Weston Creek Walk-in Centre a opening soon



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Canberra's fourth Walk-in Centre is set to open in Weston Creek next month.



A message from the Chief Minister

Canberra is one of Australia's safest cities – and we're determined to keep it that way.

We're hiring more police officers and upgrading their equipment; there are more firefighters across our city and we're building new stations for our emergency services.

That safety also extends to preparing for bushfires. Our city will experience a long hot summer and now is the time to prepare your family for bushfires. Check out the full Bushfire Survival Plan kit in this edition.

Andrew Barr









Take care this party season

Summer's just around the corner and work parties, festivals, school formals and end-of-year celebrations are ramping up.

We've got all the information you need to party smart, make the most of your nights out and stay safe.

You'll find transport options, event details, tips for students (and parents!) as well as what to do and where to go if you need extra help when you're out.

→ Visit act.gov.au/accesscanberra



Better healthcare

at the Canberra Hospital



We're building a new emergency, surgical and critical care facility at the heart of the hospital campus.

Construction will start next year on the expansion, and we'd like your views on the services it will provide.

More at act.gov.au/ majorprojectscanberra

More police for the ACT

As our city grows, the ACT Government continues to invest in policing to ensure the capital remains one of the safest places in the country.

Over the next four years the Government will fund more than 60 new staff. It will also support ACT Policing as it moves to a new policing model that will mean more police connected with the community.

The Territory is also investing in new state-of-the-art technology so our police will be more visible across the city.

More at police.act.gov.au

New laws to better protect children



A number of changes to ACT law came into effect from 1 September 2019 to better protect children from abuse.

They include:

- > the introduction of a new failure to report offence (applies to all adults 18 years+)
- expansion of Mandatory Reporting
- > changes to the Reportable Conduct Scheme.

The changes are an important step as the ACT Government continues working towards a safer society for children and a stronger legal framework for survivors.



From 1 January 2020, there will be a range of changes for L and P plate drivers to improve their safety on our roads.

→ More at act.gov.au/saferplates



Meet your local police officer:

Constable Rachel Lokugamage



Constable Rachel Lokugamage recently joined ACT Policing after working as a Protective Service Officer at Garden Island in Sydney.

On patrol, no day is the same and for Constable Lokugamage, the best aspect of her job is working in a great team.

"A recent highlight was the rapid arrest of a man who had stolen a vehicle," she said.

"Teams combined to see this man arrested and put before the courts."

→ More at act.gov.au/our-canberra





Farrer nature play space

ready for little explorers

Local children now have a range of exciting opportunities to be active, grow and learn with a new nature play space open in Farrer.

The play space includes a range of zones for children to climb, scramble, hide and rest.

Children will also be able to zoom around on a mountain bike circuit next to the play space. Another nature play space in Woden's Eddison Park is being built.

→ More at **natureplaycbr.org.au**

New firefighters



for south Canberra

The ACT Emergency Services Agency is strengthening its firefighting services across the ACT by hiring new firefighters.

Twenty firefighter recruits will finish their training soon, and 36 more will begin training early next year.

A new emergency services station will be built in the Molonglo Valley as a local base for both ACT Ambulance Service and ACT Fire & Rescue operations.

The new station will help to keep Canberrans in nearby fast-growing suburbs safe.

The investment in emergency services also aims to ensure our emergency

response times remain among the best in Australia no matter where people live across our city.

→ More at act.gov.au/our-canberra



Canberrans be fire ready

Canberra can expect a long hot summer ahead with an increased risk of bushfires.

Right now is the time to prepare your home and discuss an action plan with your family. A written Bushfire Survival Plan saves lives and means decisions have been made ahead of any possible bushfire threat. Complete your Bushfire Survival Plan inside.

More at esa.act.gov.au





1. Discuss

with your household what you will do in a bushfire.



2. Prepare

a plan and your home for bushfire.



3. Know

the bushfire alert levels.



4. Keep

information, numbers, websites, and

Top 5 actions to make your home safe



1. Trim

Trim overhanging trees and shrubs. This can stop the fire spreading to your home.



2. Mow

Mow grass and remove the cuttings. Have a cleared area around your home.



3. Remove

Remove material that can burn (e.g. door mats, wood piles, leaves, paint, furniture).



4. Clear

Clear and remove debris and leaves from gutters to prevent embers setting alight.



5. Prepare

A sturdy hose or hoses that will reach all around your home. Have a reliable source of water.

Stay informed The ACT Rural Fire Service strongly advises saving these numbers, links and app now.



In an emergency call: Triple Zero (000) For information on bushfires call Access Canberra: 13 22 81



For Fire Danger Ratings visit the **ACT Emergency** Services website: esa.act.gov.au



Install the RFS 'Fires Near Me' app



Local radio, local

ABC/emergency broadcaster frequency, TV and news websites.



Stay up to date at: facebook.com/ **ACTESA** and twitter.com/ACTESA







