



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Mr Peter Cain MLA (Chair), Dr Marisa Paterson (Deputy Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA

Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into Immediate Trauma Support Services in the ACT

Submission Number: 008

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Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601
LACommitteeJCS@parliament.act.gov.au

8 December 2023

Dear Committee Secretariat,

RE: Inquiry into Immediate Trauma Support Services in the ACT

The Australasian College of Road Safety is the region's peak membership association for road safety with a vision of eliminating death and serious injury on the road. Our members include experts from all areas of road safety including policy makers, health and transport professionals, academics, community organisations, researchers, federal, state and local government agencies, private companies and members of the public. The purpose of the College is to support our members in their efforts to eliminate serious road trauma through knowledge sharing, professional development, networking and advocacy. Our objectives include the promotion of road safety as a critical organisational objective within government, business and the community; the promotion and advocacy of policies and practices that support harm elimination; the improvement of relative safety outcomes for vulnerable demographic and user groups within the community; the promotion of post-crash policies and practices; and the promotion of a collegiate climate amongst all those with responsibilities for and working in road safety.

The College believes that we should prevent all fatal and serious injury on our roads; that the road traffic system must be made safe for all road users; that system designers should aim to prevent human error and mitigate its consequences; that life and health are not exchangeable for other benefits in society; and that all ACRS policy positions must be evidence based.

This inquiry covers an important area for road safety, which too often does not receive sufficient attention. The College has several members who work in post-crash care. We support the submission from Injury Matters which clearly outlines the vital role played by trauma support services, and some key requirements for ensuring a service is accessible and appropriate to meet the needs of those who have been affected by road trauma.

The College recommends that a similar dedicated service be established in the ACT.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission and contribute to improved road safety in the ACT. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any further information.

Dr Rod Katz
ACT Chapter Chair
Australasian College of Road Safety

Dr Ingrid Johnston
Chief Executive Officer
Australasian College of Road Safety