



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

Mr Hanson: To ask the Minister for Skills

Ref: Annual Report, CMTEDD

In relation to Spark Training and Employment Program delivered by Ginninderry and Canberra Institute of Technology:

1. When was funding first provided to the Spark Training and Employment Program?
2. In the 2020-21 financial year, what amount of funding was provided to the Spark Training and Employment Program?
3. In the 2020-21 financial year, how many trainees were enrolled in the Spark Training and Employment Program?
4. In the 2020-21 financial year, what was the trainee retention rate in the Spark Training and Employment Program?
5. In the 2020-21 financial year, what was the breakdown of Spark Training and Employment Program course types taken by trainees, and the number of trainees in each course?
6. In the 2020-21 financial year, how many Spark Training and Employment Program trainees or graduates were employed by Ginninderry or affiliated organisations?
7. For each of the preceding financial years since funding was first provided to the In the 2020-21 financial year, please disclose the amount of funding provided.
8. For each of the preceding financial years since funding was first provided to the In the 2020-21 financial year, how many trainees were enrolled in the Spark Training and Employment Program?
9. For each of the preceding financial years since funding was first provided to the In the 2020-21 financial year, what was the trainee retention rate in the Spark Training and Employment Program?
10. For each of the preceding financial years since funding was first provided to the In the 2020-21 financial year, what was the breakdown of Spark Training and Employment Program course types taken by trainees, and the number of trainees in each course?
11. For each of the preceding financial years since funding was first provided to the In the 2020-21 financial year, how many Spark Training and Employment Program trainees or graduates were employed by Ginninderry or affiliated organisations?
12. What component of the Spark Training and Employment Program is delivered by Ginninderry or affiliated organisations?
13. What component of the Spark Training and Employment Program is delivered by Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT)?
14. Is it necessary to have Ginninderry involved in the delivery of vocational training in conjunction with CIT, noting that delivery of vocational training is CIT's core business?



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QON No. AR - 37

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CHRIS STEEL MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

1. The Funding Deed for the Expansion of the SPARK Training Program commenced on 12 March 2019.
2. Funding provided to SPARK Training and Employment Initiative in 2020-21

Program	2020-21
Funding Deed for Expansion of SPARK Training Program	\$100,000 (excluding GST)
JobTrainer	\$430,812 (excluding GST)

3. SPARK does not engage trainees—a traineeship is a work-based training model where a training contract (between a trainee and their employer) must be in place. SPARK runs training programs and supports graduates of these programs to transition into jobs. SPARK participants do not undertake paid work as part of their participation in SPARK programs. The figures quoted throughout this answer are for participants of SPARK programs, rather than trainees.

Program	2020-21
Funding Deed for Expansion of SPARK Training Program	84 participants
JobTrainer (one program commenced to date)	Up to 190 participants

4. The ACT Government does not hold data that allows for the calculation of a retention rate for SPARK programs.
- 5.

2020-21 SPARK Expansion Training Programs	Total number of participants
Construction Program – Regional	20
Construction Program	22
Women in Civil Construction	13
Business Administration Program – South	11
Women Return to Work Program – South	18
TOTAL:	84



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2020-21 JobTrainer SPARK Training Programs	Total number of participants to date
School Leaver Industry Taster	20
TOTAL:	20

6. Riverview Projects ACT does not directly employ students or graduates of SPARK programs. Riverview Projects ACT includes a requirement for unpaid industry work experience placements and job opportunities in contracting agreements with contractors. These opportunities are limited to industry areas relevant to the works on site (i.e. construction). The ACT Government does not hold data on these contracting arrangements between Riverview Projects ACT and their contractors.

7.

Program	2018-19	2019-20
Funding Deed for Expansion of SPARK Training Program	\$350,000 (excluding GST)	\$470,000 (excluding GST)
JobTrainer	Nil	Nil

8.

Program	2018-19	2019-20
Funding Deed for Expansion of SPARK Training Program	31	137
JobTrainer	Nil	Nil

9. The ACT Government does not hold data that allows for the calculation of a retention rate for SPARK programs.

10.

2018-19 SPARK Expansion Training Programs	Total number of participants
Construction Program - Regional	10
Business Administration Program - South	21
TOTAL:	31



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2019-20 SPARK Expansion Training Programs	Total number of participants
Hospitality Program - South	25
Community Services Taster Program	20
Construction Program - Regional	18
Women Return to Work Program - South	19
Construction Program - Regional	19
Community Services Taster Program – South	18
Women Return to Work Program – South	18
TOTAL:	137

11. Riverview Projects ACT does not directly employ students or graduates of SPARK programs. Riverview Projects ACT includes a requirement for unpaid industry work experience placements and job opportunities in contracting agreements with contractors. These opportunities are limited to industry areas relevant to the works on site (i.e. construction). The ACT Government does not hold data pertaining to these contracting arrangements between Riverview Projects ACT and their contractors.
12. The SPARK Training and Employment Initiative provides accredited training to students and facilitates industry work placements and connections to employment opportunities post-graduation. Riverview Projects ACT provides case managers to support SPARK participants to overcome any barriers to engaging with and completing training. Riverview Projects ACT also facilitates the industry work placements and provides connection to employment opportunities post-graduation.
13. CIT is one of a number of RTOs delivering the accredited training component of SPARK programs.
14. SPARK programs support some of the most vulnerable Canberrans, including youth at risk, and long-term unemployed people. CIT delivers the accredited training component. The case management, industry work placements and connections to employment provided by SPARK assist to achieve employment outcomes for these cohorts.



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Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Community Inclusion

Signature:

Date:

22/3/21

By the Minister for Skills, Chris Steel MLA