



STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY
Ms Leanne Castley (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr (Deputy Chair), Mr Johnathan Davis MLA

Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA: To ask the Minister for Economic Development

Ref: The Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD), Budget paper B, page number 29, output class 3.2

In relation to: Tourism and Hospitality

1. The tourism, hospitality and arts sectors have been hard hit by COVID and many have said they will go out of business.
 - a. What are the government's projections about how many businesses might fold in the next 12 months?
 - b. Has the government looked specifically at the crossover impacts, such as artists working in hospitality who may permanently lose a source of income they can't afford?

ANDREW BARR MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

- a. The ACT Government does not forecast business closures.
- b. The ACT Government has provided a broad range of support to businesses in the tourism, hospitality and arts sectors, including:
 - ACT COVID-19 Business Support Grants, including additional top-up payments for tourism, hospitality and arts businesses;
 - the COVID-19 Small Business Hardship Scheme;
 - HOMEFRONT funding – currently in its third round – for ACT-based artists and small arts groups to support their ongoing arts practice during the pandemic;
 - Six projects under the Creative Recovery and Resilience Program in support of independent artists and creatives, creating more than 80 jobs opportunities for artists and creative professionals;
 - The *Amp it Up!* initiative, developed to assist small to medium live music venues, supporting them to program and promote gigs and providing opportunities for musicians and other performance artists to pursue their work; and
 - Screen Canberra's Special Purpose Fund, MADE IN CBR, to provide ACT Screen professionals whose work and income have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Australian Government also provided COVID-19 Disaster Payments to support workers who were unable to earn an income due to COVID-19 health restrictions.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economy Gender and Economic Equality

Signature: 

Date: 5. 11. 21

By the Minister for Economic Development, Andrew Barr MLA