



STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION

MICHAEL PETERSSON MLA (CHAIR), JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), PETER CAIN MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2019–20 Annual and Financial Reports  
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Johnathan Davis MLA to ask the Minister for Skills

Ref p. 2. Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Authority Statement of Intent

In relation to: Workplace Health and Safety

Q1. How are you responding to achieve a Workplace Health and Safety culture across the building and construction industry?

- a. How are you evaluating, changing and updating your current training funding and providers in light of these problems?

Q2. The statement of intent from the training fund authority states that the intent of the authority is to develop a health and safety culture in the building and construction industry. Australian research has shown that many of the poorest performers in workplace health and safety are those organisations who are not linked in with industry bodies, other businesses or unions.

- a. What is the training fund authority doing to engage and involved these players in the development of their training?
- b. What evidence base is the training fund authority drawing on to make their decisions about safety training?

CHRIS STEEL MLA: The answer to the Member's questions are as follows:–

The ACT Building and Construction Training Fund Authority (the Authority) provides funding for training for eligible entry-level and existing workers in the ACT building and construction industry. By making training more affordable, the Authority also aims to improve work health and safety culture in the industry.

The Authority's annual *Training Plan* (the Plan) outlines training priorities across a wide range of occupations in ACT building and construction industry. A consultation process informs the Plan, and provides a detailed overview of what stakeholders see as the key training and professional development requirements now and in the future. Consultation is undertaken with workers, employers, group training organisations, registered training organisations, government agencies, industry associations and unions.



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

**QON No. AR - 34**

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The Authority has committed \$4.253 million to five programs in the *2021 Annual Training Plan*. These include silica dust awareness and prevention training (accredited); training in mandated and accredited entry-level courses (white card, asbestos awareness, working safely with asbestos-containing materials and workplace impairment); and training in COVID-19 awareness, mental health, suicide prevention, and domestic violence awareness and response.

The Authority Industry Liaison Officer supports and provides advice—on work health and safety training, funding and rebates available through the Authority—to hundreds of small business in any given year that employ apprentices in skills shortage trades.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Community Inclusion

Signature:

Date:

18/3/21

By the Minister for Skills, Chris Steel MLA