



Andrew Barr MLA

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING
MINISTER FOR PLANNING
MINISTER FOR TOURISM, SPORT AND RECREATION
MINISTER FOR GAMING AND RACING

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

Ms Amanda Bresnan
Chair
Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs
Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Ms Bresnan

Re: Annual and Financial Reports 2009-10

I write to follow up questions asked by Mr Steve Doszpot at the Committee's hearing 23 November, examining the annual report of the Canberra Institute of Technology.

Mr Doszpot asked:

1. Is it possible to get some information on that [consultation with teaching staff in the development of *Professional Practice at CIT*]?
2. How many young people do you have at the moment within the CIT framework that require post-school options who have [health-related] special needs requirements?
3. What are your expectations of what those numbers are likely to be within some of the developments that have occurred within standard education?
4. What sort of expertise do your current teachers within the CIT system have, and do you have any plans to cope with the influx, if you like, of further people with special needs coming into the CIT system?

The answers to Mr Doszpot's questions are:

1. The development of the document *Professional Practice at CIT* was discussed during at least seven of the nine formal AEU Deputation Meetings to the CIT Chief Executive between 19 October 2007 and 11 December 2009. There were at least two additional specific consultation meetings with the Australian Education union during

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601 GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601
Phone (02) 6205 0011 Fax (02) 6205 0157 Email barr@act.gov.au

2008 and 2009. In regard to CIT staff, there were consultations during 2009 with the CIT Band 2 Network, the CIT Senior Officer Grade C Network, CIT Directors and other CIT managers. The document was released at the CIT *Developing Us* Day on 27 January 2010 and circulated in hard copy to all CIT staff and placed on the CIT Staff Intranet site.

During 2010, presentations on the document were made to a number of CIT Centres and feedback requested. Note should also be made that the last page (24) of *Professional Practice at CIT* “welcomes recommendations for future revisions” and requests that they be sent to the CIT Director of the Centre for Organisational Capability.

2. In 2010, CIT had 126 students with a disability, aged under 18.
3. There has been no increase since 2008 of students under 18 with a disability. CIT is unable to predict future trends.
4. CIT provides ongoing professional development to teachers in Certificate IV in Assessment and Training, at the annual across-institute professional development day, and as requested. Workshops were recently provided on Asperger’s Syndrome, Learning Disability and Disability Standards for Education.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Barr MLA
Minister for Education and Training