



Michael Petterson MLA
Minister for Business, Arts and Creative Industries
Minister for Children, Youth and Families
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Skills, Training and Industrial Relations
Member for Yerrabi

Kate Lundy

Our ref: CMTEDD2025/2845

Chair

Canberra Institute of Technology Board

GPO Box 826

CANBERRA ACT 2601

21 July 2025

Dear Ms Lundy *Kate*

I am writing in relation to a complaint forwarded to my office on 17 June 2025 at your request making allegations about Dr Margot McNeill and her actions prior to her appointment as CEO of the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT).

I understand that an anonymous submission has been made to the ACT Integrity Commission, alleging a range of misconduct during Dr McNeill's previous tenure at TAFE NSW. I note your advice that you have written to both TAFE NSW and the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) seeking further information, but that both organisations are unable to comment. I also acknowledge the advice from CIT that Dr McNeill believes her involvement in the TAFE NSW investigation has concluded.

In your letter of 11 April 2025, you advised that the recruitment panel was considering four candidates and sought my views on expectations for the incoming CEO. In response, I emphasised the importance of appointing a leader capable of restoring community confidence in CIT.

While I respect the confidentiality of the TAFE NSW investigation, I am concerned that CIT's reputation may be adversely affected by any potential publicity about the subject matter of the complaint or the investigation —particularly at a time when we are working to rebuild the institution as a high-quality public provider.



I would appreciate your advice on the due diligence undertaken by the Board during the recruitment process, and an explanation as to how Dr McNeill's involvement in the investigation came to light only after her appointment. I am also seeking assurance that the Board has a clear and considered strategy in place to maintain community trust in CIT's leadership.

I acknowledge that aspects of this matter lie outside the Board's control, particularly in relation to the timing and confidentiality of the NSW investigation. I also recognise the steps you took to verify Dr McNeill's employment history during the recruitment process.

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Nonetheless, I have been clear about my expectations in relation to integrity and my priority remains the effective leadership of CIT. I trust that appropriate measures are in place to monitor and manage the situation.

I ask that you keep me informed of any developments and provide the requested advice and assurances at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "MP".

Michael Petterson MLA

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