It gives staff a more modern work environment, and there will be 54 more doctors, nurses and other staff working in the new ED over the next four years to help meet the health care needs of our growing community.

The new ED also includes an expanded Emergency Medicine Unit, additional acute and sub acute treatment spaces, new resuscitation bays, a Mental Health Short Stay Unit, and space to accommodate up to seven ambulances at any time.

This expansion has increased the capacity of the ED by more than a third, offering the community more space and a dedicated paediatric treatment and waiting area to improve care for children and families.

The Boundless playground is one of 25 ACT play spaces that will receive new shade sails by mid 2017. Three new shade sails at Boundless will provide a more pleasant environment at all times of the day.

Four new shade sails will also be installed at the Civic skate park, Corroboree Park in Ainslie, Telopea Park in Barton, and the play space on Mueller Street in Yarralumla.

Happy New Year to all and I hope you had a fantastic holiday season.

As 2017 kicks off, a new year means new opportunities for all Canberrans and a chance to apply new ideas to our city. The Government is back at work delivering on significant projects to keep our Canberra the world’s liveable city.

We’re getting the design of stage 2 of light rail from Civic to Woden underway, starting the rollout of green bins across Canberra and working on securing electronic devices for all Canberra’s secondary public school students. We’re also working on designs for new nurse-led walk-in health centres and opening an Office of Mental Health to help all Canberrans access healthcare when they need it. It will be a big year for our city.
Home swimming pools are the most common place for injury and drowning for children under five in the ACT.

Watch out for the iconic red and yellow surf life saving visuals to help you become a backyard lifeguard. Know CPR. Check that your pool barriers meet safety standards. Closely supervise kids in and around the pool.

To help keep our children safe, arm yourself with valuable habitat for local wildlife. The tree was deemed unsafe in the suburbs but is perfect for an ongoing restoration project along the Molonglo River, where it will provide a piece of heritage back to the community.

Four hundred years after it started life as a tiny seedling, a huge yellow box gum tree has been relocated from Nicholls to the soon to be declared Molonglo River reserve, near Coombs. The tree was deemed unsafe in the suburbs but is perfect for an ongoing restoration project along the Molonglo River, where it will provide valuable habitat for local wildlife.

The University of Canberra Public Hospital is a purpose-built, state-of-the-art rehabilitation hospital and is set to open in mid-2018. At the end of 2016, the concrete structure was completed after nine months of construction work. This phase of the project saw around 175,000 hours of construction work. This phase of the project saw around 175,000 hours of construction work. The University of Canberra Public Hospital is a purpose-built, state-of-the-art rehabilitation hospital and is set to open in mid-2018.

Next year Canberra’s secondary public school students will start receiving laptops at the beginning of years 7 and 11 to help with their studies. This game-changing new technology program will roll out progressively from 2018 ensuring students have the resources needed to learn and succeed.

This includes greater access to the ‘Learn Anywhere’ program that offers students digital services such as Google Apps for Education, Microsoft Office 365, e-books and audio books.

To help our students prepare for the future, we have received an incredible welcome to this wonderful school. It is a team which works collaboratively to support school improvement.

For more information on the precinct objectives visit ltda.act.gov.au. For more on the precinct objectives visit ltda.act.gov.au. The Brickworks development will renew an ageing area of Canberra, giving a piece of heritage back to the community. A preferred tenderer will be selected soon.

ACT seniors are now able to get a Gold Senior/Pensioner NSW Opal card that does not expire. A new process automatically validates eligibility for concessional travel and removes the 60 day expiry.

To apply you can go online to opal.com.au or call 13 67 25.

For more information on starting school visit education.act.gov.au.
Visitors to the CBD will get a small taste of the ActewAGL Royal Canberra Show next month when the Canberra City Carnival takes place in Petrie Plaza. The event will feature some ActewAGL Royal Canberra Show favourites like sideshows, show bags and some classic carnival food.

If you attend Canberra City Carnival, let us know what you think afterwards at yoursay.act.gov.au

SHOW-TIME FOR THE CBD

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CANBERRA’S CARNIVOROUS QUOLLS ARE BREEDING

The first eastern quolls to be born in the ACT in over 80 years are thriving at Mulligans Flat Woodland Sanctuary at Gungahlin. Over a dozen Eastern Quolls were reintroduced in March 2016 from Tasmania and Victoria as part of a program in partnership with ANU and many other agencies. The quolls had disappeared due to clearing, grazing and introduced predators. The birth of the baby quolls indicates their parents have settled quickly into their new Mulligans Flat home.

See the baby quolls and other reintroduced species at mulligansflat.org.au

CELEBRATE ALL THINGS AUSSIE THIS AUSTRALIA DAY

There's something for everyone this Australia Day, including a BBQ breakfast, kids entertainment, the national flag raising and citizenship ceremony at Rond Terrace and an evening concert. Top off your day at the evening concert and fireworks by Lake Burley Griffin.

For more information visit events.act.gov.au

ENLIGHTEN ILLUMINATES CANBERRA 3-12 MARCH

See Canberra in a new light during Enlighten. Many of the city’s national attractions open their doors after-hours to host an array of exclusive events and surprising experiences. The whole family can enjoy free and ticketed events and captivating architectural projections.

For more information visit enlightencanberra.com.au