

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING
ANNUAL REPORT 2008-09 HEARING 1 DECEMBER 2009**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, TRAINING AND YOUTH AFFAIRS**

Skills Shortages in the ACT

MS BRESNAN - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 20 January 2010.

- (1) You indicate the department is attempting, through various means, to address the issues of skills shortages in the ACT.
- (a) What has been achieved following the implementation of the Commonwealth Productivity Places Program, (PPP), in relation to training in nursing, health supervision, training and assessment and health support services?
- (b) What progress has been made in relation to work with the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services on workforce shortages in these areas?

MR BARR - the answer to Ms Bresnan's question is:

- (1)
- (a) Under Phase Two of the Productivity Places Program (PPP), the ACT negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding with the Australian Government under which all ACT PPP places were allocated to ACT Health to address local health workforce needs.

Places equivalent to 54 enrolments across four different qualifications were allocated, those being:

- 15 in Diploma of Nursing
- 10 in Certificate IV in Health Supervision
- 9 in Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, and
- 20 in Certificate III in Health Support Services (Food Services).

Forty one of these enrolments have now completed their qualification.

- (b) Considerable progress has been made in working with the Department of Disability Housing and Community Services on workforce shortages.

In addition, the ACT Department of Education and Training, has undertaken local consultations to confirm factors identified in the Community Services and Health Industry Skills Council Environmental Scan 2009.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

**Andrew Barr MLA
Minister for Education and Training**

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