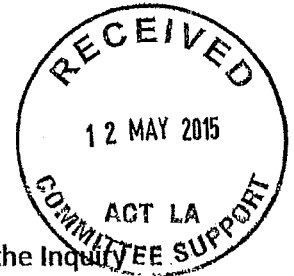


The Secretary
Standing Committee on Public Accounts
Legislative Assembly for the ACT
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Smyth

RE: Inquiry into elements impacting on the future of the ACT Clubs Sector

On behalf of Variety the Children's Charity and Bash Car 45 I wish to comment on the Inquiry mentioned above.



The Canberra Southern Cross Club has been a great supporter of our organization for five years. We have been one of the many fortunate recipients of The Canberra Southern Cross Club Community Support Grants. The grants support many small volunteer organisations each and every year. These small organisations often struggle for funding, and the assistance from the Canberra Southern Cross Club helps them provide much needed equipment or enables a community program to continue. I am amazed each year at the diversity of recipients. I know how important this funding is after discussing the grants with the members of other organisations each year.

I participate in a Variety Bash, as a participant I raise funds that go directly to Variety the Children's Charity. As an individual, without a corporate sponsor, it is difficult to raise funds and the Canberra Southern Cross Club's support in the way of a \$1,000 donation to Variety each year is of great assistance.

In the Canberra region Variety has provided support for families in the way of vehicle modifications, wheelchairs, communications equipment and wigs for children with cancer. This is direct and much needed support to families in the way of equipment. In the wider community Variety has assisted with providing liberty swings (swings for children in wheelchairs) in playgrounds and special schools in the district, the Nets Ambulance and two buses for the Belconnen Special School. Variety would not be able to provide this equipment without the fundraising of many individuals.

I thank the Canberra Southern Cross Club for their support to Variety and the many wonderful not-for profit organizations whose welfare and charity supports the Canberra Community. I strongly urge you to read the list of the recipients of these grants to understand, I know we would not receive this assistance through any other organization or government agency. We would not be able to replace this funding if our local Club was not there to provide this support.

	A.C.T. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OFFICE
SUBMISSION NUMBER	25
DATE AUTH'D FOR PUBLICATION	15.5.15

The assistance of the Club Industry in the ACT is reflected through our partnership with Canberra Southern Cross Club and it something that can only be maintained by the Club if they are able to remain a viable community asset.

We trust that your Committee will see the invaluable role the Clubs play in our Community

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Gough', written in a cursive style.

Robert Gough

Car 45

Variety the Children's Charity

11 May 2015