



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

Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
Monday, 25 October 2021

Asked by ELIZABETH LEE MLA on 25 OCTOBER 2021: ANDREW BARR MLA took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 25 October 2021, PAGE 127]

In relation to:

MS LEE: Chief Minister, can I take you to the 2022 action plan for recovery from Events Canberra? Can you tell me whether the Business Events Fund has been established and what has come out of that, including how much in terms of expenditure?

Mr Barr: Yes, I understand it has, and I am happy to provide on notice some details for the committee.

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

- The 2021-22 Budget committed \$2.5 million over two years to support the staging of major events and exhibitions through the Major Event Fund. \$150,000 is available within the Major Event Fund budget per annum, to support the establishment and delivery of a Business Event Fund.
- The ACT Government is now working with the Canberra Convention Bureau to confirm guidelines and governance procedures for administration of the fund.
- The Business Event Fund will support the recovery of the business event sector by enabling attraction and acquisition of events that:
 - can deliver substantial economic impact for the ACT and Canberra region in visitor numbers and spend from participating delegates and fill identified gaps in the business events and major events calendar;
 - support promotion of the ACT and Canberra region to domestic and international audiences;
 - support promotion of ACT's key capability areas;
 - deliver high-quality business event and delegate experiences that support and enhance brand Canberra, generate destination vibrancy and profile the destination as a world-class business and tourism destination; and
 - provide outcomes that showcase Canberra as destination for education, trade, investment, research, and collaboration.

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

Signature: 

Date: 3.11.21

By the Minister for Economic Development, Andrew Barr MLA