Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory

2016-2017

Notice Paper

No 11

Wednesday, 29 March 2017

The Assembly meets this day at 10 am

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PRIVATE MEMBERS’ BUSINESS

Notices

1  **MR STEEL**: To move—That this Assembly:

(1) recognises the importance of inclusion as a core value of the ACT community;

(2) acknowledges the need to continuously improve our support for inclusion and embrace diversity;

(3) notes the ongoing focus of the ACT Government to embrace inclusivity in the ACT, and that this past month has unofficially become Canberra’s month of community inclusion through many events and government initiatives such as:

(a) marriage equality week, which reaffirmed the fact that Canberra is Australia’s most LGBTI-inclusive city;

(b) the National Multicultural Festival, which saw more than 280,000 people come together in the Capital to embrace and celebrate the many different cultures in Canberra;

* Notifications to which an asterisk (*) is prefixed appear for the first time

(c) Canberra Citizen of the Year Awards, which recognises the efforts of community members who strive to make this city a better place;

(d) the Connect and Participate Expo, which helps Canberrans of all abilities and ages join groups and build social connections around common interests, with over 100 sport and recreation groups, craft, and music groups, performing arts, hobby, social and “special interest” groups represented;

(e) Seniors Week and the Canberra Gold Awards, which highlighted the significant contributions Canberra’s senior citizens make to the Canberra community;

(f) International Women’s Day (IWD), including the IWD Youth Forum hosted at Gungahlin College, in which young women were encouraged by leading experts from our community to “Be Bold for Change” in advancing the progression of gender equality and opportunities for women; and

(g) displays at the Enlighten festival in commemoration of the 1967 Referendum, which celebrated that achievement while recognising we have more to do to ensure our First Peoples enjoy the same quality of life as other Australians;

(4) also notes that despite our community’s overwhelming support for inclusivity:

(a) the Federal Government is signalling to the Australian community that it condones and supports a small minority’s wish to “offend, insult or humiliate” others on the basis of their race, without any repercussions, by seeking to amend section 18C of the Racial Discrimination Act 1975 (Cwlth); and

(b) the concerns flagged by Chinese, Jewish, Arab, Aboriginal, Indian, Greek and Armenian community leaders who in a joint statement warned that the Federal Liberal-National alterations to section 18C could “give a free pass to ugly and damaging forms of racial vilification”;

(5) takes responsibility to ensure Canberra is a place in which everyone belongs, by reaffirming that:

(a) as a progressive society, differences do not divide us but instead make our community an interesting and vibrant place to live;

(b) we do not and will not accept racial discrimination or vilification of community members or visitors; and

(c) we seek to embrace, support, advocate, celebrate, and encourage those members of our community who may not feel accepted by others; and
(6) calls on the:

(a) Assembly to condemn the Federal Liberal-National Government’s decision to attempt to dramatically water down fundamental protections from racial vilification as currently set out in section 18C of the Racial Discrimination Act 1975 (Cwlth); and

(b) ACT Government to investigate what further steps may need to be taken to protect Canberrans and visitors from racial offence, insults, or humiliation, if the Commonwealth Parliament passes the proposed 18C amendments. (Notice given 27 March 2017. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).

2 MR DOSZPOT: To move—That this Assembly:

(1) notes that:

(a) the number of people treated for dog attacks in emergency departments (EDs) in the ACT last year was 155, around one every three days;

(b) the second highest injury in dog attacks in ACT EDs was to the patient’s head;

(c) there were 360 officially reported serious dog attacks in Canberra last year;

(d) as a consequence of these serious attacks, 124 dogs were seized by officials in Canberra last year;

(e) on average there is a serious attack reported in Canberra every day;

(f) there is also anecdotal evidence that there are many serious dog attacks that are not officially reported;

(g) 10 percent of dogs declared dangerous are not controlled and cause even further harm;

(h) dogs that have been found to have committed vicious attacks on people or other animals are returned to the community;

(i) the number of dog attacks treated in ACT EDs has increased 50 percent in the past five years;

(j) in any other field, this rate of increase in crime or injury would be regarded as a crisis; and

(k) in February 2016 the Government set up a working group to investigate dog attacks and their management that would “give feedback on the process and procedures out at Domestic Animal Services”, (Mr Perram, The Canberra Times, 22 February 2016) but its findings have not been made public; and
(2) calls on the ACT Government to:

(a) allocate more resources to investigate serious attacks by dogs;
(b) allocate more resources for education about obligations and responsibilities of dog ownership;
(c) provide better feedback to victims about the progress of complaints about attacks by dogs;
(d) immediately report on changes made to dog management processes following feedback from the 2016 working group;
(e) review the law that allows a dog that has committed a serious attack to be classified a dangerous dog and report by the last sitting day in June 2017;
(f) review the law that allows dogs that have been found responsible for vicious attacks resulting in serious injury to members of the public, to be returned to owners and report by the last sitting day in June 2017;
(g) review the law that allows dogs that have been found responsible for vicious attacks resulting in the death of other dogs, to be returned to owners and report by the last sitting day in June 2017;
(h) improve the penalties on the owners of dogs that have harmed people or animals to ensure they are held legally responsible for consequential medical, veterinary, legal and related costs;
(i) increase penalties imposed on owners where their dog has been found to have been responsible for vicious attacks resulting in serious injury to people and/or the death of other animals; and
(j) be proactive in ensuring that dogs that cause serious injury to people and other animals, and the owners of those dogs, are treated under the law with the seriousness that the community expects. (Notice given 27 March 2017, as amended 28 March 2017. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).

3 MR PARTON: To move—That this Assembly:

(1) notes:

(a) the ACT Government plans to relocate all public housing tenants from Northbourne Avenue to suburban sites;
(b) the sites designated by the Government are not near public facilities, employment opportunities and the community support services that many public housing tenants rely on; and
(c) in particular, the planned public housing developments in Wright, Holder and Chapman are inappropriate in size and location; and
calls on the Government to:

(a) cancel the planned public housing developments in Chapman, Wright and Holder;

(b) consider more suitable locations including Northbourne Avenue itself; and

(c) adopt a genuine salt and pepper approach to public housing. (Notice given 27 March 2017. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).

4 MS ORR: To move—That this Assembly:

(1) notes that, over the years, federal governments and major agencies have seen the significant benefits of moving their offices to Canberra, including the:

(a) Chifley Government’s relocation of the CSIRO headquarters from Melbourne to Canberra in 1949;

(b) Fraser Government’s relocation of the High Court of Australia from Sydney to Canberra in 1980;

(c) Hawke Government’s relocation of the Defence Signals Directorate, now known as the Australian Signals Directorate, from Melbourne to Canberra from 1988; and

(d) Turnbull Government’s relocation of the Climate Change Authority from Melbourne to Canberra in 2016;

(2) notes the Australian Public Service has been crucial to the growth and development of Canberra as a world-leading city by:

(a) investing significantly in the city’s people and infrastructure over many decades; and

(b) growing strong links across the Canberra economy, from small business to higher education;

(3) further notes that the role of the Australian Public Service in Canberra has enjoyed tri-partisan support until February 2017; and

(4) calls on the Federal Government and its elected representatives to support a strong Australian Public Service in Canberra and to utilise the significant intellectual capacity of Canberrans to its advantage. (Notice given 27 March 2017. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).

5 MR COE: To move—That this Assembly:

(1) notes, regarding the land deals between the Land Development Agency (LDA) and the Canberra Tradesman’s Union Club Limited, that:

(a) the CFMEU aligned club sold Dickson, Section 72, Block 6 to the ACT Government in a contract signed on 15 December 2014 and settled on 19 December 2014;
(b) the Government paid $3.905 million for the site; and

(c) on 1 April 2015, a sublease was issued to the Canberra Tradesman’s Union Club Limited which expires on 18 June 2018;

(2) notes that the site next to the Dickson Tradies Club, Dickson, Section 34, Block 30, currently features a carpark for approximately 150 vehicles; and

(3) calls on the Government to table in the Assembly by 12 noon on 30 March 2017:

(a) regarding Dickson, Section 72, Block 6:

(i) the lease issued by the ACT Government to the Canberra Trademan’s Union Club Limited which was registered on 1 April 2015;

(ii) all the valuations undertaken for the purchase of the block;

(iii) the reason for the purchase, including the details of the Government’s intended use of the block;

(iv) the details of the amount of rent paid to date and how much is to be paid;

(v) who in Government authorised the purchase;

(vi) the date that the LDA Board, Chief Minister and the Cabinet were advised of the purchase; and

(vii) what was the average unimproved value of the site at the time of sale; and

(b) regarding Dickson, Section 34, Block 30:

(i) the planned future use of the block;

(ii) the proposed lease for the site;

(iii) the sale contract, if it exists, and the amount paid, or to be paid, and the proposed settlement date;

(iv) all the valuations undertaken for Dickson, Section 34, Block 30;

(v) who in Government authorised the sale; and

(vi) will the Government allow the block to be used for residential use. (Notice given 27 March 2017. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).
MR HANSON: To move—That this Assembly:

(1) notes that:

(a) on 14 February 2017, a member of the Labor Party, Ms Bec Cody MLA, used the adjournment debate of the Assembly to attack the RSL over some tiles in the male bathroom, Ms Cody stated “Let me say that again, in 2017 in Australia, in a club that promotes itself as championing our values and respect for our national heritage, men are expected to urinate on Aboriginals”; 

(b) about the Sussex Inlet RSL, Ms Cody said “the Sussex Inlet RSL are a disgrace, they are a disgrace to themselves, a disgrace to the veterans they claim to represent and a disgrace to Australia”; 

(c) about the RSL in general, Ms Cody said that there existed “a long history of disgraceful behaviour by this organisation”; 

(d) about the people within the RSL, Ms Cody said they were “people who either are, or stand by, racists”; 

(e) since Ms Cody’s accusations, it has been exposed that the description Ms Cody made of the tiles’ placement was not true; 

(f) since Ms Cody’s accusations, it was revealed that the links between the club and the RSL management is not true; 

(g) following Ms Cody’s accusations, the RSL stated “It is this type of unfounded criticism of a national body, spoken in generalisations, which has completed over 100 years of assisting the veteran family and community that makes the veterans very angry”; and 

(h) Ms Cody’s accusations have caused enormous hurt and harm by falsely representing facts, and accusing various parties of extreme racism; and

(2) calls upon the Minister for Veterans and Seniors and the Chief Minister to:

(a) condemn Ms Cody for her inflammatory and untruthful statements; 

(b) apologise to the members of the Sussex Inlet RSL and its management for promoting untrue statements, and accusing them of being racists; 

(c) apologise to the national and state management of the RSL for falsely associating them with the RSL club, and accusing them of being racists; and 

(d) reconfirm the ACT Government’s commitment to our returned service men and women, and the organisations that support them. (Notice given 20 March 2017. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 3 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).
EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

Orders of the day

1 FAMILY AND PERSONAL VIOLENCE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2017: (Attorney-General): Detail stage—Clause 1—Resumption of debate (from 28 March 2017—Mr Gentleman).


5 ACT HEALTH REPORTING—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Resumption of debate (from 14 February 2017—Mr Wall) on the motion of Ms Fitzharris—That the Assembly takes note of the paper.

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

Orders of the day

1 EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—PROPOSED INQUIRY INTO THE VALUE OF UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION: Resumption of debate (from 15 December 2016—Mr Rattenbury) on the motion of Mr Steel—That this Assembly:

   (1) notes the Mitchell Institute Report *Preschool – Two Years are Better Than One Developing a universal preschool program for Australian 3 year olds – evidence, policy and implementation*; and

   (2) resolves that the Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Youth Affairs conducts an inquiry into the value of universal access to early childhood education, including evidence around the benefits to children of starting preschool at age three.
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—PROPOSED INQUIRY INTO ENROLMENTS AND CAPACITY IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

Resumption of debate (from 15 December 2016—Ms Le Couteur) on the motion of Mr Pettersson—That the matter of enrolments and capacity in Canberra public schools, including Priority Enrolment Areas and other factors affecting demand on schools, and any related matters, be referred to the Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Youth Affairs for inquiry and report.

PLANNING AND URBAN RENEWAL—STANDING COMMITTEE—PROPOSED INQUIRY INTO GREATER HOUSING AFFORDABILITY: Resumption of debate (from 15 December 2016—Mr Rattenbury) on the motion of Ms Orr—That the matter of the interaction of housing types, market settings and land release with changes in consumer behaviour and the goal of achieving greater housing affordability be referred to the Standing Committee on Planning and Urban Renewal for inquiry and report.

JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE—PROPOSED INQUIRY INTO EVIDENCE AND BEST PRACTICE AROUND PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS IN THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE: Resumption of debate (from 15 December 2016—Ms Le Couteur) on the motion of Ms Cody—That the matter of evidence and best practice around prevention and early intervention programs in the prevention of domestic and family violence and any other related matters be referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety for inquiry and report.

Last sitting day in May 2017

STANDING COMMITTEES: Presentation of reports on annual and financial reports for the financial year 2015-2016 and calendar year 2015, pursuant to order of the Assembly of 16 February 2017.

1 August 2017


Last sitting day in August 2017

STANDING COMMITTEES: Presentation of reports on annual and financial reports for the calendar year 2016, pursuant to order of the Assembly of 16 February 2017.
End of August 2017

8 INDEPENDENT INTEGRITY COMMISSION—SELECT COMMITTEE: Presentation of report on the most effective and efficient model for an independent integrity commission for the ACT, pursuant to order of the Assembly of 15 December 2016.

Last sitting day in 2017

9 2016 ACT ELECTION AND THE ELECTORAL ACT—SELECT COMMITTEE: Presentation of report on a review of the operation of the 2016 ACT election and the Electoral Act and other relevant legislation and policies in regards to election-related matters, pursuant to order of the Assembly of 15 December 2016.

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS’ BUSINESS

There are no notices or orders of the day

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

On the first sitting day of a period of sittings a complete Notice Paper is published containing all unanswered questions. On subsequent days, only redirected questions are included on the Notice Paper together with a list of all unanswered questions.

A Questions on Notice Paper will be issued on the Friday of a sitting week, containing the text of all questions on notice lodged that week and can be accessed at www.parliament.act.gov.au/in-the-assembly/questions-paper.

Unanswered questions

67, 68, 84, 92, 95-115, 117, 124, 134-144, 146-150.

(Redirected question—30 days expires 23 April 2017)

145 MR COE: To ask the Minister for Regulatory Services—

(1) Can the Treasurer advise the total value of the rental bonds held by the ACT Office of Rental Bonds in the (a) 2013-14, (b) 2014-15, (c) 2015-16 and (d) 2016-17 to date, financial years.

(2) On average how many transactions does the ACT Office of Rental Bonds process in a year.

(3) What benchmark or performance target has been set for the processing of rental bonds.
(4) Can the Treasurer indicate the percentage of transactions where the benchmark or performance target has been met in the (a) 2013-14, (b) 2014-15, (c) 2015-16 and (d) 2016-17 to date, financial years.

(5) Are the recent media reports, indicating that over the Christmas and New Year period Canberra tenants waited up to nine weeks to receive the funds of rental bonds, accurate; if so, what caused the processing delays.

(6) Is there any procedure whereby a tenant or a landlord can seek the expediting of the processing of a rental bond; if so, can the Treasurer outline that procedure.

(7) Can the Treasurer indicate the average processing time for rental bonds for the months of February 2017 and March 2017.

(8) Have the administrative guidelines regarding the acceptance and refund of rental bonds changed; if so, can the Treasurer advise the date the guidelines were revised and outline the nature of the changes.

T Duncan
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

GOVERNMENT TO RESPOND TO PETITIONS

(in accordance with standing order 100)

16 May 2017

Curtin—Draft Master Plan—Minister for Planning and Land Management—Petition lodged by Ms Le Couteur (Pet 1-17).

Tillyard Drive and Ginninderra Drive—Traffic control measures—Minister for Transport and City Services—Petition lodged by Mrs Kikkert (Pet 2-17).

20 June 2017

KFC Restaurant—O’Hanlon Place, Gold Creek Village—Minister for Planning and Land Management—Petitions lodged by Ms Le Couteur (Pet 3-17 and Pet 6-17).
COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise shown, appointed for the life of the Ninth Assembly. The dates of the amendments to the committees’ resolution of appointment are reflected, but not changes in the membership.

Standing

Pursuant to standing order

ADMINISTRATION AND PROCEDURE: (Formed 31 October 2016): The Speaker (Chair), Ms Cheyne, Mr Rattenbury, Mr Wall.

Pursuant to resolution

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM—STANDING COMMITTEE: (Formed 13 December 2016): Mr Hanson (Chair), Ms Orr, Mr Parton, Mr Pettersson.

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE: (Formed 13 December 2016): Mr Pettersson (Chair), Mrs Kikkert, Mr Steel, Mr Wall.

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE: (Formed 13 December 2016): Ms Orr (Chair), Ms Cheyne, Mr Doszpot, Mr Parton.

HEALTH, AGEING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE: (Formed 13 December 2016): Mr Steel (Chair), Mrs Dunne, Mrs Kikkert, Ms Le Couteur, Mr Pettersson.

JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE: (Formed 13 December 2016): Mrs Jones (Chair), Ms Cody, Ms Lee, Mr Steel.

PLANNING AND URBAN RENEWAL—STANDING COMMITTEE: (Formed 13 December 2016): Ms Le Couteur (Chair), Ms Cheyne, Ms Lawder, Mr Milligan, Ms Orr.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS: (Formed 13 December 2016): Mrs Dunne (Chair), Ms Cody, Mr Coe, Mr Pettersson.

Select

2016 ACT ELECTION AND ELECTORAL ACT—SELECT COMMITTEE: (Formed 15 December 2016): Ms Cody (Chair), Ms Cheyne, Ms Le Couteur, Mr Milligan, Mr Wall.

ESTIMATES 2017-2018—SELECT COMMITTEE: (Formed 16 February 2017): Mr Wall (Chair), Ms Cody, Mr Coe, Ms Le Couteur, Mr Pettersson.

INDEPENDENT INTEGRITY COMMISSION—SELECT COMMITTEE: (Formed 15 December 2016): Mr Rattenbury (Chair), Ms Cody, Mrs Jones, Ms Lee, Mr Steel.