business and Innovation

Subject: Proposal to run an invitational round of the Priority Investment Program

Critical Date: 05/05/2021

Critical Reason: To enable the process to be completed by the end of the financial year.

- EGM 02/05/21

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief; and

Noted / Please Discuss

2. Agree to progress a Priority Investment Program (PIP) invitational funding round using remaining funding from the 2020-21 Future Jobs Fund (FJF) budget appropriation and funding from the unsuccessful Space Services Australia PIP; and/or

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

3. Agree to the reprofiling of residual 2020-21 PIP/FJF funds for use in future FJF rounds during the course of 2021-22.

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please DiscussAndrew Barr MLA *Andrew Barr* *4/5/21*

Minister's Office Feedback

Background

1. In February this year, you agreed (CMTEDD2021/300) to the following allocation of \$2.165 million under the 2020-21 Future Jobs Fund (FJF) budget appropriation:
 - a. \$1 million to supplement the \$1 million Priority Investment Program (PIP) - Jobs and Economic Recovery competitive funding round (\$2 million total); and
 - b. \$800,000 to respond to emerging priorities using the following criteria to inform the assessment of emerging priorities:
 - i. Projects that have a potential high job yield, including creating and saving jobs;
 - ii. Projects that leverage matched investment (not necessarily 1:1) from universities, the private sector, Commonwealth Government, and other sources to amplify the ACT Government's investment;
 - iii. Projects that have high economic impact that will have long term benefits and job creation or saving potential; or
 - iv. Projects that create and support local industry capability in high potential sectors to give our city the skills it needs for the future.
2. You were recently briefed on the outcomes of the 2020-21 PIP – Jobs and Economic Recovery funding round (CMTEDD2021/1337). From the \$2 million that was available for this round, approximately \$1.824 million was allocated to four projects leaving a balance of \$176,000.
3. The \$0.8 million fund to respond to emerging priorities has been allocated the ANU bid for the Australian Space Agency's Payload Qualification Facilities funding grant and Canberra Cyber Security Cluster (Canberra Cyber Hub).
4. You have also been briefed separately (CMTEDD2021/1723) regarding the recommended withdrawal of the conditional offer of \$600,000 in PIP funding to the Space Services Australia's *'Space Innovation Lab'*. Subject to your agreement to that recommendation, there will be an additional \$600,000 in unspent funds under the program.
5. The withdrawal of the offer to Space Services Australia and the recommendations from the PIP – Jobs and Economic Recovery round will result in an overall total of \$776,000 in unspent funds.

Issues

6. There have been proposals received seeking funding for projects that broadly align with the criteria agreed for the 2020-21 FJF and PIP criteria.
7. Economic Development is seeking your agreement to utilise the remaining \$776,000, subject to your agreement to recommendations in CMTEDD2021/1723, to conduct an invitational grant round.

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8. It is proposed an evaluation panel of senior officials be convened to evaluate the proposals against the FJF agreed criteria. This approach is consistent with the evaluation of similar proposals assessed recently against the FJF criteria.
9. The proponents that will be invited to apply for funding in this invitational round include:
 - a. UNSW Canberra - *Expansion of capabilities within UNSW Canberra Space*. Professor Sidhu's initial letter outlining the concept is at [Attachment A](#); and
 - b. ANU - *Canberra Clinical Phenomics*. This proposal ([Attachment B](#)) was shortlisted under the PIP - Jobs and Economic Recovery round, however ANU was unable to submit a business case due to an internal restructure process being undertaken.
10. The proponents will be allowed a short timeframe (i.e. two weeks) to further develop their proposals to ensure alignment with the FJF criteria before consideration by the evaluation panel. Funding offers to successful applicants will then be made by the end of June 2021.
11. Your agreement is also sought for any residual PIP/FJF funds to be reprofiled for use in future FJF rounds during the course of 2021-22. This accounts for any funds remaining post the invitational round or in the event that you do not agree to progress the invitational round.

Financial Implications

12. Subject to your agreement \$776,000 from unspent program funding in the 2020-21 financial year will be available for the invitational round with any residual funds to be reprofiled for use in future FJF rounds in 2021-22.
13. Economic Development's assessment, in the context of this reprofiling request, does meet the appropriate criteria. If you agree to the funding being reprofiled from 2020-21 into 2021-22, Economic Development will work with CMTEDD Strategic Finance and Treasury to process the adjustment through the appropriate mechanisms.

Consultation

Internal

14. Nil.

Cross Directorate

15. Nil.

External

16. Nil

Work Health and Safety

17. Nil.

Benefits/Sensitivities

18. There are many stakeholders currently seeking government support for various initiatives. The decision to hold a competitive invitational funding round may be questioned by stakeholders. However, the funding amount that is available makes it necessary to only consider a limited number of proposals that align with the high-level principles of the FJF.

Communications, media and engagement implications

19. Subject to your agreement, Economic Development will write to ANU and UNSW.

Signatory Name: Jenny Priest Phone: x72070

Action Officer: Ash BalaretnaRaja Phone: x75282

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	UNSW Canberra Expansion of Capabilities within UNSW Canberra Space
Attachment B	ANU Canberra Clinic Phenomics

**Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic
Development Directorate**

UNCLASSIFIED

To:	Minister for Economic Development	Tracking No.: CMTEDD2020/5521
Date:	3 December 2020	
CC:	Assistant Minister for Economic Development	
From:	Deputy Director-General, Economic Development	
Subject:	Forum Report: ACT Economic Recovery Industry Engagement Forum	
Critical Date:	In the ordinary course of business.	
Critical Reason:	N/A	

- DDG 4/12/20
- EGM 4/12/20

Recommendations

1. That you note the Stakeholder Report from the Industry Engagement Forum at Attachment A.

Noted / Please Discuss

Andrew Barr MLA



17/12/20

Minister's Office Feedback

UNCLASSIFIED

Background

1. You requested that Economic Development organise an ACT Economic Recovery Industry Engagement Forum (the Forum) to hear the economic recovery priorities of an array of industry and community stakeholders.
2. The forum was held on Tuesday 1 December 2020 via Webex and facilitated by Ms Helen Leayr of Communications Link.
3. Stakeholders were allocated five minutes to present their priorities.

Issues

4. A Forum Report has been prepared at Attachment A, outlining the views of those who spoke on behalf of their organisations.
5. The Forum Report is intended as an internal government reference document only. The session was not recorded, and stakeholders were not asked to review the record of their presentations within the Forum Report.
6. You flagged the potential for a future-focused forum in early 2021. Further discussions about the timing and nature of this forum will be held with you in the New Year.

Financial Implications

7. Ms Lyear was engaged at a cost of 2.2(a)(xi) incl. GST.

Consultation

Internal

8. Nil for this brief.

Cross Directorate

9. Nil for this brief. However, per the brief provided to you prior to the Forum (CMTEDD2020/5409), a range of Directors-General or their representatives from across Government attended the Forum as Observers.

External

10. Nil for this brief.

Work Health and Safety

11. Nil.

Benefits/Sensitivities

12. The view expressed by stakeholders, highlight the divers and competing priorities and will inform the ACT Government's economic recovery priorities, particularly in relation to its jobs creation agenda and in advance of the August 2021 budget.
13. The views will also be of value in informing the development of advice by the Canberra

Economic Recovery Advisory Group (CERAG) once members are appointed.

Communications, media and engagement implications

- 14. You raised the option of ongoing engagement with the organisations represented at the Forum.

Signatory Name: Kareena Arthy Phone: x75564
Action Officer: Morgan Campbell Phone: x50931

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Forum Report: ACT Economic Recovery Industry Engagement Forum

ACT Economic Recovery Industry Engagement Forum – 1 December 2020

FORUM REPORT

Facilitator: Ms Helen Leayr (Communication Link)

Time	Topic/Organisation	Speaker
	Canberra Business Chamber	Graham Catt

1. Economic Diversity

- Mr Catt highlighted a need to balance support and incentives for emerging industries and capability areas while also continuing to support strengths which have got the ACT to where it is today. In relation to those strengths, he gave the specific examples of tourism and international education.
- He noted that we need to capitalise on the ACT's competitive advantages.
- In relation to exports in particular, Mr Catt noted that the present trade environment is very uncertain, and that it will continue to be important to support access to markets overseas.

2. Jobs and Employment Growth

- Noting the ACT Government's plan for 250,000 jobs by 2025, Mr Catt emphasised a need to ensure that the ACT has the correct skills base and workforce to support industries driving economic growth.
- He reported that certain skills bases are exiting the economy (e.g. skills in tourism and retail), and that there is a general skills shortage in certain technical roles, such as in the defence and scientific sectors.
- Mr Catt called on the Government to invest in the development of a clear strategy for skills, covering both skills growth within the ACT and skilled migration.

3. Tax

- In the short-term, Mr Catt called for a continuation of existing support to small business during the COVID-19 pandemic, including deferrals and waivers.
- In the long-term, he sees the COVID-19 pandemic as an opportunity for the ACT Government to engage with business on the tax mix to find an appropriate way for Government to raise revenue while minimising the negative impact on business. Payroll tax reform and commercial rate reform are required.

Tourism industry

Mark Sarah (*on behalf of the Canberra Region Tourism Leaders Forum and the National Capital Attractions Association*)

1. Ensure Ongoing Support for VisitCanberra

- Mr Sarah called on the ACT Government to provide ongoing support and funding for VisitCanberra to ensure it has the ability to do what it needs to do; promoting Canberra as a safe place to visit and supporting businesses to operate in a COVID safe way.
- He highlighted a pair of successful Government initiatives:
 - The *Holiday Here* campaign which demonstrates that Canberra has some amazing products that are a one-off; and
 - The cooperative marketing campaign which was seeing unprecedented collaborations, particularly with the national attractions, and the benefit of which would be far-reaching.
- In arguing the importance of the tourism industry, Mr Sarah highlighted that:

-
- tourism belongs to every Canberran – a lot of small businesses have experienced the downturn from visitors coming to Canberra;
 - a downturn in tourism also affects the transport and education industries;
 - tourism has sociocultural benefits: we enjoy our attractions and take pride in our city.
 - Mr Sarah also noted the effect other industries can have on tourism. For example, the visiting friends and relatives’ market that comes from the ACT’s international student cohort is not insignificant.
 - He called on VisitCanberra to look inwards and focus on the ACT’s greatest strength: Canberrans.
 - He noted that where the National Attractions – traditionally the stronger performers – are struggling to re-open under the weight of procedure, private enterprise is picking up the slack. VisitCanberra should use this opportunity to support the small business side of tourism.

2. Expanding Delivery of the Current Complement of Events in the ACT

- Mr Sarah called for the Major Events Fund to be secured moving forward.
- While events have been delivered in a different way, the community has really benefitted.
- He noted that taking Floriade to the community was a wonderful initiative.
- Economic recovery, city vibrancy and re-engaging with ACT’s diverse communities can be achieved through a range of events and activations.

3. Provide Support for Aviation Partners

- Mr Sarah noted that the ACT’s aviation partners have been doing it tough.
- While the situation is looking rosier in the shorter-term than before, he called on the ACT Government to provide long-term support.
- Continued resourcing and support of the aviation and transport sector not only helps tourism, but the broader aviation industry, regional Australia, and other industries such as exports and trade, which depend heavily on aviation.

Unions ACT

Matthew Harrison

1. Secure Employment

- Mr Harrison noted that secure employment has always been a focus for the union movement.
- He stated that the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on Australia’s workforce exposed what union workers see every day.
- He argued that workers need entitlements – including sick leave and holidays – to be productive, and called on the ACT Government to:
 - create secure employment where it can, whether through direct employment, procurement, or incentives for business; and
 - up the intensity and speed of the secure work taskforce.

2. ACT public sector wage growth

- Noting that bargaining for 21,000 ACT employees commences in the New Year, Mr Harrison stated that unions will be seeking good wage growth in the wake of COVID.
- He put forward the view that the Federal Government’s latest bargaining policy is looking to erode wage growth and that this is the third such bargaining policy in a row, representing a real issue for the ACT and its economy. The policy will mean public sector rises are tied to private sector rises.

3. Insourcing

- Mr Harrison called on the ACT Government to review outsource providers such as cleaning contracts and where appropriate bring these jobs back into the ACT Public Service.

AHA ACT

Anthony Brierley

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- Mr Brierley noted that while a lot of the COVID-19 conversation is shifting to economic recovery, the accommodation and hospitality sectors are still focused on economic survival.

Accommodation Sector

- Mr Brierley stated that a lot of the tourism stimulation being embarked on is focused on leisure visitors. However, there are still five days of the week to focus on corporate visitation.
- He also argued that people should be brought back into offices: corporate tourism will commence once firms are comfortable sending their officers interstate.
- Mr Brierley also noted that the easing of density restrictions to one person per two sqm has helped hotels with corporate bookings.

Licensed Hospitality

- Mr Brierley highlighted three issues facing the hospitality sector in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic:
 - Depressed turnover – down about 35% percent;
 - A lack of liquidity – cash reserves are depleted; and
 - A dramatic increase in current liabilities on the books caused, for example, by deferrals of rent owed to landlords.
- He also stated that employment was down 15%, or 2,500 jobs. On the flip side, though, there are plenty of jobs being advertised that cannot be filled. Mr Brierley thinks it is a matter of employment supply rather than employment demand: perhaps those who exited are reticent about coming back after losing their jobs.
- He stated that the lack of demand could be rectified to some degree by the current cohort of school leavers and suggested there may be an opportunity in leveraging JobMaker, or perhaps providing government funding for Responsible Service of Alcohol certificates.
- Mr Brierley argued that because of their depressed turnover, hospitality businesses have become leaner. They have cut live music, cancelled their Foxtel/sporting subscriptions, and cut marketing as it is seen as redundant when capacity ceilings are being easily met.
- His proposed solution is stimulus and support. For example, waiving payroll tax for new jobs, and there could be a percentage reduction on liquor licensing fees for venues that hold live music performances.

ACTCOSS

Emma Campbell

- Dr Campbell noted that her presentation is based on consultation with members, and focuses on how the Chief Minister can meet his goals of growing the economy and protecting jobs.

1. Investment in Community Services

- Dr Campbell stated that there are currently 38,000 in the ACT living in poverty, and that the number of people on JobSeeker in Canberra has doubled since end 2019. Workers in the social services industry have reported that poverty and disadvantage have increased and demand for their services has increased. When surveyed, only four percent could meet demand for services.
- These reports should also be seen against a backdrop of demographic changes, including an ageing population and extra births.
- Dr Campbell called for the Government to prioritise early intervention for vulnerable youth, which results in savings in health costs, reduced crime, and increased employment.
- In terms of investment in community services generally, she also argued that the human services industry is a big employer, with low qualifications for entry.

2. Housing

- Dr Campbell highlighted that in the ACT there is a public housing shortage, with 3,000 houses in the stock and around 1,600 people experiencing homelessness. Further, 42.7% of low-income households are in rental stress.
-

- She argued that investing in housing, including social housing, not only supports low income/disadvantaged people but also makes economic sense: for every \$1 in social housing construction expenditure, \$1.30 goes into the economy.

3. Services and Supports for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in the ACT

- Dr Campbell noted that there is still a long way in the ACT to close the gap. Significant work is to be done to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the ACT can achieve self-determination and enjoy the benefits of living in Canberra. For example, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have heavy rates of incarceration in the ACT.
- She states, however, that there are positives: investment in community controlled organisations is highly effective.
- Dr Campbell also advocated investment in business: for every \$1 of revenue created by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses, \$4.41 in economic and social value is created.

Priorities for Investment Decisions

- Dr Campbell called for a general framework for all investment decisions, which would have the following considered as factors in decision-making:
 - Removing inequality in the ACT;
 - Improving outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people;
 - Removing structural barriers to inclusion; and
 - Including transparent reporting around the opportunity costs of major investment, including effects on climate change.

ATSIEB

Jo Chivers

- Ms Chivers expressed support for ACTCOSS' statements in relation to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.
- She advocated, from an Elected Body perspective, that economic recovery is about ensuring there is a strong proportion of opportunities for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.
- Ms Chivers noted the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement between the ACT Government and the Elected Body ACT (2019-2028).
- In relation to economic participation, which is a pillar of that agreement, Ms Chivers advocated for:

1. Maximising opportunities for employment;

2. Supporting growth in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses and community services organisations; and

3. Supporting students to transition to full employment.

Canberra Community Clubs

Athol Chambers

1. Policy and Regulatory Certainty from Government

- Mr Chambers explained that most Clubs are currently going through a business planning process for 2021. This is being done in a period during which we are facing uncertainty and unanticipated changes, both enemies to business planning.
- As a result, Mr Chambers called on the ACT Government to offer certainty on policy and regulatory arrangements. For example, the Government might offer a twelve-month no-change guarantee.

2. Government Assistance with Costs and Minimising Expenditure

- Mr Chambers explained that community spending in clubs comes out of disposable income. As disposable income is under threat from three areas (COVID-pandemic waves; JobKeeper and JobSeeker ending in March; and rolling redundancies such as at Qantas), there is considerable uncertainty in Clubs around revenue.

-
- He called on Government to assist on the cost side by considering relief for 2021:
 - Gaming tax relief by repeating the three-month relief period offered earlier this year);
 - Waive liquor licensing fees (while this initiative is currently in place until the end of March, consider continuing for six months or all of 2021); and
 - Offer relief in relation to water charges, noting that the maintenance of playing fields is a big expense for Clubs.

3. Reform to Expedite Land Development Proposals and Reduce Costs and Risks

- Mr Chambers explained that clubs have been trying to diversify away from gaming to other revenue streams. They usually look to use land. The planning and development process is quite difficult for clubs. He argued that it is lengthy, costly, and risky with Clubs not necessarily getting the outcome they are hoping for.
- He expressed that he is delighted that the Parliamentary Agreement proposes to expedite planning process and noted that EPSDD released a paper into a planning and development review the day before the Forum.
- Mr Chalmers called on the Government to expedite the planning and development review.

ANU

Prof Brian Schmidt

- Professor Schmidt outlined a vision for Canberra becoming a Singapore-like tech hub in Australia, noting it has the capability. He cited the fact that there are 70 Canberra-based CEOs who are ANU alumni.
- He stated that there are three necessary areas of focus in a broader ecosystem.

1. Grow our Own Companies

- Professor Schmidt argued that we can harness the brilliant minds of our city for economic recovery, but that the settings must be right to empower these minds. He noted that there are companies and ideas that we're yet to hear of, citing one example of a start-up developing room temperature quantum computers.
- He noted that the common thread behind Canberra's success stories is unclear, but should be examined, noting that while venture capital at all stages seems important, human capital is equally so.
- He argued that the Government and private sector can and do work well together, citing renewable energy, and called for an increased focus on health innovation.

2. Bring in Multinationals

- Professor Schmidt argued that attracting multinationals from other jurisdictions is also important, stating that they are essential to the ecosystem.
- He called on the ACT Government to set a goal of attracting five major multinationals to Australia.
- Using ongoing conversations with Optus as an example, he noted that the ACT is home to everything multi-nationals need: an agile Government, great schools, and great universities. He would also like this agility replicated in the TAFE sector.

3. Offer an Unrivalled University Experience

- Professor Schmidt posited that Canberra can and should be the most attractive destination to study in Australia, and that there should be a concerted effort to get graduates to stay on here once they've finished studying.
 - He argued that the investment is worthwhile, stating that the ACT gets a \$1 million of benefit for every three students attracted to the ANU.
 - He noted the need to ensure that the opportunity is here for students to come, and in particular the necessity of finding a safe way to repatriate students en masse rather than waiting for it to happen in a trickle, particularly against the backdrop of competition from other jurisdictions.
-

- Professor Nixon stated he would seek to avoid rehashing what the University of Canberra had put forward as priorities during the election campaign, and supported Professor Schmidt's points.
- He also expressed support for points made by other participants on the following:
 - Social housing;
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment and participation;
 - Dr Campbell's call for guiding principles on the development of policy, with a focus on social justice and inclusion; and
 - Innovation being critical to economic regeneration across industries, including data, cyber, space, renewables, and – a particular focal point of his – health.
- Professor Nixon outlined three priorities as follows.

1. The Return of International Students to the ACT (Urgent)

- Professor Nixon argued that the return of international students to the ACT will drive economic growth and jobs in the services industries and will also protect jobs in universities. Critical signal for inward investment. He noted, further, that Government support to achieve this goal is vital.

2. Development of a Vibrant Hub for Creative and Cultural Industries (Immediate)

- Professor Nixon noted that during the COVID-19 pandemic, we have observed a resurgence of creative design. This has been an under-supported sector and has also been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.
- He argued that economic diversity and job creation would be assisted by building the technology end of creative and cultural industries, in addition to supporting its bespoke and craft elements.

3. Establish Stronger Links Between the Higher Education and VET Sectors (Medium Term – 12 to 18 months)

- Professor Nixon argued that establishing stronger links between the higher education and VET sectors would drive the service and knowledge economy.
- He stated that there was a real opportunity in the ACT given its size and the presence of four strong providers: the ANU, UC, UNSW and CIT.
- He argued that no state or territory has got this right, and that the ACT's size and agility give it the opportunity to be national-leading.
- However, he noted that building better pathways between VET and higher education would require an agile approach to support and funding.

- Professor Frater opened by stating that the ACT is a unique jurisdiction in that it is home to politicians, bureaucrats and research institutions who can sit around the one table.
- He argued that, generally, we need to offer people secure employment, train people for high skills' jobs, and retain kids in town as they become adults.
- To attract talent, he noted that how we present ourselves to the world really matters.
- In relation to the higher education sector specifically, Professor Frater noted that while everyone knows about revenue drops in the sector during the COVID-19 pandemic, people do not realise that funding in real terms for domestic students has reduced significantly over the last 20 years. As a result, permanent and casual jobs have been lost.
- Professor Frater outlined his top three priorities for economic recovery as follows.

1. Increase Research Engagement in the Canberra Community

- Professor Frater argued that research was important for all enterprise: start-ups and existing businesses, whether they be big or small.

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- He noted that research engagement led to relationship generation: for example, UNSW has established the Launch on Northbourne innovation precinct, and it has already generated relationships with partner companies and other unis.
 - He also noted that place still matters for research and research engagement. The ACT's Key Capability Areas remain relevant, highlighting health, defence and security in particular.

2. Return International Students

- In seeking the return of international students to the ACT, Professor Frater stated that the student experience is critical.
- He argued that the ACT needed to present narrative of openness for return *and* safety.

3. Ensure Skills and Capability for the Workforce of the Future

- Professor Frater argued for a close look at how higher education and VET are contributing to meaningful skilling and re-skilling.

Conservation Council

Helen Oakey

-
- Ms Oakey said her presentation would focus on capitalising on changes for the benefit of natural environment. Broader messages in her presentation would include that:
 - **we cannot grow out economy at the expense of the natural environment; and**
 - there are lots of opportunities for growing SMEs in the sector and for skills development, feeding into the jobs growth agenda.

1. Climate change and energy

- Ms Oakey argued for a focus on:
 - Electrification and battery operation, which is also good for small businesses and skills growth. Battery programs could be rolled out quickly and in a safe way; and
 - Funding models to build community ownership of assets, which increase community access and reduces the cost of living.

2. Reducing our Footprint, Here and Beyond our Borders

- Ms Oakey noted that we have a strong agenda on climate change and reducing emission, such as achieving our 100% renewable energy target. However, our ecological footprint is measured as being 9 times the area of the ACT. The resources we use, and goods we sell – transport, construction – are well above what is on our balance sheet globally.
- Referring to waste as resources, she noted that of the one million tonnes of resources generated in the ACT each year, 300,000 still goes to landfill.
- Ms Oakey argued that in this problem there are opportunities, such as in the waste and recycling sectors. Support for recycling and reuse will also lead to job creation and ideas generation for waste reduction. Outcomes could be eco-friendly start up programs and exports.

3. Investing in Nature and our Climate Resilience

- **Ms Oakey argued for continued investment in biodiversity across urban and non-urban landscapes, such as in tree planting initiatives, and noted that this investment creates great opportunities for jobs creation.**

Property Council of Australia

Adina Cirson

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- Similarly, to hospitality, Ms Cirson stated that property and construction not quite out of survival mode yet. The economic impacts of COVID-19 are still flowing through the building and construction sector.
 - She noted that the changes in the way projects are delivered for COVID-Safety have had a particular impact on the sector.
-

1. Return Workers to Offices

- Ms Cirson argued that we need to return people to the office.
- She opined that it is harder to interact with Government officers when they are at home, and that the business activity that they generate through incidental purchases when in the office is being missed (coffees, lunches, etc).
- She noted that rent abatement is having a longer, more lingering effect than we had hoped.

2. Continuation of Existing Stimulus Measures.

- Ms Cirson called for the continuation of existing stimulus measures and noted that the Property Council of Australia had enjoyed great consultation with Federal Government (e.g. extension of Homebuilder) and ACT Government (e.g. stamp duty concessions) on this point.
- She also called for stamp duty reductions for investors.

3. Identification of Critical Projects.

- Mr Cirson noted that NSW has released tranches of projects which will be job-creators, that are shovel-ready, and that can be guided through approvals system to make sure they are delivered as soon as possible.
- She would like to see the ACT adopt a similar model.
- She recognised that there may be some nervousness around the fast tracking of planning approvals but noted that this meant coordination of agency processes and close work with proponents to have projects approved within statutory timeframes, not cutting corners.

Final Remarks

- Ms Cirson called for:
 - The lifting of requirements for certain small-scale projects to have a Development Application approval, citing an Urbas Report.
 - Better resourcing of public bodies involved in approvals processes to ensure statutory timeframes are met.
 - Expedited approvals for unit titles, citing the Republic development as an example of apartments awaiting settlement.

Master Builders Association

Michael Hopkins

-
- Mr Hopkins urged the Government to support and grow industries that already contribute to the economy and have a significant multiplier impact and singled out the building industry.

1. Deliver \$4bn capital works program.

- Mr Hopkins expressed confidence that the building industry can partner with government to deliver its \$4bn capital works program, stating it has delivered more in the past and has the extra capacity.
- He asked that it be made easier to do business with the Government, and that the Government focus overtly on supporting local companies in the face of an influx of externals.

2. Keep Investing in Skills and Apprenticeships.

- Mr Hopkins called on the ACT Government to maintain a full funding model for apprenticeships, and to ensure support is provided to private and not-for-profit RTOs as well as CIT.
- He stated that targeted and short-term support is also required for Group Training Organisations, noting that it is easier for them to provide a short-term employment buffer to apprentices and trainees in search of work.

3. Increase Efforts to Remove Red Tape

-
- Noting that there is no on particular law or regulation causing difficulty for the building industry, Mr Hopkins argued that the raft of them together causes problems.
 - The policy intent of various rules is not at issue. However, the cumulative effect of the regulatory burden (e.g. ACT procurement rules, secure local jobs requirements, Workplace Health and Safety requirements, and variations to national laws that the ACT makes) causes the problem.

Final Words

- Mr Hopkins argued:
 - The ACT Government should seek Federal Government support to get its fair share; and
- A bold and global vision for our economy is required, noting that we're in a global race to attract investment to Canberra.

Housing Industry Association

Geordan Murray

- Mr Murray requested that the ACT Government recognise the importance of employment in the residential building sector, arguing that it is a significant contributor to labour market outcomes in the ACT.

1. Growing Business Confidence

- Mr Murray noted that there was significant concern in the residential construction industry earlier this year, but fortunately the combination of lower interest rates and the HomeBuilder scheme has made it a better year than anticipated.
- To further increase business confidence, My Murray called on the ACT Government to assist households to take advantage of HomeBuilder.
- While 2020 has been better than anticipated, and it looks likely that the stronger level of activity will continue into 2021, Mr Murray shared his concerns that 2020 and early 2021 will have pulled forward activity from the 2021-22 year. This, coupled with lower Government support by that time, could make things difficult for the industry.
- Mr Murray argued that support measures have delivered significant support for the detached house market, but not so much the multi-unit market.
- Given the desire in the ACT to infill rather than expand, there is a large part of the apartment/higher density market that has not benefitted from ACT Government support.

2. Appropriate Planning Reform

- Mr Murray noted that the Government has an ambitious program for planning reform.
- He argued that it will be important to avoid impeding the industry to contribute to economic recovery.

3. Boost Migration

- Noting uncertainty in population growth, Mr Murray called on the Government to implement measures to boost migration to the ACT and give the industry some certainty around the likely demand for housing in the future.

Minister's Creative Council

Genevieve Jacobs

- Ms Jacobs noted that the arts have been very hard-hit by COVID. For her presentation she focused on ideas beyond seeking government financial support.
 - She argued that the arts generate big dollars, and that investment in the arts is a proven job generator: a relatively small investment can have a big pay-off. Further, the arts build social resilience and enhance liveability.
 - She also, principally, argues for a creative and cultural industry-led recovery, which will require:
 - Strategic government planning;
-

-
- A Whole of Government and whole of budget approach (noting that creativity is not the sole responsibility of artsACT and the Minister).

1. Build a Cultural Impact Framework to Measure the Size of the Industry (Big Idea)

- Ms Jacobs noted that there was already some interest from UC in participating in this project. Such a framework, apart from measuring arts industry impact, would:
 - Assist in identifying “ins” for business; and
 - Lay the framework for nominating Canberra as a UNESCO Creative City of Design. With Geelong being the only other such city in Australia, such a nomination would generate employment and energise the economy.

2. Create a Major Community Professional Work with Distinctive Branding (Medium Idea)

- Ms Jacobs argued that this sort of joint arts project would bring arts organisations together, create a visitation drawcard, and create employment.

3. Provide Practical Help for the Arts Industry (Small Idea)


- Ms Jacobs called on the Government to support the community in practical ways, for example:
 - Assisting with COVID-safe event planning by establishing a COVID-safe events taskforce; and
 - Establishing a course on the business of the arts, possibly funded by external philanthropy, with some modest government co-sponsoring.
-

Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister

Treasurer
Minister for Climate Action
Minister for Economic Development
Minister for Tourism

Member for Kurrajong

ARRANGEMENTS BRIEF

<p>FUNCTION:</p>	<p>Festival of Ambitious Exporting Ideas</p>
<p>VENUE:</p>	<p>Kambri Cultural Precinct (ANU building 193) University Avenue, Acton ACT 2601</p>  <p>The map shows the location of Kambri at The Australian National University, Acton ACT 2601. It includes a search box for 'Kambri' with a 4.2 star rating and 20 reviews. Other nearby locations marked include Care Park Parking, Kingsley Street Car Park, inner Hall, ANU, Cultural Centre Kambri (ANU Building 150), Haydon-Allen Building, Marie Reay Teaching Centre (Building 155), ANUSA - Australian National University, School of International Business, What The Pho ANU, Kriss Kross, Badger & Co, and Kebaba ANU. The map also shows University Ave and Kingsley St.</p>
<p>HOST:</p>	<p>Name: Grace Williams, Canberra Business Chamber, ACT Export Awards Program Director, Senior Advisor – Export & Industry Mobile: 2.2(a)(ii) 2.2(a)(ii)</p> <p>Secondary contact: Name: Dinko Colak, Canberra Business Chamber, Export & Trade Program Manager</p>

Andrew Barr MLA - Arrangements brief

	Mobile: 2.2(a)(ii) 2.2(a)(ii)
DAY:	Tuesday
DATE:	20 July 2021
TIME:	5:50PM – 8.30PM
TIME COMMITMENT:	20 minutes (opening speech at 6:02pm)
CATERING:	Drinks and canapes provided
DRESS CODE:	Business cocktail
YOUR ROLE:	Delivery of five-minute opening speech, from 6:02pm. No questions from the floor. Canberra Business Chamber official to photograph you and the other Canberra company speakers just prior to delivering your speech.
WHERE TO PARK:	The Chamber worked with ANU staff to get a parking spot in under the building in the garage. You can then proceed up the elevator to the event. One of the Chamber staff members will meet you in the garage parking lot.
WHO WILL MEET YOU:	Canberra Business Chamber staff will meet you at 5:45PM in the Kambri Cultural Precinct (ANU building 193) Foyer and escort you to the theatre.
ADVISOR ATTENDING:	Emma Kelly will be accompanying you.
AUDIENCE:	The audience will include: speakers, speaker guests, ACT Government staff, Canberra Business Chamber staff, sponsors, Austrade officials, former finalists, applicants outside of Lighthouse, DFAT, and various Embassy Staff. With approximately 130 – 140 guests. Guests and Speakers will sit in the theatre.
VIPs:	Nil response.
PAST INVOLVEMENT:	You spoke at the previous export awards events last October, held by Lighthouse and the Canberra Business Chamber.
SENSITIVITIES:	N/A
ORDER OF CEREMONIES	Master of Ceremonies –

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	<p>5.30pm registration opens and Lighthouse will provide special name tags for speakers and Canberra Business Chamber will provide other registrants name tags</p> <p>Drinks and canapes provided</p> <p>5.50pm Lighthouse ushers speakers into theatre for briefing, with photographs taken of the speakers</p> <p>5.55pm Lighthouse invite guests to take their seats in the theatre</p> <p>6.00pm MC introduces the format of the event and invites Chief Minister to the stage.</p> <p>6.02pm Chief Minister speaks for 5 minutes and then leaves for next appointment</p> <p>6.07pm Festival starts (15 speakers X 5 minutes and up to 1 minute transition) Lighthouse coordinates remaining 15 speakers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Wildbear2. Shotdot3. Liquid Instruments4. Aspen Medical5. Flex-G6. Handmade Australia Group7. Geospatial Intelligence8. My Green Butler9. Penten10. Dilkara Essence of Australia11. Mullion Group12. Underground Spirits13. Castlepoint14. Quantum Brilliance <p>7.37pm Canberra Business Chamber CEO Graham Catt thanks speakers and invites guests to leave theatre for networking</p> <p>7.38pm Networking, drinks and canapes provided</p> <p>8.30pm Event ends</p>
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COMMS/MEDIA:	Canberra Business Chamber will be managing communications for the event and associated social posts.
SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS	Canberra Business Chamber LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter: Will send the following post after the event as this event will be not looked at? by the public: <i>"In a lead up to the ACT Chief Minister's Export Awards later this year, on 20 July, Canberra Business Chamber partnered with Lighthouse Business Innovation Centre for the Festival of Ambitious Exporting Ideas event themed 'Beyond COVID: The Exporter's Playbook' where 15 speakers, from a range of industries and sectors, shared their stories, strategies, and suggestions for Australian exporters. We were delighted to have ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr open the event. Following the presentations, guests networked with exporters, sponsors, and Embassies. It was a great night!"</i>
OUTSTANDING REGULATORY ISSUES	The function will run by following the ACT COVID-19 guidelines: All guests' details will be recorded by the Canberra Business Chamber and by the venue through the Check-in CBR App.

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SPEAKING NOTES FOR THE

Festival of Ambitious Exporting Ideas

6:02PM Tuesday 20th July

Kambri Cultural Precinct

Acknowledgements

- **Traditional owners:** I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on, the Ngunnawal people. I acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.
- I am pleased to officially open the ACT's first 'Festival of Ambitious Exporting Ideas', an event to showcase our innovative businesses exporting goods, services and expertise across the globe.
- I thank the Canberra Business Chamber and Lighthouse Innovations for organising the event, and the Australian National University for providing a venue.

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- It is a fitting place to showcase innovation and strategies for exporting, in the heart of Australia's knowledge capital.
- Last year, at the re-imagined Export Awards, we celebrated resilience. This year, those awards return in their normal format, which makes this festival a very important precursor.
- We know that businesses continue to face challenges.
- It's important we, as a Government and as a community, continue to appreciate and recognise the ongoing impacts of COVID-19 on our business community, particularly on those businesses that export.
- This event, aptly themed '*Beyond COVID: The Exporter's Playbook*', allows us to share and celebrate the ingenuity of businesses, their stories, and their strategies for an evolving export environment.
- Indeed, a well-connected and mutually supportive business community is a stronger businesses community.

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- I'm sure everyone here is looking forward to hearing from a diverse range of speakers on stage tonight. I hope your colleagues from the ACT business community share an idea or insight that proves useful for you and your business.
- The ACT Government will continue to work closely with you, our industry partners, and, of course, the Canberra Business Chamber, to ensure that we continue to support ACT businesses – now and in the future.
- Thank you and enjoy the festivities.

END