



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES  
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## Submission Cover Sheet

### Inquiry into ACT Libraries

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## Submission to the Inquiry into ACT Libraries

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Thankyou for offering the opportunity to make submissions into the Inquiry into ACT Libraries.

### Role of libraries in the community

I have been a member of the ACT Library since I came to the ACT in 2001. I use it regularly, borrowing print and audio books every two to four weeks. I use the branch at Woden, and find that there are always many people in the library, some borrowing, like myself, but many others sitting and using the computers, reading the papers or even being tutored by other people. I have once attended a community information session there (on bicycle repair, conducted by Bicycle Jam). I feel it acts as a community hub and fulfils an important role.

### Strategic planning

The impact I see of planning within the library has been changes to its resources. It appears to me to be keeping up with developments in information infrastructure. However it continues to support print and other hard copy resources (such as CDs, DVDs and so on) and I think these continue to hold a really important part in people's lives, despite the digital revolution. With population likely to grow in the Woden area as more high rise developments are built (with little space for bookshelves), I can see its importance in holding these physical resources growing.

### Demand for library resources

Demand for non-digital resources will not diminish. I find the audio book selection very important, and borrow books to listen to on a regular basis. The library also has an excellent large print selection. The library continues to stock audio books in CD format which are useful for me as I use this platform for my audio needs.

### Flexible response to community needs

The library has developed resources that are helpful to me as a citizen of the ACT and in so doing, I believe indicates that it is responding flexibly to developing needs of the community.

### Opening Hours and Location

I moved to Lyons two years ago. One of the considerations in my making the move to there was the availability of the Library, as well as other services such as the shopping mall. I hope the library will be kept at Woden. As I have now retired, the opening hours are of lesser concern to me, but I would encourage the library to stay open on weekends, as it currently is.