

2004

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Standing Committee on Education

REPORT 4

Report on

2002-2003 Annual and Financial Report:
Department of Education, Youth and Family Services
- 2002 Annual Report: Canberra Institute of
Technology February 2004

1 July 2004
Tabled by
Jon Stanhope MLA
Chief Minister

Government Response

Government Response to Standing Committee on Education Report on 2002-2003
Annual and Financial Report: Department of Education, Youth and Family Services - 2002
Annual Report: Canberra Institute of Technology February 2004

Introduction

The Annual Reports of all ACT Government agencies are referred to the Standing Committees of the ACT Legislative Assembly for examination and report.

The Standing Committee on Education reviewed annual reports for:

- Department of Education, Youth and Family Services;
- Canberra Institute of Technology (2002); and
- Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Board.

The Committee makes 7 recommendations. The Committee has not made any recommendations concerning the report from the Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Board.

Response to Committee Recommendations

Recommendation 1

2.13 The committee recommends that future annual reports be professionally edited to ensure consistency and accessibility.

Government Response

Agreed.

Recommendation 2

2.17 The committee recommends that an organisational chart be incorporated in future annual reports to provide a clear and concise outline of the changes in functions in the department.

Government Response

Agreed. The department supports this recommendation in so far as an organisational chart be included that reflects the functions of the department as at 30 June of each reporting period.

Recommendation 3

2.28 The committee recommends that DEYFS ensures the incorporation of and adherence to the Chief Minister's Annual Reports Directions.

Government Response

Agreed.

Recommendation 4

2.29 The committee recommends that DEYFS in its annual report provide full and frank information regarding judicial decisions that have an impact on the departments operations.

Government Response

Agreed.

Recommendation 5

3.8 The committee recommends that CIT undertake annual destination surveys of former students to ascertain the educational and vocational outcomes being achieved by students who have successfully completed CIT courses.

Government Response

Noted. A number of surveys of former students and employers are already undertaken by the CIT and the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) on behalf of the Australian National Training Authority (ANTA). These surveys target both graduates and employers. Traditionally CIT has found such surveys do not have a particularly high response rate and additional surveys would be more likely to discourage the target groups with a subsequent further reduction in responses. CIT has developed an Alumni Association which will be officially launched in 2004, and believes this approach to contacting and maintaining contact with its former students will provide a more useful method of obtaining information on mapping the progress of students in their careers.

Recommendation 6

3.10 The committee recommends that CIT include more detailed information in dedicated sections of the annual report regarding the activities and performance of the individual faculties within CIT.

Government Response

Agreed. CIT has included reporting sections for each Faculty in the 2003-04 Annual Report.

Recommendation 7

3.13 The committee recommends that the ACT Government lobby the Commonwealth in relation to the visa requirements for overseas students studying in vocational education institutions to remove barriers to access.

Government Response

Agreed. The ACT will continue to work with the Australian National Training Authority (ANTA) on the issue of visa requirements for students studying in vocational education. A working group will bring the issue to ANTA chief executives with possible discussion at the Ministerial Council level.