



Sustainable Household
Scheme loan cap raised



Have your say on the
Southern Gateway



Free period products in
all ACT public schools

Our CBR.

Inner North, Inner South and City

August 2026

New look for the city centre



Find out more inside

Message from the Chief Minister

As Canberra continues to grow, the ACT Government is investing in infrastructure to support the city's future.

City Walk next to Garema Place has reopened. This follows upgrades to create a more welcoming and accessible public space that can play host to community events and gatherings.

Work on the new UNSW Canberra City

campus in Reid – which is designed to accommodate up to 5,000 students and 1,000 staff – has also begun.

This month offers plenty of reasons to get out and about, with markets, major events, community celebrations and sporting fixtures happening right across Canberra.

Andrew Barr



Read more online.

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Produced by Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate.



ACT
Government

More support to electrify your home

The Sustainable Household Scheme (SHS) loan cap has increased.

New applicants can now borrow up to \$20,000 to invest in energy-efficient upgrades and products for their home. These include electric heating and cooling systems, household battery storage systems and more.

Loans can also be used to buy a new or used electric vehicle or charging infrastructure. From September 2026, loans can also be used to buy electric cargo bikes.

SHS loans are low interest, with no upfront costs or fees. Participants have up to 10 years to pay off their loan (terms and conditions apply).

Scan the QR code to find out more.



Next steps for UNSW Canberra City

The 2026–2027 ACT Budget supports the delivery of the new UNSW Canberra City campus in Reid.

Site preparation work has begun on the first stage of the project. A tower crane will be installed on site in the coming months.

Stage 1 includes construction of two new buildings that will deliver major education and research facilities. This stage is expected to be completed in 2028.

UNSW is already operating from the former CIT Reid site as work progresses.

When the new university campus is complete, it is expected to accommodate up to 5,000 students and 1,000 staff.

Period product dispensers for all ACT public schools

Dispensers for free period products are being installed in ACT public schools during term three.

This will enable every ACT public school student who needs to access period products to do so with dignity, privacy and confidence. Students can also access free period products at schools' front offices.

Free period products are available from a range of community locations across the ACT.

These include libraries, health and community services and some government facilities.

Scan the QR code for further details.



Upgraded City Walk now open

City Walk, next to Garema Place, has reopened following upgrades.

The community can now access the upgraded paving, lighting and landscaping in the area. New features include illuminated poles and a seat featuring Ngunnawal artwork.

A statue of Stasia Dabrowski OAM – known as Canberra's 'soup kitchen lady' – will be installed this month, close to where Stasia's original soup kitchen once stood.

The improvements create a more welcoming and accessible public space, building on recent upgrades to Garema Place.

They are part of broader improvements underway in the city centre, with further work planned for City Walk and Petrie Plaza.

Scan the QR code for more information.



Shaping the future of the Southern Gateway

Community engagement is now open on the draft Southern Gateway Planning and Design Framework.

This sets a long-term vision for the Southern Gateway corridor, which stretches from Parliament House to Farrer and includes key centres like Curtin, Mawson and the Woden town centre.

The draft framework looks at how housing, transport, jobs and community spaces will evolve together to 2050 and beyond. It includes a mix of housing types close to transport and centres.

Scan the QR code to share your feedback on the framework.

Updates in your region



Work is progressing on the Dickson shops upgrade. Fencing for Stage 1 has been removed, with Taglietti Square now open to the community.



Rapid bus services 4, 5 and 6 are now running more frequently. Route and timetable changes have been made to respond to traffic conditions during ongoing roadworks.



The City Hill park People's Panel and key stakeholders are helping shape a long-term vision for the area.

Scan the QR code to view.



Read more online.

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**Acknowledgement
of Country**

We acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.



NightFest tickets on sale

Tickets are now available for Floriade NightFest, which returns from 1–4 October for four nights of lights, music and entertainment.

Wander through glowing gardens, discover dazzling light installations and enjoy performances as part of a vibrant after-dark experience.

This year's headline acts include ARIA Award-winning band The Temper Trap, best

known for the global hit 'Sweet Disposition'. The iconic Tim Finn – of Split Enz and Crowded House fame – will also perform.

They will be joined by indie rockers Pacific Avenue, plus Busby Marou and Christine Anu, alongside some of Canberra's leading local performers.

Tickets are limited. **Scan the QR code to get yours now.**

Know where to go for health care

Find the right care for you and your loved ones without the guesswork.

A free online tool can help you choose the most appropriate service for your health issue.

Answer a few simple questions about your situation. The tool will then recommend the best place for help – whether that's your GP, a Walk-in Centre, a community health service or the emergency department.

It covers a wide range of health issues and you can access all recommended services without a referral.

Scan the QR code to use the tool.



No stamp duty for first home buyers.



Scan the QR code to find out more.



What's on

7–9 Aug

Love and Forgetting – Tales from a Young Mixer

Ambrosia Lounge, Fyshwick

8 Aug

Fashion Thrift Society Canberra

EPIC

10 Aug

The Big Bike Film Night

Kambri at ANU

14–23 Aug

Heathers the Musical

Canberra Theatre Centre

15 Aug

Foodie Fun Play!

Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre, City

15 Aug

Fired Up Winter Festival

Watson Arts Centre

15–16 Aug

Oz Comic-Con Canberra

EPIC

26 Aug

City Renewal Authority

plant giveaway

Haig Park

30 Aug

Paris to Canberra – French Market

Thoroughbred Park

Canberrans can also cheer on the Raiders, Brumbies and Brave this month at GIO Stadium Canberra, Vikings Park and AIS Arena.



For more events and details, visit events.canberra.com.au



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