



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

2012–2013–2014

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No. 69

WEDNESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2014

1 The Assembly met at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Mrs Dunne) took the Chair and asked Members to stand in silence and pray or reflect on their responsibilities to the people of the Australian Capital Territory.

2 DEATH OF MR HARRY EVANS—STATEMENT OF CONDOLENCE BY SPEAKER

The Speaker informed Members of the recent death of Mr Harry Evans, former Clerk of the Australian Senate, a prominent Canberran who will be remembered for his fierce defences of the Senate as an institution, the rights of individual senators and of the value of parliamentary democracy.

As a mark of respect to the memory of Mr Evans, all Members present stood, in silence.

3 PUBLIC SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr Doszpot, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
- (a) recent research has shown that many ACT public schools are at capacity or will reach capacity within a few years;
 - (b) that same research indicates that capacity issues are most evident in the north and inner south;
 - (c) the Labor Government closed 23 schools in 2006–2007, with five of those schools located in the north and inner south;
 - (d) the Education and Training Directorate response to claims of over capacity indicates a lack of medium to long term planning with the most common solution being increased use of transportable buildings;



- (e) that adding to the pressures of capacity is the fact that the majority of ACT schools are already over 40 years old;
 - (f) that several schools have had recent incidents involving faulty wiring and switchboards;
 - (g) the additional concern of teachers at the absence of heating and cooling in many of our schools; and
 - (h) the Labor Party's 2012 election promise to commit \$70 million to upgrade and maintain public school infrastructure which is yet to be delivered; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
- (a) undertake more regular and more detailed maintenance audits of our public school infrastructure so that Canberra families can be certain their children are safe at ACT public schools;
 - (b) consult more widely with the community on the future needs of Canberra families in respect of school size, location and facilities;
 - (c) commit additional funds this financial year to deliver improvements to those schools that have been waiting years for upgrades including cooling and heating in classrooms;
 - (d) make public the Government's plans and timeline for future upgrades to Canberra schools; and
 - (e) make school infrastructure a priority.

Ms Burch (Minister for Education and Training) moved the following amendment: Omit all words after "That this Assembly", substitute:

- "(1) notes that:
- (a) recent Education and Training Directorate projections show the continued growth of ACT public schools and the continued confidence ACT families have in the public education system;
 - (b) this work shows that, in each of the four school networks, school capacity will remain comfortably above projected enrolment growth;
 - (c) the ACT Government has well established mechanisms to ensure that all schools have the capacity to meet the needs of their local communities;
 - (d) no child is denied entry to a government school in their priority enrolment area;
 - (e) the ACT Government has invested heavily in school infrastructure and new schools to deliver on the education needs of ACT families, including two new schools in Gungahlin—the Neville Bonner Primary School and the Franklin Early Childhood School in February 2013;
 - (f) the ACT Government will open a new school in the Molonglo Valley in 2016;
 - (g) the ACT Government has invested more than \$800 million over the last decade in school capital works, plus an additional injection of \$150 million through the Commonwealth's *Building the Education Revolution* program; and

- (h) the ACT Government allocates more than \$20 million each year for schools maintenance; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to continue to:
 - (a) use the most up-to-date data available to guide school planning and construction;
 - (b) invest in school infrastructure across the ACT to ensure the continued confidence of ACT families in public schools;
 - (c) consult with the community on the future needs for schools and education across the ACT;
 - (d) invest in upgrades to existing ACT schools;
 - (e) inform the ACT community about future plans for education infrastructure; and
 - (f) ensure that schools and education remain a government priority.”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

| AYES, 7 | | NOES, 6 | |
|------------|---------------|------------|----------|
| Mr Barr | Ms Gallagher | Mr Doszpot | Mr Smyth |
| Dr Bourke | Mr Gentleman | Mrs Dunne | Mr Wall |
| Ms Burch | Mr Rattenbury | Mr Hanson | |
| Mr Corbell | | Ms Lawder | |

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) recent Education and Training Directorate projections show the continued growth of ACT public schools and the continued confidence ACT families have in the public education system;
 - (b) this work shows that, in each of the four school networks, school capacity will remain comfortably above projected enrolment growth;
 - (c) the ACT Government has well established mechanisms to ensure that all schools have the capacity to meet the needs of their local communities;
 - (d) no child is denied entry to a government school in their priority enrolment area;
 - (e) the ACT Government has invested heavily in school infrastructure and new schools to deliver on the education needs of ACT families, including two new schools in Gungahlin—the Neville Bonner Primary School and the Franklin Early Childhood School in February 2013;
 - (f) the ACT Government will open a new school in the Molonglo Valley in 2016;

- (g) the ACT Government has invested more than \$800 million over the last decade in school capital works, plus an additional injection of \$150 million through the Commonwealth's *Building the Education Revolution* program; and
 - (h) the ACT Government allocates more than \$20 million each year for schools maintenance; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to continue to:
- (a) use the most up-to-date data available to guide school planning and construction;
 - (b) invest in school infrastructure across the ACT to ensure the continued confidence of ACT families in public schools;
 - (c) consult with the community on the future needs for schools and education across the ACT;
 - (d) invest in upgrades to existing ACT schools;
 - (e) inform the ACT community about future plans for education infrastructure; and
 - (f) ensure that schools and education remain a government priority.”—
- be agreed to—put and passed.

4 RENEWABLE ENERGY

Dr Bourke, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes that the:
 - (a) ACT has established a 90 percent renewable energy target for electricity by 2020;
 - (b) Royalla Solar Farm is now generating energy to the grid and, at 20MW, is the largest PV farm operating in Australia and the first large scale solar facility to be connected to the national electricity market;
 - (c) 13MW solar park at Mugga Lane has now gained planning approval; and
 - (d) reverse auction for 200MW of wind energy generation received 18 proposals, reflecting strong industry interest;
- (2) further notes that:
 - (a) the Canberra community overwhelmingly supports the Government's renewable energy plans with 80 percent strongly supporting action on climate change and 93 percent supporting the Government's plans to demonstrate and promote new energy technologies;
 - (b) Canberra is becoming an internationally recognised centre for renewable energy innovation and investment; and
 - (c) this investment in renewable energy is being achieved at an affordable price to consumers; and
- (3) calls on the Commonwealth Government to end the uncertainty for the renewable energy industry caused by its recent policy shifts, and to commit to supporting certainty for investment in renewable energy.

Ms Lawder moved the following amendment: Omit all words after paragraph (1)(a), substitute:

- “(b) ACT renewable energy target is the highest of any Australian jurisdiction; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to table all documents relating to the following by the last sitting day in November:
 - (a) the modelling and analysis relevant to the effect of the Renewable Energy Target and Action Plan 2 on electricity prices in the ACT; and
 - (b) the community consultation which was undertaken relating to renewable energy, including the questions, answers, methodology and timing of surveys.”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

| | | | |
|------------|----------|------------|---------------|
| AYES, 6 | | NOES, 7 | |
| Mr Doszpot | Mr Smyth | Mr Barr | Ms Gallagher |
| Mrs Dunne | Mr Wall | Dr Bourke | Mr Gentleman |
| Mr Hanson | | Ms Burch | Mr Rattenbury |
| Ms Lawder | | Mr Corbell | |

And so it was negatived.

Debate continued.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

5 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER

Mr Corbell (Manager of Government Business) moved—That Ms Porter be granted leave of absence for this sitting week as she is representing the Government at the International Association of Volunteer Effort 23rd World Volunteer Conference.

Question—put and passed.

6 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Paper: Mr Smyth, by leave, presented the following paper:

ACT Ambulance Service—VACIS ePCR Printing Issues—Clinical Education Notice CSN 01-14, dated 12 September 2014.

Questions continued.

7 REVITALISATION OF THE CITY CENTRE

Mr Coe, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes, regarding Civic:
 - (a) the need for revitalisation and rejuvenation of many of much of the public realm;
 - (b) poor access to City Walk and Garema Place;

- (c) recent contributions to the debate about the city centre by Mr David Tickle, Associate Professor Richard Hu, Mr Hamish Sinclair and Dr Ed Blakely;
 - (d) the vast majority of Canberrans access the city centre by car; and
 - (e) the need for better transport infrastructure; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to facilitate the publishing of an options paper by March 2015 that would detail the alternatives open to the Government for revitalisation of Garema Place and City Walk.

Mr Gentleman (Minister for Planning) moved the following amendment: Omit all words after “notes, regarding Civic”, substitute:

- “(a) the ACT Government is committed to revitalising and rejuvenating the city centre;
 - (b) the ACT Government has invested in improving the amenity of the city in partnership with local business;
 - (c) evidence suggests that slow speed and highly ‘peopled’ environments are a good way to create vibrant, safe and economically successful urban environments;
 - (d) a large number of cars use the city and it would benefit from improved alternative transport options;
 - (e) the ACT Government is committed to improving active transport and public transport in and around the city, including through the Civic Cycle Loop, Bunda Street Shareway and future provision of light rail;
 - (f) the work undertaken by the ACT Government through the City Plan, which engaged the ACT community on the future of the city centre;
 - (g) recent contributions to the debate on the future of the city centre by various interested parties, including Mr David Tickle, Associate Professor Richard Hu, Mr Hamish Sinclair and Dr Ed Blakely; and
 - (h) the impact the withdrawal of more than 800 Commonwealth public servants has had on local business and pedestrian traffic within the city centre; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
- (a) develop the city centre in a way that ensures it is sustainable, safe, vibrant and economically prosperous; and
 - (b) update the Assembly on the progress of implementation of the City Plan and what engagement has occurred with local stakeholders in the first sitting period of 2015.”.

Debate continued.

Amendment agreed to.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes, regarding Civic:

- (a) the ACT Government is committed to revitalising and rejuvenating the city centre;
 - (b) the ACT Government has invested in improving the amenity of the city in partnership with local business;
 - (c) evidence suggests that slow speed and highly ‘peopled’ environments are a good way to create vibrant, safe and economically successful urban environments;
 - (d) a large number of cars use the city and it would benefit from improved alternative transport options;
 - (e) the ACT Government is committed to improving active transport and public transport in and around the city, including through the Civic Cycle Loop, Bunda Street Shareway and future provision of light rail;
 - (f) the work undertaken by the ACT Government through the City Plan, which engaged the ACT community on the future of the city centre;
 - (g) recent contributions to the debate on the future of the city centre by various interested parties, including Mr David Tickle, Associate Professor Richard Hu, Mr Hamish Sinclair and Dr Ed Blakely; and
 - (h) the impact the withdrawal of more than 800 Commonwealth public servants has had on local business and pedestrian traffic within the city centre; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
- (a) develop the city centre in a way that ensures it is sustainable, safe, vibrant and economically prosperous; and
 - (b) update the Assembly on the progress of implementation of the City Plan and what engagement has occurred with local stakeholders in the first sitting period of 2015.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

8 THE CANBERRA HOSPITAL ADULT MENTAL HEALTH UNIT

Mrs Jones, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes that, regarding the Adult Mental Health Unit at The Canberra Hospital (TCH):
 - (a) staff at the Adult Mental Health Unit filed 57 reports of attacks on workers as well as 37 reports of physical or abusive threats in 2013-2014;
 - (b) the number of incidents involving physical contact with staff at the unit is increasing and there was a rise from 49 incidents in 2012-2013 to 57 in 2013-2014;
 - (c) there has been a rise in incidents of reported abuse directed at staff working in the Adult Mental Health Unit from 112 in 2012-2013 to 135 in 2013-2014;
 - (d) in 2013-2014, 18 staff took leave due to injury at the Adult Mental Health Unit at TCH;
 - (e) the time off work for injuries in 2013-2014 for staff of the Adult Mental Health Unit was 152 weeks;

- (f) the Adult Mental Health Unit was issued with a Provisional Improvement Notice in July which has been extended until October, and calls for beds to be closed or for staff numbers to be increased;
 - (g) although staffing levels have been increased by one extra nurse per shift as an interim measure, the Provisional Improvement Notice calls for a permanent response;
 - (h) the post-occupancy review on the Adult Mental Health Unit is six to nine months overdue according to the Government's own timeline;
 - (i) there was a fire lit by one of the patients inside the unit on Monday, 8 September 2014, which resulted in the evacuation of 60 people; and
 - (j) the Government has failed to provide a safe workplace for staff; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
- (a) review security and nurse safety of the Adult Mental Health Unit at TCH and for the review to be tabled in the Assembly no later than November 2014;
 - (b) update the Assembly on the program for, and implementation of, improvements in both March 2015 and August 2015;
 - (c) introduce permanent measures that will significantly reduce or prevent incidents of violence and abuse directed at staff; and
 - (d) adopt a model of care that serves employee safety as well as patient care, and that neither one be weighted as superior to the other.

Ms Gallagher (Minister for Health) moved the following amendment: Omit all words after "That this Assembly", substitute:

- "(1) notes:
- (a) the Government's commitment to mental health services and infrastructure;
 - (b) that the Adult Mental Health Unit at The Canberra Hospital, which opened in 2012, provides inpatient services for Canberra residents with acute mental illness;
 - (c) that the Adult Mental Health Unit includes a high dependency wing; low dependency beds; a central socialisation, living and dining space; a therapies wing; and support areas for treatment, assessment, staff, visitors and reception, and was designed following extensive consultation and extensive input from consumer, carer groups and staff, on both the design of the building and the model of care;
 - (d) that the safety of staff, patients and visitors is of paramount importance to the Government and active measures are being taken by ACT Health to ensure staff and patient safety is not compromised at the Adult Mental Health Unit;
 - (e) that a Provisional Improvement Notice was issued in July 2014 and work to address this notice is substantially complete;
 - (f) that ACT Health is undertaking a post occupancy evaluation of the Adult Mental Health Unit;

- (g) that, following this evaluation, an action plan will be finalised collaboratively with staff to address any issues that may be identified; and
 - (h) that the Government is continuing to deliver an enhanced network of mental health facilities and services through:
 - (i) forthcoming amendments to the Mental Health (Treatment and Care) Act;
 - (ii) the construction of the Secure Mental Health Unit; and
 - (iii) enhanced community mental health services; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) ensure staff and patient safety at the Adult Mental Health Unit remains a priority; and
 - (b) report to the Legislative Assembly by no later than the last sitting day in 2014 on measures being pursued by ACT Health to enhance mental health services across the ACT, including the progress of the post occupancy evaluation.”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

| AYES, 8 | | NOES, 7 | |
|-----------|---------------|------------|-----------|
| Mr Barr | Mr Corbell | Mr Doszpot | Ms Lawder |
| Ms Berry | Ms Gallagher | Mrs Dunne | Mr Smyth |
| Dr Bourke | Mr Gentleman | Mr Hanson | Mr Wall |
| Ms Burch | Mr Rattenbury | Mrs Jones | |

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
 - (a) the Government’s commitment to mental health services and infrastructure;
 - (b) that the Adult Mental Health Unit at The Canberra Hospital, which opened in 2012, provides inpatient services for Canberra residents with acute mental illness;
 - (c) that the Adult Mental Health Unit includes a high dependency wing; low dependency beds; a central socialisation, living and dining space; a therapies wing; and support areas for treatment, assessment, staff, visitors and reception, and was designed following extensive consultation and extensive input from consumer, carer groups and staff, on both the design of the building and the model of care;
 - (d) that the safety of staff, patients and visitors is of paramount importance to the Government and active measures are being taken by ACT Health to ensure staff and patient safety is not compromised at the Adult Mental Health Unit;

- (e) that a Provisional Improvement Notice was issued in July 2014 and work to address this notice is substantially complete;
 - (f) that ACT Health is undertaking a post occupancy evaluation of the Adult Mental Health Unit;
 - (g) that, following this evaluation, an action plan will be finalised collaboratively with staff to address any issues that may be identified; and
 - (h) that the Government is continuing to deliver an enhanced network of mental health facilities and services through:
 - (i) forthcoming amendments to the Mental Health (Treatment and Care) Act;
 - (ii) the construction of the Secure Mental Health Unit; and
 - (iii) enhanced community mental health services; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) ensure staff and patient safety at the Adult Mental Health Unit remains a priority; and
 - (b) report to the Legislative Assembly by no later than the last sitting day in 2014 on measures being pursued by ACT Health to enhance mental health services across the ACT, including the progress of the post occupancy evaluation.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

9 ARTS AND CULTURE—SUPPORT

Ms Berry, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes that:
- (a) the ACT community is strongly engaged with the arts and cultural activities;
 - (b) Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) figures show the ACT has the highest attendance rate at cultural venues and events (93 percent) than any other jurisdiction in Australia;
 - (c) ABS figures show 100 percent of young people aged 15 to 24 years in the ACT attended a cultural venue or event in the 12 months prior to interview in 2009-2010;
 - (d) the ABS figures show 79 percent of ACT children aged five to 14 years attended a public library, museum or gallery or a performing arts event at least once outside of school hours;
 - (e) the ACT had the highest attendance rates at museums and art galleries in 2011, with 46 percent of those aged 15 years and over attending at least once, compared to the national average of 26 percent;
 - (f) the Live Performance Australia Ticket Attendance and Revenue Survey found a 29.4 percent increase in attendances at live performances in the ACT in 2013;

- (g) in 2009-2010, the *Masterpieces from Paris* exhibition at the National Gallery of Australia, supported by the ACT Government, broke attendance records for public exhibitions in Australia and boosted the ACT economy by approximately \$94 million;
 - (h) in 2009-2010, cultural funding provided by the ACT Government totalled \$95.3 million, which equated to \$268.41 per person in the ACT;
 - (i) the Australia Council on the Arts currently does not fund the ACT at a fair level compared with other jurisdictions; and
 - (j) Federal, State and Territory Arts Ministers will meet at the Meeting of Cultural Ministers in Alice Springs in October; and
- (2) calls on the Minister for the Arts to:
- (a) continue to support the development of arts and cultural activity in the ACT;
 - (b) continue to advocate on behalf of ACT artists with the Australia Council and the Meeting of Cultural Ministers; and
 - (c) report to the Assembly later this year on the outcomes of the Meeting of Cultural Ministers.

Mr Smyth moved the following amendment: Omit all words after paragraph (h), substitute:

- “(i) Federal, State and Territory Arts Ministers will meet at the Meeting of Cultural Ministers in Alice Springs in October; and
- (2) calls on the Minister for the Arts to:
- (a) continue to support the development of arts and cultural activity in the ACT;
 - (b) continue to advocate on behalf of ACT artists with the Australia Council and the Meeting of Cultural Ministers; and
 - (c) report to the Assembly later this year on the outcomes of the Meeting of Cultural Ministers.”.

Debate continued.

Mr Rattenbury addressing the Assembly—

Adjournment negated: It being 6 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Ms Burch (Minister for the Arts) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negated.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

| AYES, 7 | | NOES, 8 | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| Mr Doszpot | Ms Lawder | Mr Barr | Mr Corbell |
| Mrs Dunne | Mr Smyth | Ms Berry | Ms Gallagher |
| Mr Hanson | Mr Wall | Dr Bourke | Mr Gentleman |
| Mrs Jones | | Ms Burch | Mr Rattenbury |

And so it was negatived.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

10 TOURISM IN THE A.C.T.

Mr Smyth, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes the:
 - (a) June 2014 quarterly results of the International Visitor Survey, which showed that although:
 - (i) national visitor numbers are up eight percent, ACT numbers underperformed with a two percent increase;
 - (ii) national visitor nights are up one percent, ACT visitor nights are down 12 percent; and
 - (iii) national total trip expenditure is up seven percent, ACT trip expenditure is down six percent; and
 - (b) March 2014 results of the National Visitor Survey, which showed that although:
 - (i) national overnight trips were up four percent, ACT overnight trips were down three percent;
 - (ii) national visitor nights were up one percent, ACT visitor nights were down 17 percent; and
 - (iii) national expenditure was up four percent, ACT expenditure was down eight percent; and
- (2) calls on the Government to detail to the Assembly why tourism in the ACT has declined, particularly off the back of the Centenary year, by the last sitting day in October 2014.

Mr Barr (Minister for Tourism and Events) moved the following amendment: Omit all words after “notes the”, substitute:

- “(a) June 2014 results of the International Visitor Survey, which showed that:
 - (i) national visitor numbers are up eight percent, while the ACT recorded a two percent increase;
 - (ii) national visitor nights are up one percent, ACT visitor nights are down 12 percent; and
 - (iii) national total trip expenditure is up seven percent, ACT trip expenditure is down six percent;

- (b) March 2014 results of the National Visitor Survey, which showed that:
 - (i) national overnight trips were up four percent, ACT overnight trips were down three percent;
 - (ii) national visitor nights were up one percent, ACT visitor nights were down 17 percent; and
 - (iii) national expenditure was up four percent, ACT expenditure was down eight percent;
- (c) results of the International and National Visitor Surveys reflect a spike in visitor activity during the Centenary year which resulted in higher rates of growth in 2013 than in previous years. While growth in some visitor indicators has declined in 2014, when considered in context over a number of years, there continues to be substantial growth in visitor numbers and visitor expenditure in the ACT;
- (d) International Visitor Survey results included a number of clearly positive results such as an eight percent increase in holiday visitor numbers and a seven percent increase in the number of people visiting friends and relatives, demonstrating growth in the important leisure sector. Similar results can be seen in the National Visitor Survey with an 8.6 percent increase in holiday visitor numbers; and
- (e) ACT will host in 2015:
 - (i) fixtures in the Asian Cup and Cricket World Cup, the Southern Hemisphere's two biggest sporting events;
 - (ii) the extended James Turrell exhibition at the National Gallery of Australia, as the ACT Government, through Visit Canberra, continues to work closely with the national cultural institutions to bring crowds to Canberra for blockbuster exhibitions; and
 - (iii) local and international visitors coming to the Australian War Memorial which was recently rated as Australia's top landmark attraction, as part of the centenary of ANZAC;
- (2) notes that the ACT Government continues to engage innovative techniques to meet the targets of the *Tourism 2020* strategy, including the next phase of the award-winning *Human Brochure* campaign with the *101 Local Humans* campaign; and
- (3) notes that Commonwealth Government cuts to public service travel and domestic tourism marketing through Tourism Australia have had a direct negative impact on the number of overnight visitors to the ACT.”.

Debate continued.

Amendment agreed to.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes the
 - (a) June 2014 results of the International Visitor Survey, which showed that:

- (i) national visitor numbers are up eight percent, while the ACT recorded a two percent increase;
 - (ii) national visitor nights are up one percent, ACT visitor nights are down 12 percent; and
 - (iii) national total trip expenditure is up seven percent, ACT trip expenditure is down six percent;
- (b) March 2014 results of the National Visitor Survey, which showed that:
- (i) national overnight trips were up four percent, ACT overnight trips were down three percent;
 - (ii) national visitor nights were up one percent, ACT visitor nights were down 17 percent; and
 - (iii) national expenditure was up four percent, ACT expenditure was down eight percent;
- (c) results of the International and National Visitor Surveys reflect a spike in visitor activity during the Centenary year which resulted in higher rates of growth in 2013 than in previous years. While growth in some visitor indicators has declined in 2014, when considered in context over a number of years, there continues to be substantial growth in visitor numbers and visitor expenditure in the ACT;
- (d) International Visitor Survey results included a number of clearly positive results such as an eight percent increase in holiday visitor numbers and a seven percent increase in the number of people visiting friends and relatives, demonstrating growth in the important leisure sector. Similar results can be seen in the National Visitor Survey with an 8.6 percent increase in holiday visitor numbers; and
- (e) ACT will host in 2015:
- (i) fixtures in the Asian Cup and Cricket World Cup, the Southern Hemisphere's two biggest sporting events;
 - (ii) the extended James Turrell exhibition at the National Gallery of Australia, as the ACT Government, through Visit Canberra, continues to work closely with the national cultural institutions to bring crowds to Canberra for blockbuster exhibitions; and
 - (iii) local and international visitors coming to the Australian War Memorial which was recently rated as Australia's top landmark attraction, as part of the centenary of ANZAC;
- (2) notes that the ACT Government continues to engage innovative techniques to meet the targets of the *Tourism 2020* strategy, including the next phase of the award-winning *Human Brochure* campaign with the *101 Local Humans* campaign; and
- (3) notes that Commonwealth Government cuts to public service travel and domestic tourism marketing through Tourism Australia have had a direct negative impact on the number of overnight visitors to the ACT.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

11 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Barr (Deputy Chief Minister) moved—That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 7.11 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE: All Members were present at some time during the sitting, except Ms Porter*.

*on leave

Tom Duncan
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly