

# OUR CBR

Belconnen edition

June 2020

## Canberra's COVID-19 Recovery Plan



### Also in this issue

- Jobs for Canberrans impacted by COVID-19
- Belconnen Bikeway on its way

COVID-19 has put a huge strain on the Canberra community and our economy. Although the spread of the virus has been suppressed, the pandemic is not over and won't be for some time.

The next phase will involve learning to manage the health risks, whilst driving the recovery of the city - from our economy through to our wellbeing.

Find out more about how we're helping our city recover from the impacts of COVID-19 at [act.gov.au/our-canberra](https://act.gov.au/our-canberra)

To help protect our community you need to continue to:



avoid large crowds



keep 1.5 metres apart whenever possible



keep up good hand and respiratory hygiene



stay home if you are sick and get tested if you are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.



Photo: Cass Catling from Femme Fit Bootcamp is thrilled to be training again.

### Message from the Chief Minister



COVID-19 has tested Canberra and there will be no greater priority for the ACT Government in the months and years ahead than our recovery.

Canberra's Recovery Plan includes more jobs for Canberrans, the immediate roll-out of fast-tracked infrastructure projects right across our city, and support for businesses so they can adjust their operations to cater for physical distancing.

It also includes more support for households such as a \$150 rebate on household rates and the freezing of a range of government fees and charges, which is on top of falling electricity prices due to the Government's investment in renewables.

Our Recovery Plan will get our city through the greatest challenge we have ever faced.

**Andrew Barr**



**MORE NEWS,  
MORE OFTEN**

Get COVID-19 updates directly to your inbox.  
Sign-up to our newsletter via [act.gov.au/our-canberra](https://act.gov.au/our-canberra)





 Visit [COVID19.act.gov.au](https://COVID19.act.gov.au) or call **6207 7244** to stay up-to-date on COVID19 in the ACT.

## Keep your distance and wash your hands



Staying 1.5 metres apart from others, and maintaining good hand and respiratory hygiene, are the best ways to prevent a new wave of COVID-19. The pandemic is not over. Don't let complacency set us all back.



## Get your flu shot

Protect yourself by getting your flu shot.

It's available from your GP, pharmacies, ACT Health Early Childhood Immunisation Clinics and ACT Health Antenatal Clinics and is free for some people.

→ More at [health.act.gov.au/flu](https://health.act.gov.au/flu)

## Caring for Canberrans



at the Respiratory Assessment Clinic

Advanced Practice Nurse Carolyn Tozzi was part of the team at the Weston Creek Walk-in Centre when it switched from treating minor injuries and illnesses to a Respiratory Assessment Clinic for COVID-19 testing.

Carolyn says nurses at Canberra Health Services are good at adapting and innovating to provide the best care for their patients.

'Providing quality patient care and being part of a great team at Weston Creek are the best parts of what I do,' she says.

→ More at [act.gov.au/our-canberra](https://act.gov.au/our-canberra)

## Supporting mental health during COVID-19



Life as we know it has changed in many ways because of COVID-19.

Understandably it's affecting the mental health and wellbeing of many in our community. Remember that we're not alone in how we feel.

→ More at [health.act.gov.au/mentalhealth](https://health.act.gov.au/mentalhealth)



Maintain your social connections online or over the phone.



Have a daily routine



Get regular exercise



Establish a healthy sleep pattern



## Looking after vulnerable Canberrans

People aged 65 years or older, those with chronic health conditions, people with compromised immune systems and other vulnerable people should stay at home as much as possible to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection.

→ More at [covid19.act.gov.au/protecting-yourself-and-others/at-risk-groups](https://covid19.act.gov.au/protecting-yourself-and-others/at-risk-groups)

CANBERRA  
STRONG  
TOGETHER





## Connecting Canberrans in Belconnen

Several new and upgraded footpaths will be delivered in Belconnen as part of the fast-track program to keep Canberrans working and the city moving.

There will be new paths on Clews Place in Bruce and near Higgins Primary School. A new pedestrian crossing on Chandler Street will also provide safer access between the Labor Club and the adjacent car park.

→ More at [act.gov.au/fasttrack](https://act.gov.au/fasttrack)




## Keeping Canberrans working

The Jobs for Canberrans Fund is providing work opportunities for those who have been significantly impacted by COVID-19, including international visa holders.

Nearly 500 new jobs will be funded, with roles already filled in bushfire recovery, road and tree maintenance, city cleaning, administration support and public transport cleaning.

More at [covid19.act.gov.au/jobsforcanberrans](https://covid19.act.gov.au/jobsforcanberrans)

## Belconnen Bikeway on the way



Work on the Belconnen Bikeway is progressing and is on track for wheels to hit the pavement in late 2020.

The new bikeway will make it easier for people to access the Belconnen Town Centre, providing a better link to the surrounding suburbs. It will include both shared and separated cycling and pedestrian facilities.

→ More at [act.gov.au/our-canberra](https://act.gov.au/our-canberra)




## Projects fast-tracked

More infrastructure projects will be fast-tracked to keep Canberra working through the COVID-19 pandemic.

This program is focusing on work that can start immediately and will support local jobs, businesses and the community as well as provide Canberrans with better infrastructure and services long into the future.

Some of the projects being fast-tracked in Belconnen are:

- Upgraded playgrounds
- Improvements to 19 schools in the region
- Bruce CIT upgrades
- Road safety improvements.

More at [act.gov.au/fasttrack](https://act.gov.au/fasttrack)




## Building our health infrastructure

Design and construction works continue for the Canberra Hospital expansion.

Demolition has progressed on the old Woden CIT site to make way for a temporary car park close to the hospital.

Construction will also start soon on the Canberra Sexual Health Centre, as well as new training and research functions.

→ More at [act.gov.au/our-canberra](https://act.gov.au/our-canberra)





# Belco back in business

It's time to throw your support behind local businesses as they get back on their feet. By choosing local, you're helping businesses like Get Set Tennis recover from the impacts of COVID-19.

→ More at [act.gov.au/chooselocalcbr](https://act.gov.au/chooselocalcbr)



## Reza Pompsett, Get Set Tennis, Kaleen

"The whole point of tennis is for the skills and the challenge – but also the friends, the community. There's a huge social element to it."

Tennis is more than just a sport to Reza Pompsett, it's life. After 23 years as a tennis coach, he's been itching to get back on the court with his @getsettennisofficial crew in Kaleen. As COVID-19 restrictions ease, sporting clubs across Canberra are gearing up to start training again.



## A helping hand for households

We are working to ease the burden on Canberra households as we implement Canberra's Recovery Plan.

This includes the freezing of residential rate increases during the 2020-21 financial year.

All households will also receive a \$150 rebate to their residential rates, which will be automatically applied.

More at [covid19.act.gov.au/business-hub](https://covid19.act.gov.au/business-hub)



**RISE Canberra**  
is switching events back on!

See what's on and support local events by visiting the [RISE Canberra events calendar](https://RISECanberra.com).

See the calendar or apply for funding at [RISECanberra.com](https://RISECanberra.com)



## Hotel & hospitality recovery package

Our hotel and hospitality industries are one of the hardest hit sectors and despite restrictions easing, it will take time for many businesses to recover.

Support is being provided to these businesses to assist in their recovery. The whole community can also help by shopping and eating local to help businesses get back on track.

→ More at [act.gov.au/our-canberra](https://act.gov.au/our-canberra)

## Stamp duty cuts to support local jobs

As part of Canberra's Recovery Plan to support local jobs, the ACT will significantly reduce the stamp duty for eventual owner-occupiers on the purchase of:

- Off-the-plan apartment and townhouse\* purchases up to \$500,000 to zero
- Off-the-plan apartment and townhouse\* purchases between \$500,000 and \$750,000 by \$11,400
- Single residential blocks to zero

This initiative will encourage growth in the residential property construction sector to create and support jobs.

→ More at [revenue.act.gov.au/covid-19-assistance](https://revenue.act.gov.au/covid-19-assistance)



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