Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into the COVID-19 2021 pandemic response

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Hey,

My name is Jayde Robb from [REDACTED] and my phone number is [REDACTED].

I would like to say I am extremely satisfied with our governments response to the August and September outbreak of COVID-19 in the community. I think they have done a really good job of suppressing the virus. I am confident in our governments ability to keep the people of the ACT safe.

I am impressed that the ACT government has been able to reach agreements with the Federal government to provide income support payments to workers and business across Canberra. I know the response to small businesses has not been perfect but more help from the federal government (job keeper) would assist the ACT in providing aid to small businesses.

It’s hard to balance health and safety and trying to keep a cities economy running but the ACT has done the best job possible with the resources allocated to them by the federal government. I’ve been very impressed with the daily press conferences and our recently advised pathway out of lockdown.

Our national leading vaccine program has also been exceptional. After the quarantine blunders from the federal government and their failed vaccine procurement program, I think our ACT government has been exceptional in delivering what supply we have been allocated from the federal government. The program has been extremely successful and leaves me wondering what could have been if we had received more vaccines earlier.

Overall I think the ACT governments response has been excellent. There are many challenges to managing the delta strain and I think that Andrew Barr, the CHO, Rachel Steven Smith and the rest of cabinet have done the best job possible to balance the public health measures and the damages lockdowns cause to mental health and the economy. No one wants to be locked down but this is the only way to deal with COVID that won’t leave us with dozens to hundreds of ACT citizens dying per day.

I wouldn’t trade our ACT successful handling of COVID for anything else in the nation or the world for that matter. I don’t know if Andrew Barr would appreciate me saying this but our response is the Gold standard.

- Jayde Robb from Reid