

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL
TERRITORY**

**INQUIRY INTO THE POSSIBLE USE OF THE \$19 MILLION CASINO
PREMIUM**

**REPORT NO.9 OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING,
DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

December 1992

Resolution of Appointment

'The following general purpose standing committees be established to inquire into and report on matters referred to it by the Assembly or matters that are considered by the committee to be of concern to the community ...

'a Standing Committee on Planning, Development and Infrastructure to examine matters related to planning, land management, transport, economic development, commercial development, industrial and residential development, infrastructure and capital works, science and technology.'

Minutes of Proceedings, 2nd Assembly, 27 March 1992

'That the Standing Committee on Planning, Development and Infrastructure—

(1) investigate and report on recommendations to the Assembly of the possible use of the \$19 million casino premium, having regard to:

(i) the report of the Select Committee on Cultural Activities and Facilities, June 1991; and

(ii) the ACT Government's stated objective to commit the funds to cultural and heritage facilities.

(2) The Committee to report to the Legislative Assembly by Thursday 10 December 1992.'

Minutes of Proceedings, 2nd Assembly, 22 October 1992

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Mr David Lamont (Presiding Member)

Mr Trevor Kaine (Deputy Presiding Member)

Mr Tony De Domenico

Ms Annette Ellis

Ms Helen Szuty

Secretary: Mr Rod Power

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RECOMMENDATIONS

(Numbers in parentheses refer to the paragraph number in the report where the recommendation is found)

- \$2.5 million of the casino premium be allocated to assist in the provision of an Aboriginal Keeping Place/cultural centre in the ACT as proposed by the Ngunnawal aboriginal people and the Bogong Regional Council. The Committee understands that this project may attract some additional funding from the Commonwealth (para 3.10)
- a trust arrangement along the lines discussed in this report be established to hold \$2.75 million of the casino premium pending the development of appropriate plans for regional facilities. These plans should result from extensive community consultation and negotiation, and take account of the diverse range of community and school-based needs that are demonstrated in the submissions to this inquiry (including submissions from Calwell High School, Stromlo High School, Pearce Community Centre, Tuggeranong Community Arts Association, Woden Senior Citizens Club, and other submissions). In recommending the plans take account of the role of schools in the provision and servicing of cultural amenities throughout the ACT, the Committee recognises that, in the first instance, this would entail a reappraisal of existing policies relating to the community use of schools (para 3.22)
- \$1.5 million of the casino premium be devoted to the NATEX site to provide for essential maintenance and a basic refurbishment program (para 3.26)
- the Government vary its land use policies in the Childers Street/Kingsley Street area to promote a mix of cultural and commercial activities, perhaps along the lines of encouraging the provision of cultural facilities on the ground and first floor of new developments while allowing commercial activity on all other floors. Also, the Committee recommends the Government consider locating in the Childers Street vicinity those cultural/community facilities that require a city-based location (para 3.33)

- \$250 000 of the casino premium be allocated to equip the new community theatre on the corner of University Avenue and Childers Street, City (para 3.37)
- \$5 million of the casino premium be allocated to upgrading the Playhouse Theatre to a 600-650 seat theatre and partial upgrade of the Link; and \$7 million be devoted to providing a cultural and heritage facility in the city centre, to be located either in the North Building of Civic Square or in the Childers Street/Kingsley Street area. The Committee's preferred location is North Building as this complements the civic nature of the area occasioned by the move of the Legislative Assembly to South Building in 1994. In relation to facilities in the new centre, the Committee considers it should house the type of activities noted in paragraph 3.42 (para 3.43)
- the Government facilitate the provision of space in the Kingston Foreshores area for visual and community performing artists, it being recognised that such space is provided on an interim basis pending the finalisation of plans for the whole Foreshores area (para 3.48).

CHAPTER 1: BACKGROUND

Introduction

1.1 On 22 October 1992 the Legislative Assembly directed the Standing Committee on Planning, Development and Infrastructure to investigate and report on the possible use of the \$19 million casino premium. The Assembly required the Committee to report by 10 December 1992.

1.2 The Committee placed advertisements in the local press during the week commencing 31 October 1992, calling upon persons wishing to put written or oral views to the Committee to do so by 11 November 1992. The Committee subsequently extended the deadline for receipt of public comment to 27 November 1992. Due to the tight deadline, the Committee was unfortunately not able to accept submissions received after that date.

1.3 The Committee received numerous telephone inquiries and received 68 submissions before the deadline was reached. All of the submissions were authorised for publication, though part of one submission was withheld because it raised a 'commercial-in-confidence' matter. A list of submissions is at Appendix A.

1.4 A public hearing was held on 13 November 1992 attended by representatives of 20 organisations. A total of 37 individuals appeared before the Committee. A list of these organisations and individuals is at Appendix B.

1.5 The Committee was impressed by the number and quality of submissions, especially given the very tight deadlines associated with this inquiry. The Committee expresses its appreciation to those who made submissions and to those who appeared before it.

1.6 In preparing its report, the Committee was required by the Assembly to have regard to the report of the Select Committee on Cultural Activities and Facilities which reported in June 1991. The Select Committee examined cultural activity in the ACT in great detail and commented on the nature of cultural activities that might be placed on Section 19, Civic.¹

¹Section 19, Civic, houses the Canberra Theatre Centre, North and South buildings and large car-parking areas. The Section is located between Vernon Circuit (comprising Northbourne and Commonwealth Avenues) and London Circuit. At the time the Select Committee on Cultural Activities and Facilities prepared its report, the Section was expected to be the site of the Canberra Casino.

Select Committee on Cultural Activities and Facilities

1.7 The Select Committee met over a period of about two years and heard 70 witnesses. Its Chair noted 'there is not an Arts group or a related group in Canberra that we did not approach'.² It received 57 submissions, many of which raised issues of direct relevance to this inquiry. For this reason, the Committee has re-examined those submissions and made a summary of their key points as they relate to the possible use of the casino premium. The summary is shown at Appendix C and is commented on later in this Chapter.

1.8 The Select Committee on Cultural Activities and Facilities made a number of recommendations bearing on the present inquiry, including the following:

- that the government establish a Cultural Council 'to improve administration and planning, and to provide a more powerful voice for the Arts';³
- that the Childers Street/Hutton Street precinct be developed in accordance with the 1989 Civic Centre Policy Plan and that the precinct include 'community arts facilities';⁴
- that a new theatre be established in the Childers Street/Hutton Street area;⁵
- that a sculpture park be established adjacent to the Nolan Art Gallery at Lanyon;⁶
- that 'Canberra Youth Performing Arts Centre be provided with long term adequate accommodation';⁷
- that 'a long term strategy for the development of a cultural precinct on Section 19, Civic, be formulated as a matter of urgency ... to include the following common or shared spaces':

²Mr B Wood MLA, Hansard, 22 October 1992

³Select Committee on Cultural Activities and Facilities, Preface by Mr B Wood, pv.

⁴ibid, paras 9.40 and 10.40

⁵ibid para 11.32

⁶ibid para 8.34

⁷ibid para 11.32

- office accommodation
 - storage facilities
 - on-site restoration, conservation and preservation facilities
 - lecture theatre
 - civic reception facilities
 - common foyer
 - common loading dock
 - shared exhibition spaces
 - public amenities
 - commercial outlets
 - a writers' centre;⁸
- that planning proceed for a cultural precinct on Block 12 of Section 19, Civic;⁹ this precinct to include a Territorial Library, a Territorial Art Gallery and a Territorial Museum. The role of the Library was described as: 'to provide a general information and reference service; to collect, manage and conserve appropriate aspects of the Territory's recorded heritage; to provide specialist information services; and to provide a general lending service'.¹⁰ The role of the Art Gallery was described as: 'to collect, conserve and display the Territory's artistic heritage' and to include 'a community exhibition space'.¹¹ The role of the Museum was described as: 'for the preserving, recording, displaying and interpretation of the geological, biological and anthropological history of the ACT; further, that 'subject to an agreement between the territorial Museum and the University of Canberra, the major ancillary services of the Museum be located at the University of Canberra'.¹²

⁸ ibid paras 6.4 – 6.8 and 7.10

⁹ Block 12 is the area west of North Building extending to Northbourne Ave. It is currently occupied by a car park.

¹⁰ Select Committee on Cultural Activities and Facilities para 3.18

¹¹ paras 4.14 and 4.21

¹² paras 5.15 and 5.27

1.9 It is clear that the Select Committee placed great importance on establishing a central cultural precinct on Section 19, Civic, to house major Territorial cultural activities. It is also clear that the Select Committee envisaged a further cultural precinct in the city area, in the vicinity of Childers Street/Hutton Street.

1.10 The Select Committee reached its conclusions after carefully considering the submissions and oral evidence put before it. A rereading of those submissions brings out certain broad themes which may characterise any examination of ACT cultural activity. These themes relate to:

- whether expenditure on new cultural activities should be placed on hold, pending the development of an ACT cultural plan;
- whether expenditure on cultural activities is best directed to people or to buildings;
- whether expenditure on cultural activities should be focused upon Civic or elsewhere in the ACT;
- if Civic, whether the expenditure should be directed at Section 19 and be on a 'State' type library AND/OR a museum AND/OR a theatre complex AND/OR an art gallery AND/OR a combination of these projects AND/OR a multipurpose complex comprising broadcast facilities and workshops, offices and display areas for craft and art purposes (perhaps along the lines of a combination of the present Griffin Centre and the Craft Council site at Watson); AND whether expenditure should be directed to the Childers Street/Kingsley Street precinct for (largely unspecified) cultural purposes;
- if a museum, whether the focus should be upon a museum of ACT history AND/OR an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander museum (in conjunction with the Commonwealth Government) AND/OR a natural history museum; and what is the nature of any link to the Museum of Australia; and
- if the expenditure is focused outside Civic, whether it should be directed toward Tuggeranong cultural activities AND/OR expansion of the Craft Council site at Watson AND/OR the provision of cultural facilities in colleges AND/OR in schools generally AND/OR the provision of more flexible transport services (to enable a wider range of people to access cultural events).

1.11 The Committee acknowledges its debt to the Select Committee for sifting and defining the issues so carefully and for clearly indicating its priorities among the myriad of competing claims upon the public purse. The Committee

acknowledges that, though the Select Committee's report was handed down only 18 months ago, certain developments have taken place in the meantime which need to be considered when re-examining cultural activities and facilities in the ACT, in particular:

- the Cultural Council has been established, as called for by the Select Committee;
- the casino has been sited away from Section 19, Civic;
- a new community theatre (250 seats) is under construction at the corner of Childers Street and University Avenue; and
- the Legislative Assembly has decided to site its permanent home in South Building on Section 19, Civic.

1.12 The Committee has attempted to take account of these changes in reconsidering the Select Committee's findings and in considering the evidence placed before the Committee itself. The Committee believes it may be useful for the government and for interested members of the public to have a summary of the submissions to it; and this is provided in the second Chapter of this report.

Government Objectives

1.13 As well as having regard to the Select Committee on Cultural Activities and Facilities, the present Committee was directed by the Assembly to have regard to the ACT Government's stated objective to commit the funds to cultural and heritage facilities. These statements have a long background and cover successive ACT Administrations.

1.14 The first Labor Government (May 1989–December 1989) provided a submission to the Assembly's Select Committee on the Establishment of a Casino,¹³ which included, inter alia: 'the Government is committed to using the premium obtained from the commercial site for the funding of facilities which could include a Theatre complex, Territorial Library and other community and cultural facilities'.¹⁴

¹³ This Select Committee was established in May 1989 and reported to the Assembly in July 1989

¹⁴ Quoted in Select Committee on the Establishment of a Casino (July 1989) p3

1.15 One finding of the Select Committee on the Establishment of a Casino was that 'the Government ensure that sufficient resources be allocated to enable the completion of the community facilities on Section 19, Civic'.¹⁵ The Select Committee observed that: 'an idealised community facility would include a lyric theatre [2000 seats], play house, performance studio, library, regional art gallery, heritage centre, civic square upgrade, infrastructure and car parking'.¹⁶

1.16 The Alliance Government (December 1989 – June 1991) affirmed the use of the casino premium for community facilities. On 1 May 1991 the Chief Minister, Mr Kaine MLA, stated that the casino premium 'will, consistent with previous undertakings, be used for the construction of community facilities'.¹⁷

1.17 The second Labor Government also affirmed the use of the casino premium for community purposes. In delivering the Labor Government's response to the report of the Select Committee into Cultural Activities and Facilities, the Minister for Education and the Arts, Mr Wood MLA, stated: 'the Government is committed ... to the development of a cultural precinct [and] I reaffirm this Government's pledge that the [casino] premium will be devoted specifically to the benefit of the community'.

1.18 Also, on 12 December 1991 the Chief Minister, Ms Follett MLA, stated: 'I can confirm that it will be spent on community facilities'. However, Ms Follett observed that the commitment to cultural facilities on Section 19, Civic, 'was given in the context of a casino on Section 19 and ... [the commitment] does not necessarily apply in the current circumstances'.¹⁸

1.19 The re-elected Labor Government in the second Legislative Assembly repeated these assurances. The Chief Minister noted on 1 April 1992 that 'the \$19 million casino premium will be directed to ... major cultural and heritage projects'.¹⁹ On 21 October 1992 the Chief Minister repeated her assurance that the casino premium 'will be applied to community facilities in the ACT, specifically cultural and heritage facilities'.²⁰ The Chief Minister added that the Government was holding consultations with the Aboriginal community; she also expressed the view that the ACT Cultural Council 'is very well placed to provide a comprehensive view of how that money might best be spent'.²¹

¹⁵ *ibid* p 18

¹⁶ *ibid* p 17

¹⁷ Hansard p1841

¹⁸ Hansard p6015

¹⁹ Answer to Question put on notice, 1 April 1992, Hansard transcript p 599

²⁰ Reply to Question put on notice, 21 October 1992

Additional Comment

1.20 The Committee notes that it was not asked to work with any one definition of 'cultural' and 'heritage' facilities. It is clear from a reading of the submissions put to the Committee that the community sees a narrow definition of 'cultural' and 'heritage' as inappropriate. The submissions cover an extremely broad range of subjects, including an Aboriginal Keeping Place, enlargement of existing community facilities, concessions for low-income earners, correctional facilities, theatre, gallery, museum (including a landscape museum and a museum of natural history), conference centre, orchestral venues, visitors centre, extensions to a Senior Citizens' Club, 'environmental' trading area, writers' centre, regional community facilities, entertainment centre, school hall upgrade, housing for the disadvantaged, youth facilities (such as a drop-in centre and roller rink), garden registers, School of Horticulture facilities, cartoon award, band equipment and uniforms, community TV facilities and assistance with a Citizens Advice Bureau publication.

1.21 The Committee believes it is important to display this diversity within the report and so has devoted the next chapter to a brief outline of the key points raised in each submission. The Committee's own assessment of where to best allocate the casino premium is then explained in Chapter 3.

²¹ *ibid*

CHAPTER 2: SUBMISSIONS

2.1 This paper summarises the key points made in submissions to the present inquiry. The submissions appear in alphabetical order.

2.2 **Aboriginal Education Consultative Group of the local Ngunnawal people** wants to establish a Keeping Place (called a Ngunnawal Burrangiri). It submits: 'the acceptance of the Burrangiri proposal would be a significant step to the reconciliation for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people of the ACT', and goes on to observe that 1993 is the International Year of the Indigenous People.

2.3 The Keeping Place would house 'initiation rings (bore rings), sandstone cave replicas, burial sites, rock art and Guyana.' A small part of the complex would 'house ashes of skeletal remains that are of ancestral historical significance.' The complex would also include a gallery (to exhibit local and national collections of art and culture), a theatre, an academy faculty, and an area devoted to natural sciences, bush tucker, naturapathy and natural flora as medicine. The centre is to include a conference venue (which may be able to financially support the centre), a retail outlet and possibly a restaurant (to be leased).

2.4 The submission requests \$3 million be made available for the Keeping Place. The submission adds that additional funding 'could be offered from ATSIC ... DEET and other Government bodies'.

2.5 The submission requests that the proposal, if adopted by the Committee, be referred to the Chief Ministers Department 'to meet with the Aboriginal Select Committee to propose guidelines on allocating funds'.

2.6 **ACT Council of Cultural Societies** (Griffin Centre) wants a new Civic community centre to replace (or upgrade) the existing Griffin Centre so as to provide additional facilities.

2.7 The Council of Cultural Societies considers the casino premium is a 'windfall' for the Territory and hence should be used for activities 'which cannot otherwise be supported'. The submission comments that 'the widest possible definitions of 'culture' and 'heritage' ' should be used, and adds: 'Please do not use the definition used by the Assembly Inquiry into Cultural Facilities which only considered 'fine' arts, music, theatre and a community library'.

2.8 **ACT Council of Social Service, Inc.** suggests three uses for the casino premium: that it be placed in a trust fund which is earmarked to improve ACT

government concessions and entitlements to low income earners; that it be used to purchase or build Housing Trust buildings; or that it be used to build a modern correctional facility.

2.9 **ACT Cultural Council** lists six specific principles to be used in considering how the casino premium should be used. The principles are that longer term developments should be encouraged; that the premium be used for facilities 'which would be difficult to fund other than through the casino premium'; that cultural diversity and improved access to arts facilities be encouraged; that developments cooperate with tourism, education and business activities; that developments fit into existing ACT and National plans; and that the premium be used to encourage co-location with other facilities (commercial and non-commercial).

2.10 The Cultural Council outlines three 'demographic' options for allocating the casino premium. The first is to establish a set of major facilities in the city centre. The second option is to use some (or even most) of the funds for central cultural facilities but use the balance for regionally based cultural activities. The third option is to fund some cultural facilities and use the balance to fund major cultural organisations so as to reduce their financial dependence (perhaps \$1–2 million per organisation).

2.11 The Cultural Council recommends a combination of the second and third options, comprising:

- an Aboriginal Keeping Place (\$3 million);
- a medium sized drama theatre (500 – 600 seat) in a central location (\$5 million);
- a cultural heritage facility (to include a general exhibition area and regional gallery), perhaps in a centrally located existing or new facility (\$7 million dollars);
- enhancement of regional cultural facilities by the provision of a one-off grant to organisations with 'an established track record of performance' (one parcel of \$4 million or two parcels of \$2 million).

2.12 The Cultural Council expresses concern over the recurrent costs of the proposed facilities and urges the government to address the problem by allocating a fixed proportion of casino revenue or royalties to this purpose or by including revenue-raising elements in the facilities themselves (such as commercial office space).

2.13 The Cultural Council specifically requests:

that it be nominated to play the leading role on behalf of the government in future consultations with the community on the exact nature of those cultural and heritage facilities, brief development, project design, and on the contribution to be made to them by cultural groups.

2.14 ACT Government provides 'a comprehensive listing of the alternatives currently before the Government' and notes that:

The Government is concerned that any decision on use of the casino premium for the provision of infrastructure should also take into account the ongoing recurrent commitments this will imply in future years. This consideration is particularly important given the ACT's required adjustment to funding levels which place it in a parallel position to the States.

2.15 The ACT Government submission does not indicate a priority listing. The submission notes that 'officials can be made available to the Committee to explain the options in more detail, if required'. The options are:

- Aboriginal cultural centre for the Ngunnawal community (\$3 million), to be considered in greater detail by the Aboriginal Advisory Council;
- Aboriginal Keeping Place (\$0.5 million), to enable 'modification of suitable independent, vacant premises, to provide a Keeping Place and limited exhibition space and interpretation facilities';
- Canberra Youth Performing Arts Centre (uncosted), to provide 'administrative and rehearsal space for the major community youth performing arts organisations';
- co-located heritage centre, regional gallery, Territorial library and general exhibition space (\$14.6 million). The submission refers to a consultant's recommendation that the centre be established on the corner of Northbourne Avenue and London Circuit, Civic, but the submission also notes that the centre could be located within the Childers Street area. The estimated recurrent cost of this proposal is \$0.9 million;
- combined Playhouse Theatre redevelopment and co-located heritage centre/regional gallery/Territorial library (up to \$21.8 million), to provide 'a city focus for cultural and theatrical activities in the Civic Square precinct'. This proposal would involve 'modification to the ground floor area of the North Building'. Recurrent costs would be similar to the previous option;
- community theatre equipment and subsidy (\$0.75 million), the theatre being the one under construction on the corner of Childers Street and University Avenue, City;

- enhancement of regional cultural facilities (\$4.0 million), as proposed by the Cultural Council;
- ethnic community cultural centre (uncosted), as proposed by the Ethnic Communities Council;
- National Exhibition Centre (uncosted);
- Playhouse Theatre (\$6.5 million), to permit seating for 600–650 and make ‘significant improvements’;
- Playhouse Theatre and Link (\$11.7 million), to provide for a new 600-650 seat theatre and cabaret/function, exhibition and general functions area;
- regional community arts facilities (uncosted), located ‘in regional centres such as Tuggeranong’;
- Visitors’ Centre (uncosted), perhaps in the Childers Street area and involving commercial galleries, studios and workshops ‘including those of the Craft Council and Arts Council’;
- Woden Senior Citizens Club House (\$0.3 million).

2.16 ACT Government: Department of Urban Services was asked by the Committee to provide information on proposals to redevelop the Playhouse area of the Theatre Centre. The Department noted that its study of the site ‘has no government endorsement’.

2.17 The Department estimates that \$19–21.8 million would be required to redevelop the Playhouse Theatre to a 600–650 seat theatre, enlarge lobby and exhibition spaces, provide for a Territorial reference library, a heritage/community history centre and a regional gallery. The submission includes user requirement brief and costing advice.

2.18 ACT Government: Museums Unit – report of a public forum on community history. The submission states that participants at a forum on community history were principally interested in the establishment of an Aboriginal cultural centre, a heritage centre, a library and a network of advice on historical conservation matters.

2.19 ACT Heritage Week Committee Incorporated wants a heritage centre to be funded from the interest gained by investing the premium in a foundation.

2.20 ACT Men’s Shelter opposes an Arts complex and suggests the casino premium be used to provide housing or be invested in a trust fund (with the interest used to expand existing welfare entitlements).

2.21 **ACT Music** wants pilot funding for an office, staff and equipment in a central location to 'inform and educate our musicians and industry personnel' about resources, jobs and events. The estimated cost of the proposal is \$58 975.

2.22 **Albert Hall Artists (Fine Art Group)** wants renovations at Albert Hall to 'make the Ante room a much more hireable facility'.

2.23 **ARTS Council ACT** wants \$150 000 'to commission a feasibility study and cultural planning consultancy' to develop a cultural industry development plan for the next ten to fifteen years. The plan would aim at delivering professional contract management services; establish 'an annual management plan and budget for each facility'; establish financial performance guarantees; improve cost efficiency; provide greater predictability for government budgeting; and create 'an independent financing mechanism for cultural activities and community programs'.

2.24 The ARTS Council envisages the plan would cover six types of cultural facilities: a 'cultural enterprise campus'; a festival and events centre; a community arts and recreation centre; an arts village; a cultural heritage centre; a recycling campus.

2.25 Sites for these facilities are stated to include NATEX, the Acton Peninsula, Kingston Foreshore and Powerhouse, the CSIRO site at Ainslie Avenue and Limestone Avenue, the junction of the Federal and Monaro Highways, the Murrumbidgee Foreshores at Tuggeranong, the Childers Street area, the Old Canberra Brickworks at Yarralumla and the Old Sewerage Treatment Farm.

2.26 The ARTS Council also proposes a cultural trust to encourage the 'development of commercial trading activities which deliver cultural and financial benefits to communities'. The Council suggests fifteen per cent of the casino premium be placed in the trust (\$3 million). The Council suggests this money be used as 'seed capital for community enterprise initiatives' and the submission briefly lists four working models of a 'community capitalism' nature. The Council estimates the trust's annual income would be \$201 000.

2.27 The Council notes that 'this structure could easily accommodate the funding programmes of the Cultural Council and the ACT Health Promotion Fund'. The Council suggests the trust comprise six trustees: 'three government appointees including the Chair, and three appointees of the developers drawn from the community'. The Council considers management services should be provided by a 'not for personal profit company owned by community organisations in the ACT'.

2.28 The ARTS Council sets out a specific development proposal for a Community Arts and Recreation Centre to comprise meeting room, a

multipurpose function room, gallery space, a child care centre, workshops/storage space, office accommodation for community groups, conference room, a children's activity centre, youth facilities including a 1000 square metre roller rink, shops, cafe and landscaped grounds to include an amphitheatre, maze and playground.

2.29 The Arts Council considers the Centre should be located within Civic or in the inner south, on one of the sites listed above. The Council considers a site should be allocated by January 1993 with construction to be complete by January 1994, and the Centre to open in April 1994.

2.30 The indicative development cost of the centre is \$4.8 million (with land to be provided by the ACT Government) and recurrent costs are estimated to be \$260 000 – to be funded by revenue earned by the Centre. This reflects the Council's concern that government recurrent funding to cultural centres be reduced.

2.31 The Council states it should manage the Centre on a daily basis and report to a board of management.

2.32 The Council states that this model should be applied to other cultural facilities.

2.33 **Australian Academy of the Humanities** wants a facility that combines 'the functions of local territory museum, library and art gallery', located on London Circuit, Civic. The Academy suggests that the Griffin Centre be sold to assist the financing of a new cultural precinct close to the Canberra Theatre complex; the new centre would house the current users of the Griffin Centre.

2.34 **Australian Garden History Society** wants a register of historic gardens of the ACT (to record 'the diverse usage of gardens'), a local heritage archive to store ACT cultural materials, a repository for historic plants and preservation of the Weston School of Horticulture on the basis that it 'plays a significant part in not only the past, but future cultural history of the ACT'.

2.35 **Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (ACT group)** wants a landscape museum in Weston Park (in or near Yarralumla Nursery) to interpret the importance of Canberra's landscape. Cost is estimated to be \$2.5 million over five years.

2.36 **Australian Library and Information Association (ACT Branch)** wants the casino premium to be used to provide a State-type library.

2.37 **Bogong Regional Council** wants an Aboriginal cultural centre (\$2 million), a meeting/office facility (\$1.8 million), provision of Aboriginal housing (\$2 million) and expenditure on Aboriginal welfare (\$2 million).

2.38 **Brindabella Corrobooree Steering Committee** wants funds to plan, staff and operate all aspects of the 'Brindabella Corrobooree to take place in Canberra over three days in September 1993'. The Committee also seeks funds to develop training programmes for young Aborigines.

2.39 **Ms J Brown** wants a heritage centre/gallery/museum to 'raise the profile of Arts in Canberra' and to be located in Civic.

2.40 **Mr P Bycroft** claims the Cultural Council 'has inherited an untenable situation in terms of the pre-commitment of cultural funding', resulting in a lock-in of available funds. He states that this leads to a inflexibility in promoting new projects and encourages a welfare mentality.

2.41 He states:

the greatest task facing the Select Committee and the Cultural Council is to create greater flexibility in recurrent funding and increase self-dependence and economic viability of existing cultural organisations ... the availability of a substantial collection or an existing viable organisation with demonstrated track record should be a prerequisite for the allocation [of funds].

2.42 **Mr Bycroft** considers no casino funding should go to an organisation still requiring recurrent funding.

2.43 He favours co-location of cultural facilities and claims that, on demographic trends, there is a growing demand for cultural facilities in the town centres as opposed to the city centre. He notes the gallery, heritage museum and theatre proposals (mentioned in the report of the Select Committee) are being developed without Cultural Council involvement and are not part of a coherent cultural strategy for the ACT. He notes that there are already 35 galleries in Canberra and that no community support exists for the heritage museum. He notes that enlarging the Canberra Theatre Centre is 'throwing good money after bad'; he considers it would be better to downsize the Centre and relocate its functions to other central areas such as Childers Street. He suggests the existing Canberra Theatre buildings might be used for conference facilities as an interim measure.

2.44 **Mr Bycroft** believes annual recurrent savings of \$1.5 million are possible, made up of \$500 000 each from non-performing arts organisations, performing arts organisations and cultural and festive organisations.

2.45 **Calwell High School** requests up to \$50,000 to purchase a number and variety of musical instruments.

2.46 **Calyan Incorporated** requests an unspecified amount to provide 'equity housing' for people with intellectual disabilities in order to encourage lifestyle

alternatives which allow for resident ownership and contribution and which care for disabled people.

2.47 Canberra and District Historical Society wants 'a central Canberra reference library devoted to the preservation and organisation of materials related to the history of Canberra and the ACT'. The Society also favours a museum, an Aboriginal Keeping Place and the provision of suitable venues for meetings and seminars. The Society would appreciate a grant or low interest loan to establish its own premises and the provision of a classroom at Blundell's Cottage. Further, the Society suggests that the casino premium could be invested 'and the income used for the support of societies such as our own or for the maintenance of our existing heritage'.

2.48 Canberra ASH Incorporated (Action on Smoking or Health) wants an annual national cartoon award.

2.49 Canberra City Pipes and Drums Inc. wants money for uniforms and equipment to outfit its band at a cost of \$43 000.

2.50 Canberra Community Access Television Association Inc. wants the casino premium used to establish a community access television station at the Kingston Bus Depot. Estimated costs vary from \$15 000 (minimum) to \$2.4 million (maximum).

2.51 Canberra Community Orchestra Incorporated wants \$3 000 per annum to allow an honorarium to be paid to its conductor and to enable more percussion instruments to be purchased. The submission states that the Orchestra would happily 'perform for ACT Government functions' in return for government funding.

2.52 Canberra Music Foundation wants to utilise the historic grounds of 27 Mugga Way, Red Hill (the estate of the late Sir Harold White) to teach and perform music. The Foundation would seek the assistance of the Canberra School of Music, the Education and Arts Department, the National Trust, Tourism department and the National Library of Australia to develop the White home as an historic tourist attraction and as a site to exhibit Musicology. The Foundation would be established by a debenture and sponsorship fund but the project is uncosted.

2.53 Canberra Recorded Music Society Incorporated wants to rent more suitable City accommodation than its current space in the Griffin Centre and wants to establish a permanent site in Tuggeranong and/or Belconnen. The Society is a non-profit organisation whose primary objective is to promote musical awareness in the Canberra community through maintaining and building of a library of approximately 1500 compact discs (principally

classical). The Society also wants to computerise its library but no costings have been supplied.

2.54 Canberra School of Music wants a community music centre 'to be incorporated in stage 2 of the Canberra School of Music' to include a 400-500 seat performance hall, rehearsal and storage areas and office facilities. It estimates the cost as \$5-7 million with running costs to be met by the ANU's Institute of Arts. The submission notes that the ANU may be prepared to contribute \$8-10 million toward the project over the next three years.

2.55 Canberra Theatre Trust wants to replace the Playhouse and Link facilities. A new foyer would provide for exhibitions, functions and bistro facilities together with space for civic receptions. The new Playhouse would seat 600 - 650 people.

2.56 The total cost of the redevelopment is estimated to be \$10.4 million made up of Playhouse (\$5.4 million), Link building (\$4.3 million), colonnade (\$600 000) and other expenses (\$100 000). These costs provide for theatre seats, kitchen fitout, bar fitout, stage and associated construction but there is no provision for work in the Canberra Theatre and nor is any allowance made for professional fees.

2.57 Canberra Youth Orchestra Society Inc. wants to develop a Canberra Community Music Centre to provide a permanent home for the orchestra with office accommodation, storage and rehearsal space. The submission claims the centre 'could be self sufficient within three years with income earned from community and commercial rental, hire fees, administration fees, library hire etc'. The orchestra prefers a central location either in the Childers Street area or London Circuit opposite the Lakeside Hotel.

2.58 Canberra Youth Performing Arts Centre wants a centre for Youth Performing Arts to house music, dance and drama groups. The submission refers to an unsuccessful earlier proposal for which architect's plans are available.

2.59 Canberra Youth Theatre Co. urges implementation of a tax deductible cultural trust and ACT investment fund, to be administered by the ACT Cultural Council and used to reduce recurrent budget demands and improve long term budget predictability.

2.60 The Youth Theatre Co. supports upgrading of the Canberra Theatre Centre as well as the provision of additional funding for the new community theatre under construction at the corner of University Avenue and Childers Street.

2.61 Citizens Advice Bureau of the ACT Community Information Service Inc. wants \$9 500 of the casino premium to fund the production of an updated edition of a handbook on volunteers in relation to voluntary agencies.

2.62 Mr P Creaser wants a centre 'devoted to the presentation of Australia's prehistoric fossil heritage' and suggests adaptation of the Kingston Powerhouse. Also, he mentions an unsuccessful attempt to establish the centre at the ANU.

2.63 Cuppacumbalong Craft Centre supports the renewal of the Childers Street/Kingsley Street area (known as the ROCKS area) to incorporate mixed housing, food growing and selling on a cooperative basis, with similar facilities to be established in Tuggeranong and Belconnen. This proposal reflects a view of culture as promoting the natural environment, alternative energy resources and sustainability.

2.64 Ms L Doyle reiterates the need for a Writers Centre to be part of the new theatre/library complex in Civic.

2.65 Mr R Else-Mitchell wants a State-type reference library, art gallery and a museum/heritage facility in the city centre (perhaps in the present South Building). Cost is estimated to be \$12.5 million. Mr Else-Mitchell suggests some Commonwealth funding might be available.

2.66 Ethnic Communities Council wants a multicultural arts centre in the city centre or at North Curtin Primary School. The Council also calls for 'the creation of a multicultural arts strategy as part of the ACT Cultural Council's Arts policy for the ACT [and] financial assistance for a multicultural arts officer...'.

2.67 Fellowship of Australian Writers (ACT Branch Incorporated) wants a Writers' Centre in a central location to include an office, library, and meetings room. It also wants a photocopier, laser printer and microcomputer and a performance coordinator to run the facility.

2.68 Dr Amar Galla suggests the casino premium be used to establish an Aboriginal cultural facility for the local Ngunnawal people (\$3 million including funding of \$500 000 to cover recurrent costs); provision of a cultural and heritage centre (\$8 million including \$1 million in a trust to cover recurrent costs through the accrued interest); 'regional trusts of \$1 million each for Belconnen and Tuggeranong for regional cultural development with the advice of the Cultural Council'; and Playhouse redevelopment and construction of a 600 seat theatre with a commercial precinct to generate income for the facility (\$6 million).

2.69 Gorman House Arts Centre wants additional funds for the Childers Street Theatre as noted in the submission from the Management Advisory

Group. The Gorman House submission states that \$256 000 is required to properly equip the new theatre: 'without this equipment the theatre will not be useable and it makes no sense to undersell this excellent small theatre on a prime site'. The submission also calls for \$500 000 to be invested in a trust to offset recurrent expenditure in the first five years.

2.70 Gorman House Arts Centre considers some of the casino premium should be used to initiate the redevelopment of the Childers Street cultural precinct for a mix of cultural, community and commercial facilities. Also, the submission supports a larger drama theatre on the Playhouse site.

2.71 The Arts Centre states its support for 'arts income generating options, rather than facilities likely to require long-term recurrent government funding'.

2.72 Ms P Hanley wants expenditure on 'local plays, books, art exhibitions and concerts'.

2.73 Dr D Headon supports 'the proposal by the Heritage and Museum section for cultural and heritage facilities comprising a heritage centre, regional gallery, Territory library and general exhibition centre'. Also, he recommends that a considerable portion of the casino premium be used 'for trust fund purposes – leading to specific ongoing cultural programmes'.

2.74 Heritage Council of the ACT wants an ACT Heritage Centre 'in a highly visible and central location'. It also supports the Ngunnawal proposal for an Aboriginal Keeping Place.

2.75 Ms W Law wants to improve existing community facilities and services in the ACT such as the police service, education, gardens and parklands, government housing and health care.

2.76 Management Advisory Group of the new community theatre located at the corner of Childers Street and University Avenue wants capital funding of \$250 000 to upgrade the new theatre now under construction, together with recurrent funding of \$500 000 for the first five years of operation. The Advisory Group suggests these funds 'be invested in trusts for disbursement following consultation with the Management Advisory Group and the ACT Government'.

2.77 Senator R McMullan calls for a regional art gallery in the Woden area.

2.78 Media Entertainment & Arts Alliance wants some money invested in the new Childers Street Theatre for internal fittings. It comments that the Playhouse 'is currently vastly underused because it is too expensive for most local groups to use'. On this basis, the Alliance opposes a major refit of the Playhouse.

2.79 The Alliance opposes using the entire casino premium for a new building(s) and recommends that 'a large proportion of the premium be invested in existing organisations and workers in the arts industry' – with one specific objective being to reduce recurrent costs.

2.80 **Museums Association of Australia Incorporated (ACT Branch)** wants a Territorial museum (to include the display of art). The submission supports the establishment of a Keeping Place by the Ngunnawal people.

2.81 **National Centre for Cultural Heritage Science Studies (University of Canberra)** wants an ACT cultural facility to preserve local heritage items. It adds that the University of Canberra could assist in preserving items.

2.82 **National Exhibition Centre** wants \$7–10 million to undertake basic upgrading as well as to permit the development of at least four facilities, namely, a community recreation centre for Gungahlin, small scale conference facilities, a 5000-6000 seat entertainment centre and an Aboriginal cultural centre.

2.83 **NRS Group** wants to establish a community based television station for the ACT to disseminate information to the Canberra community and provide entertainment, education and employment. It requests at least \$20 000 from the casino premium to complete the first two stages of a project estimated to cost \$950 000 and involve recurrent funding of up to \$250 000 per annum for the first two years.

2.84 **Pearce Community Centre** wants to upgrade and refurbish the school hall so as to allow its use as a conference/forum/theatrette centre for community use. Estimated cost is \$65 000.

2.85 **National Trust of Australia (ACT)** wants a heritage centre and museum to include rental spaces, offices, library, display spaces and meeting/reception space. Its preferred location is on Section 19, Civic, as part of an ACT cultural precinct. The submission adds: 'we urgently need a tourism development plan to action and promote a cultural tourism program centred on Canberra's open spaced system'.

2.86 **Prisoners Assistance Lobby and Support** wants the establishment of an ACT prison, remand and administrative complex.

2.87 **Renewal of Childers and Kingsley Streets inc. (ROCKS)** wants a refurbished Childers Street Fortune Theatre alongside office space for community groups, and including an arts cafe. Also, the submission recommends that some of the casino premium 'be directed towards providing group accommodation houses for homeless youth' in the Civic area.

2.88 However, it wants most of the casino premium to be used to develop 'a dynamic inner city environment comprising of a mix of residential, commercial and community facilities'. It suggests the Childers Street/Kingsley Street area is the ideal location. It adds that a regional gallery and library are a low priority.

2.89 **Mr D Scobie** wants the casino premium used to establish a new Arts meeting place between Canberra Arcade and City Hill to comprise performance venues, restaurant, art gallery, craft centre, book shops, et al. The submission criticises the Canberra Theatre for its substandard facilities, the Playhouse for its inadequate size, and the Precinct for 'inadequate complementary activities'.

2.90 Mr Scobie considers the primary venue location should be the [Canberra] Theatre Precinct with the secondary being the Arts Precinct, including the ANU Llewellyn Hall and Childers Street Theatre. This 'activity spine' linking Childers Street and The School of Art should comprise student housing, education centre, hotel, cinema, performance centre, art and craft studio, gallery, a museum of Australian musical instruments, etc.

2.91 The submission also calls for a design museum and public landscaping on Acton Peninsula together with local art facilities.

2.92 **Short Cuts** wants to 'renovate the existing unused toilet block in Garema Place as a drop in/activity centre for young people [to] incorporate an amphitheatre and skating area within the existing chess pit'. The submission notes that the centre could 'provide a shopfront for young people to exhibit or sell their own art and craft work.' The centre would also include advisory services for young people. The submission calls for the casino premium be used to operate the centre, as well as to renovate the existing building.

2.93 **Street Peoples Collective** wants the casino premium to be invested in a trust fund, 'dispersing the interest in favour of increased services and entitlements'. It opposes further expansion of the Arts infrastructure.

2.94 **Stromlo High School** wants the casino premium to be used to establish a 'joint school community performing arts centre at Stromlo High School' in Weston Creek, to comprise a small theatre, dance studio, drama area, mini orchestra area, office and storage space. It estimates the cost to be \$2-3 million.

2.95 The submission notes that the new arts centre could facilitate the creation of a specialist high school with an emphasis on the performing arts.

2.96 **Studio One Printmaking Workshop** wants a regional art gallery and museum 'either in an existing centrally located building or purpose built'. The submission states that if a cultural precinct is established, a brief should be prepared in consultation with the user organisations. Such a cultural precinct

should include commercial leases. The submission states that there is not room for a cultural precinct in Section 19, Civic.

2.97 The submission expresses concern about the number of organisations receiving recurrent funding. It states that 'this limits the money available for innovative projects and new applicants'. It considers 'a number of high profile highly run organisations could be offered a proportion of the premium with the result that they would purchase their own premises alone or in a group ... [and] no longer apply for recurrent funding'. It calls such a one-off payment a severance payment.

2.98 **Tuggeranong Community Arts** states that 'the pressures on existing community facilities in the Tuggeranong Valley are extreme' and notes 'there are no sole use Art facilities in the whole of Tuggeranong Valley or Weston Creek areas'. The submission comments: 'The Erindale Centre, administered through the 'sports' section of the ACT Government, is only used for theatre thirty per cent of the time due to its other responsibilities to Erindale College, etc'.

2.99 **Tuggeranong Community Arts** calls for 'a dedicated Arts space' in the Tuggeranong Town Centre area and for the Erindale Theatre to be redeveloped 'as the major central piece and location of the Community Arts /centre'. The approximate cost of the Tuggeranong Community Arts Centre is \$3-4.8 million.

2.100 **Tuggeranong Community Council** wants to restore the Tuggeranong Homestead and improve its surrounding landscape. The Council states the site is registered on the National Estate and should be preserved as a significant and historical site for the Australian community. A full costing is not provided but estimates range between \$100 000 and \$250 000.

2.101 **Ms M Watson** wants the casino premium to be used to develop the Old School House at North Lyneham for use as a residential facility 'filling an identified health need for the ACT'. The cost of the project is estimated to be \$53 000.

2.102 **Ms K Williams** opposes plans to extend the Canberra Theatre Centre (as proposed by the Canberra Theatre Trust) on the basis that 'the plans do not take into account the interest of the broader cultural community'. She suggests participation in cultural activities is occurring at the community level and that people want venues that are affordable, cater to a broad range of activities, and have a flexible calendar.

2.103 Woden Senior Citizens' Club Incorporated wants \$300 000 for extensions.

2.104 Dr B York wants a portion of the casino premium to be used for ethnic, historical research and publications.

CHAPTER 3: FINDINGS

3.1 The total of all requests for use of the \$19 million casino premium is nearly \$178 million (leaving aside those submissions which did not contain costings). A list showing the value of requests presented to the Committee is provided in Appendix D.

3.2 The Committee decided at an early stage in its deliberations to take particular note of the following points:

- members felt it would be inappropriate to recommend that the whole casino premium be allocated to just one project, or to only one site, however attractive the particular project might be or however significant was the one site. In this regard, the comments of the Chair of the Cultural Council summed up the Committee's view, namely, that to accept such a proposition:

would be all the eggs in one basket kind of thing and I do not think that we are ready to do it that way just yet because there are all these other bits that have yet – the bricks that are yet to be put into place ... I think that we should sketch those [more expensive cultural amenities such as those proposed by the Canberra Theatre Trust] into the vision [for 2005] but for the 1992/3/4/5 period we need a few more building blocks in the thing ...²²

- members were receptive to the concern of the Arts Council about 'the levels of recurrent expenditure required to prop-up community organisations'.²³ The 'trap of grants dependence'²⁴ was said to be an unacceptable feature of some cultural programs. Whilst acknowledging the opinion of the Chair of the Cultural Council that arts and cultural amenities are never going to be entirely self-sufficient, the Committee agrees with his sentiment that:

we are concerned to move away from [the trap of grants dependence] so that there is the enterprise, the entrepreneurial kind of energy and ideas that will see the arts sector become a little less dependent on the grant process.²⁵

²² Mr Williams, Chair of the ACT Cultural Council, Transcript p135

²³ Mr Webb, Manager of the Arts Council of the ACT, Transcript p117

²⁴ Mr Manderson, Canberra Youth Theatre Co., Transcript p513

²⁵ Mr Williams, Transcript p126

- members expressed support for the policy of successive ACT administrations of requiring developers of major projects to incorporate cultural/community facilities as a condition of project approval. The Committee felt this policy should be applied wherever possible, as it would enable some cultural facilities to be provided in the future at little or no cost to the public;
- members were aware that the casino premium was a one-off opportunity for the ACT and hence it might be most appropriate to use it for those areas of cultural activity that have not been financed in the past or which, while of great benefit to the community, would not have been likely to proceed for many years (in the absence of the casino premium).

Aboriginal Keeping Place

3.3 In turning to specific proposals, the Committee members at an early stage expressed support for the development of an Aboriginal Keeping Place in the ACT. The Committee was impressed with the rationale for the Keeping Place given by Mrs House, an elder of the Ngunnawal Aboriginal people:

This place will be a major attraction on the cultural landscape of Canberra, and a centre for the promotion of culture, tourism and economic development of the region. This place will have a primary focus on Ngunnawal arts and culture and heritage ... A Keeping Place is where us, Ngunnawal traditional custodians of this place, will have a place to keep our spiritual dreaming alive. Our generations that are coming up will not have the loss of what we have felt in our generation and before us, to always maintain that the next generation after them too will be looked after within our Keeping Place.²⁶

3.4 The components of the Keeping Place were outlined as follows:

the Ngunnawal Keeping Place has ... six functions which could be developed, perhaps in stages or preferably as one whole project ... [It has] a cultural heritage section ... which houses an ACT and Australian Territory cultural heritage site. You have the spirit dreaming keeping place which is skeletal remains section. You have the academic faculty ... and you have the arts and crafts and retail areas which contribute towards the ongoing self-support ... We have two galleries, one a larger size and one a small size for long term and

²⁶Transcript p37

short term exhibits and we have a theatre and arts which handles performance area. We have herbarium which handles naturopathy and our herbal medicines and that type of thing ... Our conference venue for conferences – the ACT is a focal point for Aboriginal politics ... and we do not have venues for that. We do not have venues either in the local scene such as – if we should meet with any people at a later stage or even amongst ourselves; we do not have that venue ... We have a restaurant ... to help with ongoing financial support and we have the research ACT history and library section to handle resources that go to the primary schools, tertiary [institutions] and lecturers.²⁷

3.5 The Committee was impressed with the following remark:

[The Keeping Place] is not limited to Aboriginal people. I see it as for everybody to come because if we are going to address reconciliation in this country we have to share one another's culture with one another. I think if we are to address any of the deaths in custody recommendations about having a place for Aboriginal people, I think this would be – you would be addressing all those objectives if there was to be [a Keeping Place].²⁸

3.6 The Committee is conscious that the Commonwealth and all State and Territory Governments have supported action to implement the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.²⁹ The Committee notes that the concept of an Aboriginal Keeping Place was supported in numerous submissions, including those from the ACT Cultural Council, the Heritage Council of the ACT, Canberra and District Historical Society, the Museums Association of Australia (ACT Branch), the National Exhibition Centre, the Museums Unit of the ACT Government and Dr Amar Galla.

3.7 The Committee notes that there are significant common elements in the submissions from the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group and the Bogong Regional Council; and that extensive consultation will be required to determine the final shape of a suitable Keeping Place/cultural centre. The Bogong Regional Council advised the Committee that it expected any Commonwealth funding would be channelled through the Regional Council.

3.8 The Bogong Regional Council advised the Committee that it did not have a specific site in mind and was willing to consider co-location with other

²⁷ Ms Jackson, consultant to the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group, Transcript pp37–38

²⁸ *ibid* p39

²⁹ See Aboriginal Deaths in Custody: Overview of the Response by Governments to the Royal Commission Canberra 1992

cultural facilities; as well, the Council observed that 'there may be a building that is already available'.³⁰

3.9 The Committee acknowledges the suggestion that a suitable site for the Keeping Place could be the National Exhibition Centre (NATEX) but considers it would be premature and inappropriate for the Committee to settle on any site. Members are sympathetic to the view of Dr Galla and the Cultural Council that Aborigines should seek to determine their own site.³¹

3.10 The Committee recommends that:

- **\$2.5 million of the casino premium be allocated to assist in the provision of an Aboriginal Keeping Place/cultural centre in the ACT as proposed by the Ngunnawal aboriginal people and the Bogong Regional Council. The Committee understands that this project may attract some additional funding from the Commonwealth.**

Regional Facilities

3.11 In relation to the perennial theme in ACT cultural funding matters of whether money should be spent in the regions vis-a-vis the city centre, the Committee heard that:

there is a very strong argument based on demographics for a decentralised allocation of the funds, if not totally, at least a fair proportion of them, that you are looking at the possibility of around 45 percent of your residential population being in the south side, and somewhere around 37 percent likely to be in the northern areas and about 16 percent in central.³²

3.12 The Committee was advised by the Cultural Council that it considered three broad options in relation to allocating the casino premium, namely, 'one is to put it all in the middle [region], one is to spread it all around the place and another one is to sort of do something of each'.³³ The Council concluded that

³⁰ Mr Moore, Chair of the Bogong Regional Council, Transcript, p35

³¹ Transcript p29 and p126 (respectively)

³² Mr Bycroft, Transcript p4

³³ Mr Williams, Transcript p125

the 'population spread throughout the ACT' justifies a spread of facilities but the specific details of what those facilities should contain is not yet clear:

I do not believe that we are advanced sufficiently to say it should be this or that or the other thing, but I do believe we should establish some kind of facility which will cater for these needs as they emerge and I like the idea of the trust. My Council recommends that some kind of attention be given to that – to establish funds for that purpose which, I think, could be either one big one or two by two, or something like that, which would allow for the growth and development and this evolutionary thing, we are not there yet, I do not think. Perhaps Tuggeranong is a bit further down the track than the others, but we do not yet have a full expression of community needs.³⁴

3.13 The Tuggeranong Community Arts Association considers the time is right for 'a single use art space' to be provided in Tuggeranong.³⁵ The Community Arts officer commented on the importance of providing cultural amenities in the Valley:

Tuggeranong ... is probably the best indication that we have of where, if the regions where the masses of the people live and spend the bulk of their time are not exposed or have the opportunity to participate and experience cultural activities, what will happen [is] that the centre, the heart of the city culturally, will also die.³⁶

3.14 In relation to the adequacy of existing facilities in Tuggeranong, the Community Arts officer commented:

Even the present Tuggeranong Community Centre, the art space which is a multi-purpose space and not a sole designated art space, in the last performance of shows that we have had over eight nights, the stage had to be deconstructed five times. It is impossible to ... set up a performance space. [A working party had suggested what is needed is] a sole use art space ... containing rehearsal space, performance space, storage space, pottery, darkroom, visual arts, possible small studio space, organisations such as the weavers and the potters, and other function areas, a gallery and so on.

... both the Erindale Centre ... and the [performance space] at Lake Tuggeranong College are used by and large by those colleges. It is extremely difficult for us, as an arts organisation, ... to book that space.³⁷

³⁴ *ibid*, Transcript p127

³⁵ Mr Mico, Transcript p112

³⁶ *ibid*, Transcript p111

³⁷ *ibid*, Transcript pp112–113

3.15 Because of the obligation to report by 10 December 1992, the Committee did not have the time or the resources to follow up this comment about the adequacy or otherwise of current policies in relation to school-based facilities. The Committee received two specific submissions from schools: in one case, calling for a joint school-community performing arts centre; and in the other case, calling for financial assistance to enable the purchase of musical instruments (see Chapter 2). The Committee acknowledges the comment of the Principal of Calwell High School that the provision of cultural facilities or assistance with cultural matters is particularly important in newly developing areas:

... the area serviced by Calwell High School is mortgage belt, with young families most under the usual financial pressures. This means that we cannot apply additional pressure by requesting the purchase of musical instruments as happens in more established ACT schools. For the majority of our families buying musical instruments is out of the question.³⁸

3.16 The Committee would be concerned if the planning of cultural amenities and activities was not taking full account of the role of schools. This is a particularly important issue in considering the regional needs for cultural amenities, as well as being an important issue in encouraging young people to feel they have a desire and a capacity to participate in cultural matters. The recommendation to follow picks up this concern.

3.17 The Committee notes the comments of the Tuggeranong Community Arts Association but considers the Committee considers that a more extensive period of community consultation is desirable before the final shape of regional facilities is decided. The Chair of the Cultural Council commented that 'places like Box Hill and Knox ... in Melbourne ... have taken years to develop ... [to their presently] wonderfully enterprising places.'³⁹ Because of Canberra's uniqueness, a similar period of development should be allowed here rather than forcing some existing model on the ACT community. For example, the Committee was told that in order for cultural places to appeal to the young there:

needs to be a combination of retail space and arts activity, and it needs to be not just theatre, but there needs to be music that goes late at night and there needs to be blue light discos and all that kind of stuff.⁴⁰

³⁸ Submission by R Nield, Principal, Calwell High School

³⁹ Mr Williams, Transcript p128

⁴⁰ Mr Manderson, Transcript p54

3.18 In addition to the need for regional facilities, the Committee also heard evidence of the need for assistance of other kinds. In order for residents of the regions to feel confident that the most appropriate type of cultural facilities are to be established in their areas, the Committee considers that further consultation and negotiation should take place. However, the Committee would not like to see this process unduly delayed.

3.19 In order to assure those communities that funds for the new centres will be available when the period of consultation is completed, the Committee considers the trust-type arrangement suggested by the Cultural Council is appropriate, that is, that a portion of the casino premium be set aside for the purpose of establishing cultural facilities in the regions.

3.20 In relation to the management of the trust as well as of the facilities themselves, the Committee took careful note of the Arts Council's outline of a management model for cultural and community facilities that encourages 'community capitalism' and which links productivity in cultural industries to overall economic productivity.⁴¹ The model is intended to 'encourage the development of commercial trading activities which deliver cultural and financial benefits to communities' and which reduce government recurrent funding.⁴² The model would particularly apply to existing arts/cultural organisations that have a good track record and a potential to operate without a grant.

3.21 The role of the Arts Council and the Cultural Council in participating in such trust-type organisations would need careful thought. Irrespective of what management arrangements are set up, the Government ought to be accountable for the management of the funds. Whether or not the Arts Council or Cultural Council are involved, the Government has the responsibility to ensure appropriate arrangements exist.

3.22 The Committee recommends that:

- **a trust arrangement along the lines discussed in this report be established to hold \$2.75 million of the casino premium pending the development of appropriate plans for regional facilities. These plans should result from extensive community consultation and negotiation, and take account of the diverse range of community and school-based needs that are**

⁴¹ Mr Webb, Manager of the Arts Council of the ACT, Transcript p120

⁴² Submission by the Arts Council of the ACT: section headed 'ACT Cultural Trust and Seed Capital Development Proposal'

demonstrated in the submissions to this inquiry (including submissions from Calwell High School, Stromlo High School, Pearce Community Centre, Tuggeranong Community Arts Association, Woden Senior Citizens Club, and other submissions). In recommending the plans take account of the role of schools in the provision and servicing of cultural amenities throughout the ACT, the Committee recognises that, in the first instance, this would entail a reappraisal of existing policies relating to the community use of schools.

3.23 Another facility located out of the city centre is NATEX, which is 'a multi-function exhibit and events complex ... on 80 hectares of land [with] 8000 square metres of indoor space'.⁴³ The Committee heard that NATEX hosts both local and national events, and 'we generate 645 jobs in Canberra, [put] \$25 million a year into the ACT economy, and [have] roughly 900 000 people through the gates'.⁴⁴

3.24 The general manager of NATEX informed the Committee that a recent consultancy had concluded that:

we need in the region of \$5 million to make NATEX ... continue to be viable ... the bottom line is that our essential maintenance, preventative maintenance and refurbishment and development programs are about \$5 million.⁴⁵

3.25 This estimate includes provision for essential maintenance (\$577 000), preventive maintenance (\$300 000) and a basic refurbishment program (\$1 million).⁴⁶ The Committee is concerned about less than optimum conditions at NATEX. While the Committee acknowledges that a number of the matters raised by NATEX should normally be funded from the government's annual recurrent and operational funding, the Committee would be concerned if the condition of NATEX deteriorated to such an extent that the ACT's ability to attract large-scale cultural events was harmed. Also, the Committee considers that the provision of some assistance at the present time might encourage NATEX to become one of the 'independently resourcing' facilities called for by the Arts Council.⁴⁷

⁴³ Mr Scollay, general manager, Transcript p43

⁴⁴ *ibid*

⁴⁵ *ibid*, Transcript p44

⁴⁶ *ibid*, Transcript p45

⁴⁷ Mr Webb, Transcript p121

3.26 The Committee recommends that:

- **\$1.5 million of the casino premium be devoted to the NATEX site to provide for essential maintenance and a basic refurbishment program.**

Cultural Facilities in the City Centre

3.27 The Committee is aware of the emphasis upon the provision of cultural activities in the city centre that is a feature of the report of the Select Committee on Cultural Activities and Facilities, and which is also a feature of some submissions to the present inquiry. The Select Committee recommended that extensive 'cultural precincts' be developed on Section 19, Civic, and in the Childers Street/Kingsley Street area.

3.28 The Committee observes that the original emphasis upon Section 19 was due to the likelihood that significant cultural amenities might be obtained as a condition of granting approval for a casino and commercial development on the site. The casino will be sited elsewhere and hence the opportunity for a quid-pro-quo arrangement on Section 19 has gone.

3.29 However, the Committee notes that such possibilities may arise in future developments in the vicinity of Kingston Foreshores and in the Childers Street/Kingsley Street area. The Committee accepts the argument that the latter area is conveniently situated for the provision of cultural facilities, due in part to its central location and proximity to a number of tertiary institutions (including the ANU, the Canberra School of Art and the School of Music). The Committee notes that it is likely to attract considerable commercial interest in the future.

3.30 The Committee expresses the view that most of the cultural and community facilities that need to be located in the city centre can be met in the Childers Street area if existing land use policies are varied to allow joint community/cultural development.

3.31 The Committee is encouraged in this view by the comment in several submissions that a mix of commercial and cultural development is one way to reduce the dependence of cultural organisations on government recurrent funding. The Arts Council advised the Committee that:

if you have a mix of commercial and community based activities within a facility then one is supporting the other. Perhaps it could turn out that the

community is supporting the commercial, but the fact that you have to – we believe you have to mix those two together in order that government is not continually drained to upkeep.⁴⁸

3.32 On the same point, Mr Bycroft suggested the casino premium:

should go towards removing these people [cultural organisations] from recurrent costs by providing them with buildings which allow them co-location with commercial or retail enterprise and allow them to generate an income, as part of the condition.⁴⁹

3.33 The Committee recommends that:

- the Government vary its land use policies in the Childers Street/Kingsley Street area to promote a mix of cultural and commercial activities, perhaps along the lines of encouraging the provision of cultural facilities on the ground and first floor of new developments while allowing commercial activity on all other floors. Also, the Committee recommends the Government consider locating in the Childers Street vicinity those cultural/community facilities that require a city-based location.

3.34 The Committee's attention was directed to the new community theatre under construction on the corner of University Avenue and Childers Street. The Committee notes the new theatre arose out of a specific recommendation of the Select Committee on Cultural Activities and Facilities and that it replaces the old TAU and Childers Street Theatres. The Committee was also told that the design of the new community theatre had extensive community input.

3.35 However, the Committee is concerned to learn that the new theatre's size (250 seats) renders it 'not commercially viable.'⁵⁰ In addition, the Committee was told that 'if the theatre is to start on the right foot' it is essential to provide \$250 000 to equip it with 'lighting, sound, administrative equipment, foyer furniture and the like'.⁵¹ Further, the Committee was told that the theatre is likely to show 'an operating deficit of half a million dollars for the first five years',⁵² and that some assistance with this problem would be required.

⁴⁸ Miss Marsh, Chair of the Arts Council of the ACT, Transcript p119

⁴⁹ Transcript p5

⁵⁰ Mr Ferguson, Director of the Gorman House Arts Centre and member of the steering-management committee of the new theatre, Transcript p 12

⁵¹ *ibid*

3.36 To offset these negative aspects, the Committee was reminded that the new theatre is intended to be used by smaller organisations and that 'there is a commitment for that theatre to be inexpensive to use'.⁵³ Given the background to the theatre's establishment, the Committee would not wish it to start without adequate equipment and therefore makes the following recommendation.

3.37 The Committee recommends that:

- **\$250 000 of the casino premium be allocated to equip the new community theatre on the corner of University Avenue and Childers Street, City.**

3.38 In relation to a possible cultural precinct on Section 19, Civic, the Committee has already observed that the development in the future of the Childers Street area may be a satisfactory alternative to developing extensive cultural facilities on Section 19. The Committee considers that the original purpose of the Civic Square site, namely a **civic centre** for Canberra, will be enhanced when the Legislative Assembly occupies its new and permanent home in the South Building. The Legislative Assembly is expected to occupy this building in early 1994.

3.39 The Committee considers the time has arrived to re-examine the Civic Square site from the viewpoint of it being preeminently a civic centre rather than (for example) a theatre/office facility. Such re-examination entails looking at each of the present uses of the site. In this regard, the Committee observes:

- the present Playhouse Theatre is generally criticised as inadequate and substandard. The Committee notes the view of the Canberra Theatre Trust that the Playhouse 'simply must be upgraded if it is going to have an on-going value as a community facility' and 'even if we spent a huge amount of money refurbishing somewhere like the Playhouse what we would end up with would be a suitable venue of 27 years ago.'⁵⁴ In relation to the numerous calls for a replacement theatre, the Committee notes that the new community theatre at Childers Street might be expected to take up some of the Playhouse role; also, the Committee notes the claim that Canberra is already well-serviced with small capacity theatres;⁵⁵

⁵² *ibid*

⁵³ *ibid*

⁵⁴ Mr Leedman, Chair of the Canberra Theatre Trust, Transcript p64; and Mr Gration, Managing Director, Transcript p65

⁵⁵ See for example, the submission by Mr Ferguson to the Select Committee on Cultural Facilities and Activities

- the Committee is aware of calls for a 600–650 seat theatre to be located on the Civic Square site. The Canberra Theatre Trust wants such a theatre on the present Playhouse site and the Cultural Council commented ‘there certainly is a recognised need for a 600 seat theatre’.⁵⁶ The Committee was told that Canberra does not have a theatre of this size and that such a theatre can be commercially viable. In relation to a new Playhouse of 600-650 seats, the Canberra Theatre Trust commented,

The [proposed] Playhouse itself is 600-650 seats, two levels. So it maintains its intimacy. You can open up the bottom level only until the audience requirements require you to take the top level. The frustrating thing for local companies and touring companies has been to find a venue that is economically viable. Too often what happens is the show, which is a good show, comes in, it takes a little while for word of mouth to spread. By the time the audiences are coming in it is too late and there is no capacity to make the dollars necessary to make it financially viable. The [proposed] Playhouse I think will be crucial to the viability of professional performing arts groups in Canberra.⁵⁷

- North Building has recently undergone extensive refurbishment and provides office accommodation and a cafe.⁵⁸ However, the Committee considers the present uses do not necessarily fit with the upgraded civic role of Civic Square which will be brought about by the new Legislative Assembly location. In particular, the Committee notes that the ground floor of the North Building (including the courtyard) could be opened up to provide significant exhibition/gallery space (and perhaps even some provision for small music gatherings), with easy access for the public and serving to complement the overall civic role of Section 19; and further, that the other floors of the building could house other cultural facilities including the basis of ‘a local heritage archives for the ACT’;⁵⁹

⁵⁵ Cont. summarised in Appendix C of this report

⁵⁶ Mr Williams, Transcript p127

⁵⁷ Mr Gration, Transcript p66

⁵⁸ The current tenants of North Building include Legal Aid (ACT), Womens Information and Referral Centre, Valentine’s Cafe, ACT Office of Rental Bonds, Business Services Centre, Office of Community Advocate, AUSTRADE Export Centre, ACT Arts and Special Events office, Industrial Relations Branch of the Chief Minister’s Department, offices of ACT Health and the Department of Urban Services.

⁵⁹ Mr Crittenden, President of the Australian Garden History Society (ACT), Transcript p24

- the present Link facility provides very limited exhibition space or civic reception space; in addition, the Committee notes the very significant change to the area proposed by the Canberra Theatre Trust (see Chapter 2);
- the existing Canberra Theatre (1189 seats) has been criticised for its worn facilities, technical problems, inappropriate size and the difficulty of remedying these defects without massive expenditure. The Committee understands that the proposal from the Canberra Theatre Centre calls for the large theatre's retention in the indefinite future, though the submission does not draw out the cost implications of doing so. Of course, the proposal of the Canberra Theatre Trust may mean that the cost problems associated with the large theatre could be somewhat remedied by financial gains elsewhere in the Canberra Theatre Centre, though this is not a feature of the proposal;
- the extensive carparking adjacent to Civic Square is a major bonus for the civic role of the site and, in the Committee's view, should not be reduced unless adequate replacement arrangements are made. The Committee considers the civic role of Civic Square requires adequate carparking to be in place as well as continuing easy access via public transport.

3.40 Taking all the factors into account, the Committee considers a fundamental reappraisal of Civic Square is required.

3.41 The Committee acknowledges the desirability of providing a 600-650 seat theatre on the present Playhouse site. However, in relation to one element of the proposed design, the Committee is not convinced of any present need for underground carparking to be provided in the development.

3.42 The Committee also acknowledges the need for a city-based cultural and heritage facility to incorporate a range of functions including those raised in the submissions to this inquiry dealing with rehearsal and administrative space for groups such as Canberra Youth Performing Arts Centre, Canberra Youth Ballet Company, Gaudeamus, Canberra Youth Orchestra Society, Canberra Boys Choir, Stagecoach, Young Music Society, ACT Music Office, a writer's centre, the Australian Garden History Society and the National Trust. As well, the Committee considers a city-based cultural and heritage facility should encompass the types of uses envisaged by the Cultural Council, namely:

within that facility we would envisage exhibition spaces and here it would pick up on a regional gallery concept, exhibition functions and so on, but defined in a way that reflects a genuine local and regional cultural flavour, space for collection, display of community histories, the documentation, education and interpretive functions, which would present the full range of artistic and cultural diversity of Canberra to ourselves ... and to our visitors.⁶⁰

3.43 The Committee recommends that:

- **\$5 million of the casino premium be allocated to upgrading the Playhouse Theatre to a 600-650 seat theatre and partial upgrade of the Link; and \$7 million be devoted to providing a cultural and heritage facility in the city centre, to be located either in the North Building of Civic Square or in the Childers Street/Kingsley Street area. The Committee's preferred location is North Building as this complements the civic nature of the area occasioned by the move of the Legislative Assembly to South Building in 1994. In relation to facilities in the new centre, the Committee considers it should house the type of activities noted in paragraph 3.42.**

Space for Visual and Performing Community Artists

3.44 The Committee was informed about the need for more space to be made available to visual and performing community artists, such as space for community TV studios, 'Artists in Residence' programs, rehearsal space and appropriate storage areas for cultural groups.

3.45 The Committee considers that such space need not be confined to a central location, though access to traffic routes is desirable; nor is there a requirement for the space to be modern and equipped with every amenity. At least as an interim measure, the Committee considers that some of the facilities in the Kingston foreshores area might be suitable for this type of cultural expression. The Committee is encouraged in this belief by a draft planning Variation soon to be considered by the Government (and then by this Committee). The draft Variation deals with the Kingston foreshores (part of Section 7 and part of Section 8) and the ACT Planning Authority has called for public comment on the Variation.

3.46 The draft Variation includes the following comment:

the area has been used for a number of years for the transport, storage and distribution facilities by various Government agencies. However, with the progressive relocation of these agencies a number of large buildings are becoming vacant ...

From time to time the Government receives approaches from emerging enterprises seeking affordable temporary accommodation while their businesses develop to a stage where they can relocate to a permanent location.

Consequently there is an opportunity to utilise the otherwise wasted existing buildings and infrastructure. However, the existing Land Use Policy for the subject blocks is 'Transport Facility', 'Public Utilities' and 'Residential' which is unnecessarily restrictive and accordingly a Variation to the Territory Plan is required to enable these opportunities to be realised.

It is therefore proposed to expand the existing land use policies to include industrial purposes excluding offensive industries to ensure there are no adverse impacts on surrounding areas. It is acknowledged that any such uses are to be accommodated on a short term basis only to ensure that any future comprehensive redevelopment of the area is not prejudiced.⁶¹

3.47 The Committee considers the range of uses for this area should include cultural purposes such as space for visual and performing community artists (including the provision of storage and rehearsal space). The Committee notes the interim nature of such use. However, it is possible that the effect of the Committee's recommendation in relation to city cultural amenities (see above) may mean that cultural and community organisations might yet be able to relocate in the future from the Kingston site to the yet-to-be-developed Childers Street facilities or to upgraded facilities within the redeveloped Kingston Foreshores itself.

3.48 The Committee recommends that:

- **the Government facilitate the provision of space in the Kingston Foreshores area for visual and community performing artists, it being recognised that such space is provided on an interim basis pending the finalisation of plans for the whole Foreshores area.**

⁶¹Draft Variation to the Territory Plan: Kingston Section 7 (Part) and Section 8 (Part), ACT Planning Authority, November 1992

APPENDIX A: LIST OF SUBMISSIONS

(in alphabetical order by organisation and/or individual)

Aboriginal Education Consultative Group
ACT Council of Cultural Societies (Griffin Centre)
ACT Council of Social Service, Inc
ACT Cultural Council
ACT Government
ACT Government: Department of Urban Services
ACT Government: Museums Unit – report of a public forum on community history
ACT Heritage Week Committee Incorporated
ACT Men's Shelter
ACT Music
Albert Hall Artists (Fine Art Group)
ARTS Council ACT
Australian Academy of the Humanities
Australian Garden History Society
Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (ACT group)
Australian Library and Information Association (ACT Branch)
Bogong Regional Council
Brindabella Corroboree Steering Committee
Ms J Brown
Mr P Bycroft
Calwell High School
Calyan Inc.
Canberra and District Historical Society
Canberra ASH Incorporated (Action on Smoking or Health)
Canberra City Pipes and Drums Inc.

Canberra Community Access Television Association Inc.

Canberra Community Orchestra Incorporated

Canberra Music Foundation

Canberra Recorded Music Society Inc.

Canberra School of Music

Canberra Theatre Trust

Canberra Youth Orchestra Society Inc.

Canberra Youth Performing Arts

Canberra Youth Theatre Co.

Citizens Advice Bureau

Mr P Creaser

Cuppacumbalong Craft Centre

Ms L Doyle

Mr R Else-Mitchell

Ethnic Communities Council

Fellowship of Australian Writers (ACT Branch Incorporated)

Dr Amareswar Galla

Gorman House Arts Centre

Ms P Hanley

Dr D Headon

Heritage Council of the ACT

Ms W Law

Management Advisory Group of the new community theatre located at the corner of Childers Street and University Avenue, City

Senator R McMullan

Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance

Museums Association of Australia Incorporated (ACT Branch)

National Centre for Cultural Heritage Science Studies (University of Canberra)

National Exhibition Centre

NRS Group

Pearce Community Centre

National Trust of Australia (ACT)

Prisoners Assistance Lobby and Support

Renewal of Childers and Kingsley Streets inc. (ROCKS)

Mr D Scobie

Short Cuts

Street Peoples Collective

Stromlo High School

Studio One Printmaking Workshop

Tuggeranong Community Arts

Ms M Watson

Ms K Williams

Woden Senior Citizens Club Incorporated

Dr B York

**APPENDIX B: LIST OF WITNESSES AT PUBLIC HEARINGS ON
13 NOVEMBER 1992**

(listed in order of appearance)

Mr P Bycroft, Director, Corporate Diagnostics

Mr M Ferguson, Director, Gorman House Arts Centre

Mr K Taylor, President, National Trust of Australia (ACT)

Mr V Crittenden and Mr B English, President and Secretary (respectively), Australian Garden History Society

Dr A Galla

Mr J Moore (Chair), Mr L Roberts, Ms D Johnson, Ms C Jard, Bogong Regional Council

Mrs M House, Ms J Jackson, Mrs L Crocker, Ngunnawal Council

Mr C Scollay (General Manager) and Mr S East, National Exhibition Centre

Mr R Manderson, Artistic Director, Canberra Youth Theatre Company

Mr J Smith and Ms L O'Brien, ACT Music Inc.

Mr J Leedman and Mr D Gratian, Canberra Theatre Centre

Mr P Vernon and Mr J Weston, Canberra Community Access TV Association

Mr R Else-Mitchell (Mr Else-Mitchell sought and was granted the approval of the Committee to bring the ACT Chief Librarian, Mr D Barron, to the table)

Ms K O'Clery, Cuppacumbalong Craft Centre

Ms S Miller, Canberra Youth Orchestra Society and **Mr C Waterford**, Gaudeamus

Mr D Lamb, Mr R McCaffrey and Mr E Howell, Canberra City Pipes and Drums

Ms L Young, Museums Association of Australia (ACT)

Mr D Mico and Mr K Doyle, Tuggeranong Community Arts and Ethnic Communities Council

Mr S Webb and Ms J Marsh, Arts Council ACT

Ms J Brown, lecturer, Canberra School of Art

Mr D Williams, Chair, ACT Cultural Council

APPENDIX C: SUBMISSIONS TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

This paper summarises the key points made in those submissions to the Select Committee on Cultural Activities and Facilities which bear on the possible uses for the ACT's casino premium. Relevant portions of the submissions are reproduced, and the submissions appear in alphabetical order.

ACT Cultural Industries Council raised 'certain broad issues which reflect overall concerns of our membership'. The Council commented:

There has never been long term planning for the development of cultural facilities in the ACT. Facilities have come into existence with little regard to town planning, National Capital aspects and tourism considerations...

The main concern surrounding the establishment of an appropriate library for the centre of Canberra seems to be whether or not such a facility should be on a central site such as Section 19 Civic or the edge of the central business district. Access, parking and ongoing costs are all issues which need to be considered.

The future of a possible City Gallery/Museum has been linked to this new library. We feel that this has been the preference of sources within the ACT Administration and proper consideration has not been given to all possible functions of such a gallery...

In [considering] the nature, size, funding and use of future cultural facilities we make the following points... the financial viability of any venues and any effect it has on long term financing of the arts...; the need for upgrading or relocation of many existing venues and activities; the debate as to whether there should be one complex to house a range of activities (Section 19 Civic) or whether a range of venues in different locations would be more suitable...; the lack of community leases for many arts facilities to ensure tenure.

ACT Library Service Advisory Committee called for a reference library:

A purpose designed building, housing a total collection of over half a million volumes, staffed with sufficient professional staff and open to the public seven days a week ought to be established in or near the Civic Centre where access to the reference material would be most convenient for all users and where parking facilities would be available... A reference library of this nature would be a significant element in the cultural facilities which may be provided as part of the redevelopment of Section 19... A purpose designed building to house such a library would require approximately 7000 square metres and would cost \$15 million.

Actors Equity of Australia (NSW Division – ACT Committee) supported the submission of the ACT Cultural Industries Council and added:

the committee has considerable doubt of the value of pouring millions of dollars into new buildings if as a result of this that the amount of money available to arts practitioners is cut in any way – a much better use of the money is that it be invested in people, not in buildings. However, if Section 19 is to go ahead, then... there is general arts community support for the inclusion of a visual arts venue in any proposed complex; the complex must be viewed

in an overall town planning and social context; the complex must be viewed as only one element amongst local performing arts venues which all need attention; the proposed venues within the complex... must be affordable by local practitioners. There is no point building new theatres if the locals can't afford them, this has happened in nearly all the other major arts complexes built throughout Australia in the past twenty years. Most of these can only be used by the flagship companies in each State; there is continuing concern regarding the financial viability of a 2000 seat lyric theatre and a consequent fear that any deficit would increase the cost of hiring the smaller venues. (This has happened elsewhere.)

Arts Council of the ACT Incorporated recommended:

Provision of multipurpose community access arts facilities in Civic, to include studio performance space (suitable for local theatre, music, dance and literary events), print and photographic workshops, multipurpose activity spaces, meeting rooms, office space for umbrella management and short-term project based activities, children's activity facilities and arts garden areas.

Provision of additional resources for the construction, maintenance of community access arts facilities through imposition of a development levy (suggest one per cent) on all commercial development over a benchmark value (suggest \$500 000).

Consolidation of role of libraries, community centres and community houses in providing venues for broad based community cultural activity.

Development of a Cultural Plan for the Territory, providing a clear framework for the development of policy, determination of priorities and the development of relevant resources.

Australian Library and Information Association (ACT Branch) called for 'a new purpose-built central library in Civic, as part of the cultural centre of the Section 19 development'. The Association's ACT Branch considered such a library would 'establish a State reference service and a business information service at the heart of the central business district of Canberra' and be 'a first step towards a State library for the ACT'.

The view of the Australian Library and Information Association (ACT Branch) was supported by Mr C Steele, University Librarian of the Australian National University; Mr L R Hard, Librarian of the University College of the University of New South Wales (Australian Defence Force Academy); Ms L Jennings of the Library of the then Canberra College of Advanced Education; and Ms B Denyer, Librarian of the ACT Institute of Technical and Further Education.

Australian Exhibition Touring Agency commented:

the addition of a city gallery in Canberra with the capacity to present small to medium size travelling exhibitions would be of great benefit. Such a facility would link Canberra in to the national network of regional galleries which the Australian Exhibition Touring Agency serves. It would also be in line with the increasing role that local government is playing in developing and managing cultural facilities.

Australian National University commented on the proposal to establish a 'State' type museum as follows:

the proposed museum's presentation of white settlement history raises the problem of duplication. There is nothing unique about the Canberra region

other than it was chosen as the site for the nation's capital. Its pastoral, mining and agricultural histories are not significantly different from those of a number of other regions in Australia. From a social history perspective, therefore, a local or 'State' museum would not differ much, if at all, from many other social history museums elsewhere in New South Wales. Moreover, Lanyon, Calthorpe's House, Blundell's Cottage, the Bywong Historic Village, the Mining and Mineral Museum at Ginninderra and St John's School House Museum already offer quite a comprehensive local social history coverage. Thus it is unlikely that a new Museum would become an indispensable aid to the teaching of white settlement...

A museum which focused more specifically on the history of the Federal Parliament might produce better results in both areas, but presumably that aspect of the region's history would be more appropriately covered by the National Museum, or by the proposed constitutional museum in old Parliament House.

On the other hand, it is relevant that the ACT does not have a professionally run centre oriented to scientific/national history (geological, botanical, zoological) or archaeological interests... this is a gap in ACT cultural institutions... [Perhaps] the National Museum of Australia could accommodate comfortably acting as an 'umbrella' for a small section providing for the traditional museum role in the ACT. Whether that could be achieved is an issue on which opinions differ.

... we would stress our collective view that unless the ACT museum is housed in a building designed with conservation, adequate storage and research areas in mind, it should not proceed.

Mr T Bialkowski of the ACT Library Service called for 'a major library in Civic'.

Beaver Galleries called for 'a City entity that is authorised to operate within the Tax Incentives for the Arts Scheme' and commented:

Perhaps a City Gallery will emerge on Section 19... [but it should be noted] that the Australian National Gallery and Nolan Gallery (both of which are authorised recipients under the Scheme) really have little relevance in the development of a Canberra City Art Collection. The Australian National Gallery is clearly a national thing and is unlikely ever to be nurtured by ACT citizens as their own. And the Nolan gallery by its very specificity and location cannot become a 'City Gallery'.

Canberra and District Historical Society Inc. called for expenditure on Blundell's Cottage including possibly 'a purpose-built facility near to the Cottage which could also perhaps function as a headquarters and meeting place for the Society'. The Historical Society added:

A major cultural need in the ACT is a museum of ACT history... which could acquire historical records and artefacts and mount displays dealing comprehensively with both the Territory's pre- and post-1913 history... Such a facility could be operated in association with [Blundell's] Cottage ...alternatively it could be operated in association with the National Museum of Australia or with the ACT Library Service.

Canberra Art Workshop Inc. and the **Artist's Society of Canberra Inc.** called for:

a grant of land suitable for the erection of a studio for their joint occupation and use, and an allocation of funds in the Capital Works Program to allow for

the purchase/construction of a studio facility and to include surrounds and parking.

Canberra City Opera Inc. called for a 'home base... [to permit] rehearsals... [provide] office space and [provide] a venue in which to build and store scenery and costumes...'

Canberra Contemporary Art Space Incorporated called for:

a public gallery that is both accessible to the general public and adequately resourced. Such a gallery should be purpose built, to ensure appropriate conditions and resources for a facility which provides for the highest standards of display of works of art across the wide range of contemporary arts practices.

Anything less than a properly designed and resourced facility... would short-change the local community and present an image of Canberra as a culture yet to achieve its own mature identity.

Canberra Festival Inc. requested its own building or 'a suite of adequate size in the Section 19 development. The requirement currently is for about 225 sq metres'. Canberra Festival also called for three types of infrastructure:

permanent stands throughout the pedestrian plazas in the central business and shopping district ... [to] advertise ... cultural messages to Canberra residents and visitors... [And] lots of open spaces [should have] vandal-proof facilities for open-air performances with access to power, storage underneath, and protection overhead for performers... [Such facilities could be] progressively introduced in developing areas adding to the morale of residents of new suburbs... [Finally] there are no adequate portable stages in Canberra for performances such as dancing or music. Each time one is required, a major and expensive effort is mounted. Demountable stages should be built and be made available for these activities, as well as for Government-sponsored activities and for all local events including rallies, which are not associated with the cultural scene.

Canberra Lacemakers Association commented: 'Should a new complex be provided, we should be delighted to have a room of our own where we can keep our library and supplies and hold meetings and workshops'.

Canberra Repertory Society did not call for greater funding or for provision of facilities in Civic or elsewhere.

Canberra Stereo Public Radio suggested that:

any major new development (such as Section 19) should include suitable recording and broadcasting facilities as part of the overall design... [and that its collection of recordings] be copied and included in the collection of the ACT Library Service for cultural, entertainment and research purposes'.

Canberra Spinners and Weavers Inc. called for:

major development of the Craft Council in Watson... [to] include rooms for the sole use of different craftgroups...; general meeting room...; gallery space...; commercial outlet for the different craftgroups; public transport to the Centre; proper lights around the centre and carpark.

Canberra Symphony Orchestra did not call for the immediate expansion of existing arts facilities but noted:

This city is rapidly approaching the size and sophistication of the smaller state capitals in this country and overseas, cities which support dedicated arts complexes. These complexes accommodate resident symphony orchestras, including rehearsal and storage space, box office and administration.

Canberra Theatre Company noted that 'there is currently a shortage of adequate, accessible rehearsal venues' and commented 'the civic centre is the only possible situation for a cultural complex to serve the Canberra population'. The Canberra Theatre Company added: 'In order to achieve a lively creative centre, artists and arts organisations should be resident at the centre'.

Canberra Theatre Trust calls for a new performing arts centre on Section 19 in Civic, to comprise:

a large lyric theatre, a drama theatre and a studio space... [The lyric theatre] is not proposed as a concert hall but as a place for the presentation of large scale music theatre, drama and dance... [The studio space] needs to have separate access to the street... [and] could be used for product launches and informal receptions as well as lunchtime theatre.

In addition, the Canberra Theatre Trust called for the new centre to include 'commercial office space for rental and restaurants providing activity and income to the centre'. Claiming that 'it is very important to ensure the management of the centre be as self-supporting as possible so that it will not be seen as a long-term drain on Territorial revenue', the Trust called for 'parking... and other commercial activities in the community sector of Section 19 [to be] managed by the Trust'.

Canberra Youth Orchestra Society called for the:

redevelopment of additional facilities (similar to the Griffin Centre) near the Civic Centre [and] development of a 500 seat theatre complex for use by the performing arts community... [The facility to incorporate] sprung floors for dance groups and special acoustics for orchestras and choirs.

Canberra Youth Performing Arts Centre did not comment on the establishment of a central arts centre in Civic on the Section 19 site but called upon the government to lease it Pearce Primary School in order to establish 'a centre in Canberra where the youth performing groups will have adequate facilities in which to teach, rehearse, perform, and to accommodate their storage and administrative requirements'. The supporting members of the Canberra Youth Performing Arts Centre are Canberra Youth Ballet Company and School; Gaudeamus Inc.; Woden Valley Youth Choir; Canberra Youth Orchestra Society Inc.; Bellchambers-Yamaha Music School; Canberra Boys Choir; Stagecoach; Young Music Society; and the South Woden Uniting Church.

Canberra Youth Theatre Co. commented that 'all discussion over the past twelve months concerning cultural facilities has centred on Section 19... [but has omitted consideration of] the cultural facilities already in existence.' The Canberra Youth Theatre recommended that all users of each existing facility be asked their views on improvements desired and optimum rentals.

Residents of Childers and Kingsley Streets called for a community precinct in that area to include retention of the Childers Street Theatre.

Mr P Costigan commented:

I believe there is a basis for a new gallery alongside present activities. Its role should be local. It should also not be tied to a museum or library. The

potential and vitality of a new gallery would be hampered by such combinations... To date my biggest criticism about the debate for a new gallery is that most have focused their attention on their own needs, how they may be threatened by the proposal or worse, that Canberra needs a gallery based on models in other cities or States. Has anyone objectively asked what type of gallery activity would be most appropriate and exciting for this city, this particular community? Does what may work for Orange/Sydney/??? automatically work here?...

Crafts Council of the ACT Inc. called for:

a performing arts centre comprising a range of spaces to suit theatre, dance and music... A Gallery Centre comprising three exhibition spaces to serve a range of visual arts and craft needs... An open space in the form of a civic square to act as a focal point for civic cultural activities as well as outdoor areas for events staged by either of the above centres.

Cuppacumbalong Craft Centre commented:

The only type of exhibition space that is missing is that of a Regional Gallery, catering for a relevant local collection and travelling exhibitions. A regional gallery should be in an easily accessible area, preferably central and adjacent to other cultural facilities such as libraries and theatres. The Australian National Gallery does not fulfil the role of a regional gallery, nor does the Nolan Gallery. The former is a truly National institution and the latter is isolated away from the city, not accessible by public transport and not equipped with space or facilities for a regional gallery.

Six curators of art at the Australian War memorial, together with two art consultants, called for:

the establishment of a regional art gallery in the Canberra city area. A regional gallery would provide much-needed facilities for the accommodation of inter-State touring exhibitions and would collect and display work by artists from the Canberra area, within an historical perspective and in environmentally sound conditions. At present none of the available gallery spaces fulfil the criteria to be met by a regional gallery.

Embroiderer's Guild ACT Inc. requested it be allocated:

a permanent space with sole use as follows: a work room of approximately 50-60 square metres...; a secure library space of approximately 30 square metres; storage space, kitchen facilities and toilets... [together with] the shared use of a large space suitable for meetings of up to 200 people and small exhibitions [and] a shop front for the sale of merchandise produced by members.

Fellowship of Australian Writers Incorporated (ACT Branch) commented:

ACT writers need a permanent space to house their library..., to have access to a wordprocessor and photocopy facilities... this location ought to be central to the city centre...

Mr M Ferguson, Administrator of the Gorman House Community Arts Centre, conducted a study of performance facilities in the ACT and concluded:

While some will argue that a new 2000 seat theatre is needed, the actual number of large venues in Canberra would appear to be quite sufficient for a city this size. If there is a gap, I believe it is in the medium theatre size...

[There is] extraordinary imbalance in the distribution of [performing arts spaces]. Map 3 [Tuggeranong] has only two venues, the Tuggeranong Community Centre and the Erindale Leisure Centre... Map 2 [South Canberra, Woden and Weston Creek], while closer to Civic Centre, is even less well provided. The only two performance spaces, also within a short distance of each other, could both be said to be out of scope... [namely, the Albert Hall and the Australian National Gallery Theatre]. So, the entire south side of Canberra with a total population of 140 650 (with projected growth by 1997 to 166 950) has projected dedicated theatre seating of only 615... Map 1 [North Canberra and Belconnen] boasts fifteen of the total nineteen venues... [and] fourteen of these are within a radius of one kilometre of the Civic Centre... [Overall,] 75 per cent of the national capital's theatre venues [are] within a one kilometre radius [of the Civic Centre, which] amounts to ... 72 per cent of the total number of theatre seats in Canberra. The proposed new theatre/casino development would further increase this concentration, as does the large performance space in the new National Convention Centre.

Having identified the poor distribution of these facilities, the temptation would be to provide additional venues in the newer suburbs. Cost restraints would inevitably mean these would be reasonably small venues, and as such this policy would not be justified. Canberra already has a large number of small theatre venues. They are simply not well distributed through the region. If there are sufficient venues, but they are largely centralized, then in the short to medium term access to performance spaces is an issue of transport...

[Also,] Canberra [has] a large number of community halls and lecture theatres – at least 28... (outside tertiary education facilities) seating over 100... These provide a wide spread of facilities available for community performing activities and amateur theatrical work...

[And, while] the twenty two social and football clubs in Canberra are not within the scope of this report, it must be noted their number, size, more even distribution through Canberra, and their ability to offer a range of other services makes them a much more appealing venue to a large number of people, than the dedicated theatre...

[In summary,] the actual number of available theatre seats is generous and does not justify capital expenditure on new resources. Rather, such resources should be concentrated on making improvements to existing facilities and improving access to those facilities through improved signage to and within venues; improved parking facilities; integrated planning of improvements for all ACT performance facilities, and assistance with theatre publicity packages.

New resources should be restricted to those included in other developments. For example, the inclusion of a 400 seat theatre in any college development would provide an excellent resource for the college programs while offering an additional decentralised theatre facility for the general public. Such a theatre should be built on the edge of the college development to encourage other community access. The Erindale Centre is a variation on this idea with the separately managed community facility adjacent to the College...

In a city as small as Canberra, a better, cheaper and more rational alternative to building additional theatres in outer lying areas is to set up alternative transport services to suit those sections of the community who are most disadvantaged by the current situation. These would be youth, other low-income earners, and the aged.

Fire Brigade Historical Society of the ACT Inc. called for temporary accommodation to house its fleet of fire engines and requested the historic Forrest Fire Station be made available to the Society for use as a fire brigade museum.

Gorman House Community Arts Centre did not comment on a performing arts centre but observed, in relation to theatre capacity:

our two hireable theatre spaces, the Ralph Wilson Theatre and the Bogong Theatre, are used as much for workshops, exhibitions and rehearsals as they are for theatre performances. This suggests there is not a great need for additional small theatre spaces. The need rather is for medium size theatres.

Mr B Hardy called for:

the establishment of a regional, publicly funded art gallery for the ACT. [He considered] the Gallery would best be sited in Civic where it could be associated with other cultural institutions, and where it would be accessible to people in the city.

Jigsaw Theatre Company did not specifically comment on a central performing arts complex but observed:

Gorman House (Jigsaw's home) provides an ideal situation for the Company to maintain links with other artists, and this in turn informs and benefits our work in schools...

The schools of the ACT and the surrounding region contain a vast range of cultural facilities. These vary enormously in style, size and adequacy...

these facilities could, and we would suggest should, be cultural centres for the communities to which they belong. Ways should be investigated to allow these facilities to be more readily available to the community as a whole...

Mr D Longmuir, a lighting designer, expressed concern that the Section 19 theatre complex 'will go ahead for civic reasons and not because of artistic necessity' – meaning that the development 'will proceed in something of a vacuum' due to the absence of clear users and owners.

Mr V McKelvey, Administrator of the ANU Arts Centre, supported the views of the Canberra Theatre Trust. He called for the construction of a performing arts centre comprising a drama theatre (to seat 500–800 patrons), a lyric theatre (to seat 1600–1800 patrons) and – if finances permit – a studio performance space. He added:

I believe it would be quite appropriate for some casino revenue to be used toward the recurrent costs of running the centre. I would however like to see the centre given control of the wherewithal to, at least in part, support its own operations. Control of adjacent and associated commercial trading activities such as catering outlets, bars, office accommodation, specialty shops (books, scripts, records, videos, postcards, posters, theatrical mementos etc.) and parking concessions would be ideal.

Mr McKelvey was concerned about the availability of theatre venues during the construction phase of a new performance arts centre. He expected the ANU Arts Centre will assume 'significant additional responsibility' during this time, and added:

in view of the central role this venue will play during the new theatre centre's period of construction it would be sensible and appropriate to consider

investing some funds from the Section 19 premium in capital work to upgrade facilities at the Arts Centre.

Mr McKelvey suggested these facilities include expending 'something of the order of \$100 000 to upgrade to a better theatre seat' and expending 'approximately \$78 600' to purchase a suitable temporary building for use as a rehearsal room.

Melba Neighbourhood Centre commented: 'The facilities proposed for Section 19 will... meet the needs of the ACT cultural community'.

Monaro Folk Music Societies called for:

a Centre that could provide a range of performance space for small performances – ideally a Centre with several areas that range in seating capacity from 50 people to 500. Such a Centre would ideally be adequately sound proofed so that all venues could be used at the one time. In this Centre there could be access to facilities for preparation and technical support for community groups including such items as support for newsletter production. This Centre would need to be located near public transport. Gorman House does provide some of these functions but would need much enlargement; however, something along the lines of Gorman House is the type of location and centre we are thinking of.

The Folk Music Societies also commented on the type of development that might proceed on Section 19 in Civic:

it is felt that a multi-venue facility is what is needed with a somewhat more basic level than that envisaged in Section 19... The Section 19 appears to be an area that will have a high profile setting and for small arts groups doing activities that are suited to small audiences such a centre as Section 19 is not suitable.

Museums Association of Australia Incorporated (ACT Branch) called for:

the establishment and construction of a regional museum, which would incorporate an art museum, whose themes would relate specifically to the ACT and the surrounding region... The institution should be centrally located in Canberra (that is, Civic) or, alternatively, linked with the Lanyon-Nolan Gallery complex in order to achieve an economy of scale.

National Centre for Cultural Heritage Science Studies of Canberra College of Advanced Education called for the establishment of a museum to 'manage and promote the cultural heritage of the ACT' and requested:

that space be provided in the museum to enable a formal link to be established between the Museum and the National Centre for Cultural Heritage Science Studies to better facilitate training in cultural heritage science.

National Library of Australia 'supports the development of the ACT Library Service as the 'State' library for the ACT' but added:

many [National Library] services (and almost all on weekends) are disproportionately geared to meeting the needs of the ACT residents... [Should a 'State' type ACT library not develop] the Library would seek to review the present funding arrangements with a view to recovering at least some measure of these direct costs for services to ACT residents from either them or the ACT Administration.

National Trust of Australia (ACT) called for:

a museum for the display of objects, exhibits related to Canberra's cultural heritage, both Aboriginal and European, and covering its rural and urban history... Associated with a museum should be a Heritage Centre for the dissemination of educational material, information, lectures, exhibitions and sale of books, reports and catalogues.

It is suggested that the Heritage Centre and Museum should be considered a vital component of the Section 19 redevelopment proposals as part of an ACT Cultural Precinct. Such a precinct could also house a City Gallery similar to Regional Galleries in other towns and cities in Australia...

People Next Door commented:

We desperately need a flexible studio performance space with well-serviced technical facilities on par with the design and function of the Sydney Theatre Company's Wharf Studio. Experimental work demands flexibility in the performance space without compromising the comfort of the audience. In addition, the space must be centrally located so as to conveniently service the public and include risk taking work as part of the broader cultural milieu taking place in the city centre. This is surely one of the signs of a progressive and sophisticated city and we believe that given such a space groups such as ours could attract larger and more diverse audiences.

Regional Galleries Association of New South Wales Limited called for 'a public art gallery... to link the ACT into the numerous and varied public art museums and galleries throughout New South Wales'.

Mr J De Satge called for:

A national Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander Cultural Museum [to] be developed in Canberra, and staffed by Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander people, to show the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and lifestyles throughout Australia. This museum should be developed as a major tourist attraction similar to the War Memorial, Parliament House, etc. Funding to be sought from Commonwealth with contributions from the ACT Government and also private enterprise. [Also,] library facilities [should] be expanded to include a larger range of written and oral material by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people...

Skylark Puppet and Mask Theatre Association Incorporated commented on the usefulness of the Playhouse Theatre and expressed a need for:

a workshop space of approximately 10 x 6 metres with a high ceiling for large constructions. This must have ground floor access and exhaust ventilation for toxic fumes as well as a wet area and lots of natural light; a rehearsal space similar to the existing Rehearsal Room which can also be used as an intimate theatre for our smaller productions where the children sit on mats on the floor; an office space that is close to the workshop for the administrator to be in contact with the production staff.

Tuggeranong Community Arts Project called for the construction of 'a central Tuggeranong office and drop-in centre [and] a multipurpose Arts Centre... as a focus for local arts activities'. The Project noted that Tuggeranong has 'no private or community gallery spaces' and that schools 'are the main centres for cultural activities because they have the networks facilities and resources'.

Ms P Walker called for:

a regional art gallery which would serve not only the ACT itself but the South Coast and the Monaro.... the ideal location for a regional gallery is in the centre of Civic, the cultural heartland of the Arts, so the Section 19 site would be excellent... The building needs to be flexible enough to exhibit, say, kites, large pieces of sculpture or ceramic, or small items like jewellery and to accommodate changes of plan and direction. It would also need perhaps to house a conservation workshop and an education section...

Ms J Warren of the Solander Gallery commented on the need for more public gallery space that can be hired out for exhibitions.

Ms K Winkworth, freelance curator and lecturer, commented:

Canberra needs a facility that affirms the value of a local Canberra culture..., a facility in the city centre... to encompass... a Canberra gallery, a heritage centre, a social history museum, a temporary exhibition space and a space for community access and interaction.

The facility should not be specifically identified as a gallery, or a museum or a heritage centre or cultural centre. It should have a title that avoids the tag of a particular brand of institution...

The constituent parts of a multi-disciplinary facility should include an exhibition space about Canberra past and present...; a temporary exhibition space; a small display space for topical issues-based exhibitions...; a theatre cum lecture theatre...; an education studio for school and holiday activities...; an outdoor, interactive meeting and gathering space; [and] working facilities including a workshop/preparation space, offices, a loading bay and some storage space.

In addition the facility should also have a coffee shop/brasserie and one or more retail or commercial outlets. These should be planned to generate revenue dedicated to supporting the maintenance of the centre, as well as adding to the mix of people on the site.

APPENDIX D: VALUE OF REQUESTS PRESENTED TO THE COMMITTEE

NB: Figures marked with an asterix (*) were not specified in the particular submission but were provided in other submissions covering the same proposal. Figures marked with '#' are those counted in the final total and represent each request once only, for example, only one request for a Keeping Place is included in the total.

	\$
Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (Ngunnawal Burrangiri)	3 000 000
ACT Council of Cultural Societies (Griffin Centre)	uncosted
ACT Council of Social Service Inc.#	19 000 000
ACT Cultural Council	
– Aboriginal Keeping Place	3 000 000
– 500–600 seat theatre	5 000 000
– Cultural Heritage Facility	7 000 000
– Regional Cultural Facilities	4 000 000
ACT Government	
– Aboriginal Cultural Centre#	3 000 000
– Aboriginal Keeping Place#	500 000
– Canberra Youth Performing Arts Centre	uncosted
– Heritage Centre/Regional Gallery/Territorial Library#	14 600 000
. recurrent costs#	900 000
– Playhouse Theatre + heritage centre/gallery/library#	21 800 000
. recurrent costs#	900 000
– Community theatre equipment and subsidy#	750 000
– Enhancement of regional cultural facilities#	4 000 000
– Ethnic Community Cultural Centre	uncosted
– National Exhibition Centre#*	10 000 000
– Playhouse Theatre extension and improvements#	6 500 000
– Playhouse Theatre and Link#	11 700 000
– Regional community arts facilities	uncosted
– Visitors' Centre (commercial galleries/studios/workshops)	uncosted
– Woden Senior Citizens' Club House extensions#	300 000
ACT Department of Urban Services (Playhouse)	21 800 000
ACT Government – Museums Unit (report of public forum)	uncosted
ACT Heritage Week Committee	uncosted
ACT Men's Shelter	19 000 000
ACT Music#	58 975
Albert Hall Artists	uncosted
Arts Council ACT	
– Feasibility study#	150 000
– Trust Fund#	3 000 000
– Community Arts and Recreation Centre#	4 800 000

Australian Academy of the Humanities (Gallery/Museum)*	14 600 000
Australian Garden History Society	uncosted
Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (over 5 years)#	2 500 000
ALIA (ACT) – support State Library*	12 500 000
Bogong Regional Council	
– Aboriginal Cultural Centre#	2 000 000
– Meeting Office/Facility#	1 800 000
– Aboriginal Housing#	2 000 000
– Aboriginal Welfare#	2 000 000
Brindabella Corrobooree Steering Committee	uncosted
Ms J Brown	uncosted
Mr P Bycroft	
– Centrally located facility#	7 000 000
– Regional facility#	3 000 000
– Trust#	4 000 000
Calwell High School#	50 000
Calyan Inc	uncosted
Canberra and District Historical Society	uncosted
Canberra ASH Inc (Cartoon award)	uncosted
Canberra City Pipes and Drums#	43 392
Canberra Community Access Television#	2 400 000
Canberra Community Orchestra Inc (per annum)#	3 000
Canberra Music Foundation	uncosted
Canberra Recorded Music Society Inc	uncosted
Canberra School of Music#	7 000 000
Canberra Theatre Trust	10 400 000
Canberra Youth Orchestra Society Inc and Gaudeamus	uncosted
Canberra Youth Performing Arts Centre	uncosted
Canberra Youth Theatre	uncosted
Citizens' Advice Bureau#	9 500
Mr P Creaser	uncosted
Cuppacombalong Craft Centre	uncosted

Ms L Doyle	uncosted
Mr R Else-Mitchell#	12 500 000
Ethnic Communities Council	uncosted
Fellowship of Australian Writers (ACT)	- uncosted
Dr Amareswar Galla	
- Aboriginal cultural facility for Ngunnawal people	3 000 000
. recurrent costs	500 000
- Cultural and Heritage centre#	8 000 000
. trust to cover recurrent costs#	1 000 000
- Regional Trusts#	2 000 000
- Playhouse redevelopment + commercial precinct	6 000 000
Gorman House Arts Centre	
- Equip new community theatre	256 000
. trust to offset recurrent expenditure	500 000
Ms P Hanley	uncosted
Dr D Headon - supports heritage/gallery/library*	14 600 000
Heritage Council of the ACT (supports Keeping Place)*	3 000 000
Ms W Law	uncosted
Management Advisory Group of new community theatre	
- equipment	250 000
. funding for first five years	500 000
Senator R McMullan	uncosted
Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance	uncosted
Museums Association of Australia (ACT) - Support Keeping Place*	- 3 000 000
National Centre for Cultural Heritage Science Studies	uncosted
NATEX	10 000 000
NRS Group (Community based TV station)#	20 000
Pearce Community Centre#	65000
National Trust of Australia (ACT)	uncosted
Prisoners Assistance Lobby and Support	uncosted
Renewal of Childers and Kingsley Streets (ROCKS)	uncosted
Mr D Scobie	uncosted
Short Cuts	uncosted

Street Peoples Collective	uncosted
Stromlo High School#	3 000 000
Studio One Printmaking Workshop#	10 000 000
Tuggeranong Community Arts#	- 4 800 000
Ms M Watson#	53 000
Ms K Williams	uncosted
Woden Senior Citizens' Club#	300 000
Dr B York	uncosted

TOTAL = Approx \$320 Million (value of all submissions)	319 408 867
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TOTAL = Approx \$178 Million (counting specific requests once only, that is, those marked #)	177 502 867
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