

Work continues on Canberra Hospital expansion

A new emergency, surgical and critical healthcare facility at Canberra Hospital

COVER STORY
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Message from the Chief Minister

The ACT Government is continuing to take action on climate change and ensure Canberrans can benefit from a transition to a zero net emissions future.

Single-use plastics in the ACT will start to be phased out from 1 July. Banning items like plastic

cutlery, plastic drink stirrers and polystyrene cups will cut the amount of waste going to landfill.

We are also supporting the reduction of carbon emissions from our daily travel by supporting the switch to low emission electric vehicles with

a range of tax breaks and fee reductions.

We are also getting on with the job of building the Big Canberra Battery, a project that will support electricity network reliability and allow us to store the renewable power we generate.

Andrew Barr



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Canberra Hospital Expansion

Demolition of two buildings will begin soon, making room for a brand new emergency, surgical and critical healthcare facility.

The project has already delivered new teaching and training spaces and a new administration building.

The expansion will support our city's economic recovery from COVID-19 through the creation

of about 500 local construction jobs, as well as providing opportunities for trainees.

Construction of the new 40,000sqm facility is expected to be completed in 2024.

➔ More at hospitalexpansion.act.gov.au



Get your flu jab now

Getting vaccinated is one of the best ways to protect yourself and others from getting influenza (the flu).

Like COVID-19, the flu is a highly contagious virus. They can have similar symptoms, and both can make you severely unwell.

This year, most Canberrans should get the flu vaccine and two separate doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. That's three vaccine jabs in 2021. The flu vaccine should be 14 days before or after the

COVID-19 vaccination.

The flu vaccine is readily available from GPs, pharmacies, and other immunisation providers now.

Find out how and where to get vaccinated:

▶ health.act.gov.au/flu

▶ covid19.act.gov.au/stay-safe-and-healthy/vaccine



Enrol your child for the 2022 school year

Public school enrolments are now open for 2022.

Go online to find your local public school, see what's on offer and enrol your child by 4 June to receive an offer from 26 July. Your local public school has a place for your child to learn, develop and reach their potential.

If your child turns four on or before 30 April 2022, you can also enrol now for a guaranteed 15 hours of preschool.

➔ Enrol at education.gov.au or by phoning the Enrolments Telephone Service on 6205 5429.

Single-use plastics banned in the ACT

From 1 July 2021, the ACT will ban the sale and supply of selected single-use plastic items including:

- ▶ Single-use plastic cutlery
- ▶ Single-use plastic drink stirrers
- ▶ Expanded polystyrene takeaway food and beverage containers.

It's part of the ACT Government's ongoing commitment to sustainability.

➔ More at act.gov.au/single-use-plastics



Rural Fire Service volunteer breaking down barriers

Michelle Kopac (pictured) has volunteered with the ACT Rural Fire Service for five years. In that time, she has become the Crew Leader & Deputy Captain of the Jerrabomberra Brigade.

By stepping up to leadership roles, Michelle

is helping to remove barriers and stigma for women within male-dominated roles.

Michelle and other Canberra volunteers will be recognised during National Volunteer Week (17-23 May).



→ More at act.gov.au/our-canberra/tuggeranong/volunteersweek

Use the Check In CBR app to protect yourself and your loved ones.



Cycling and footpath improvements in Tuggeranong

Work is underway to improve cycling and pedestrian paths in the Tuggeranong Town Centre.

The new upgrades will include a new 2.5 metre wide two-way bicycle path on Reed Street North.

→ More at cityservices.act.gov.au



Southern Memorial Park consultation

The ACT Government is proposing to build the new Southern Memorial Park on Mugga Lane in south Canberra to provide a new bush cemetery that caters to a growing and diverse community.

Early designs have been released for the future site and the community can now provide feedback electronically or in person at one of the pop-up sessions planned around the southside.

→ View designs and provide feedback at yoursay.act.gov.au/SMP



Keeping Lake Tuggeranong clean

A new trial wetland has been created in Lake Tuggeranong to help keep the water clean and reduce blue-green algae as part of the ACT Healthy Waterways program.

The trial will last for two years and, if successful, the wetland will be maintained in Lake Tuggeranong on an ongoing basis.

→ More at act.gov.au/our-canberra/lake-tuggeranong-floating-wetland



Join us for Reconciliation Day

Reconciliation Day is a time for all Canberrans to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements, and explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

The fourth annual Reconciliation Day in Canberra will be celebrated on 31 May with a program designed to start conversations and create a deeper understanding of our national story and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

The ACT is the first and only Australian jurisdiction to recognise Reconciliation Day as a public holiday.

→ More at events.canberra.com.au



Free registration for zero emission vehicles

All new or used zero emission vehicles registered in the ACT will automatically receive two years' free registration from 24 May until 30 June 2024.



Farrer resident Warwick Cathro has made the switch to a more energy efficient way of travelling by purchasing an electric vehicle
“Our car is great to drive and has enough range to get us around every day

and the occasional trip to the coast,” he said.
“I can easily charge it at home, and I look forward to seeing more charging stations around Canberra as the number of cars on the road increases.”

→ More at environment.act.gov.au/cc/zero-emissions-vehicles

Warwick Cathro, electric vehicle owner.

Work commences on Big Canberra Battery

Work for the Big Canberra Battery is underway which, when complete, will support our electricity network as more Canberrans move to electricity as a more efficient energy source. This initiative progresses the ACT Government's commitment to climate action.

→ More at act.gov.au/our-canberra/bigbattery



Support for local businesses

Local businesses across Canberra can access support and advice, as well as a range of rebates to help them recover from the impacts of COVID-19.

While the ACT economy is recovering, businesses can still get support from the Canberra Business Advice and Support Service, which offers four hours of free expert advice on a range of topics.

There is a range of rebates still available including a one-off \$1,000 electricity rebate for cafes, restaurants, and takeaway businesses.

→ More at act.gov.au/business

