



Gungahlin

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Hospital expansion fuels economic recovery

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Apprentice plumbers Joshua Torley and Lily Bowling are involved in the construction of the new hospital building.



Message from the Chief Minister

Canberra's economic recovery has begun – led by strong spending from local consumers and interstate visitors.

There are also 250 infrastructure projects kicking off – including more schools, more public housing

and extending light rail – and these will support thousands of jobs for Canberrans over the coming years.

We have all had a tough year, but we now have a lot to look forward to over the summer months.

Andrew Barr



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Work starts on Canberra Hospital expansion

Construction has started on the Canberra Hospital Expansion's centrepiece building, with more than 500 local jobs created to deliver the world-class healthcare facility.

The new facility will increase the hospital's emergency department, surgical and critical care capacity with more beds and modern treatment spaces.

The city's largest ever infrastructure program – which spans health, education, transport, public housing and urban renewal – will fuel Canberra's recovery from COVID-19 and support thousands of ACT jobs for years to come.

COVID-19 booster vaccinations now available

Aged 18+ and had your second dose of COVID-19 vaccine more than six months ago? Get a COVID-19 booster vaccination from a participating GP, pharmacy or ACT Government COVID-19 vaccination clinic.



Upskill yourself with JobTrainer

A range of free courses and qualifications are now available for Canberrans to help develop skills in high demand industries.

The JobTrainer program supports young people who have left school and job seekers to access free training in a range of industries, including aged care, early childhood education and care, disability care and digital skills.



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Everyday climate choices



Small changes for a cleaner future

Canberra has led the way on climate action in Australia, and we can all do our bit to work towards our city's ambitious target of net zero emissions by 2045.

The Everyday Climate Choices website climatechoices.act.gov.au shows how we can all take steps towards a cleaner future, including reducing food waste.

Well Station Drive Park and Ride now open

The new Park and Ride facility on the corner of Well Station Drive and Flemington Road is now open. It's just a short walk to the Well Station Drive light rail stop and local bus route 18.

Park and Ride is a convenient way to avoid congestion on the roads, save on parking and relax as you travel to the city by bus or light rail.

The new facility holds more than 170 vehicles, has designated accessible parking and includes bike parking facilities.



Gungahlin Leisure Centre update

Remediation work on the Gungahlin Leisure Centre's 50-metre pool has restarted after delays due to the recent lockdown.

The centre will also receive acoustic and lighting upgrades to improve and extend the life of the pool.



Playground upgrades to enjoy this summer

Getting out with the kids this summer will be more fun, safer and sunsmart following local playground upgrades. These include:

- ✦ fences installed at Throsby Community Park on Bettong Avenue
- ✦ a shade sail installed at the playground on Burnum Burnum Close in Bonner
- ✦ new rubber softfall material beneath the Yerrabi Pond District Park flying fox
- ✦ Yerrabi Pond is also getting more bins, better signage, additional seating and landscaping.

Some of these projects include funding from the Australian Government.



Free travel on Christmas Day

Bus and light rail services are free on Christmas Day. Go online to find the interim bus and Christmas Day timetables in place over the summer holiday period.





Stay safe this holiday season

It's important that all Canberrans stay safe this summer, whether it be around the pool, staying cool during heatwaves, keeping our pets safe and driving responsibly on our roads. If you're heading interstate, be sure to stay up to date with the latest travel advice and information on COVID-affected areas at covid19.act.gov.au.

Thank you to CBR's essential workers

The COVID-19 helpline was the community's first port of call for answers during the pandemic, receiving more than 250,000 calls for information since April 2020. Access Canberra's Courtney Walsh fielded countless questions and says the kindness of Canberrans was on show during the recent lockdown.

"We often deal with people in emotionally challenging situations," Courtney said. "But the community has been absolutely wonderful, caring and thankful.

"Lockdown has been a lonely time for so many, but being able to connect with and support our callers has been lovely."

Courtney is one of thousands of essential workers who kept Canberra running during the recent COVID-19 lockdown.

Thank you to Courtney and all our essential workers for their efforts in a challenging year.



NYE fireworks are back!

You're invited to the shores of Lake Burley Griffin this New Year's Eve to bring in 2022 with two spectacular fireworks displays.

The family and community evening starts at 6pm, with locals invited to picnic in a COVID-safe manner ahead of the 9pm and midnight fireworks.

Support local businesses by purchasing picnic hampers or enjoying the New Year's Eve specials on offer.

Services available during the holiday season



Some ACT Government services will be closed, or have restricted opening hours, during the festive period. Find all the details online.

