



MEDIA RELEASE

Youth Coalition ACT Budget 2011-2012 Analysis

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Reengaging Young People

The Youth Coalition of the ACT, the peak body for youth affairs, is concerned that the ACT Budget 2011-2012 does not clearly articulate nor adequately resource the increased support of young peoples ongoing educational engagement and attainment, required under the ACT Youth Commitment.

'The Youth Coalition has worked closely with the Department of Education and Training over the past year,' Director Ms Emma Robertson said.

'As a result of this work, and continuing engagement with key stakeholders, the Youth Coalition developed our budget submission for 2011-2012, calling for resources for re-engaging vulnerable young people who are disengaged or at risk of disengaging, from education.'

'These concerns have not been addressed.'

However, the Youth Coalition commends the ACT Government for the significant funding of \$20 million over four years, allocated to support young people with disabilities in ACT schools.

'We commend the aims of this initiative, in seeking to provide equal opportunities for all students and enhancing the capacity of schools to do this.'

'It is vital that Education and Training initiatives are further developed and resourced in consultation with key stakeholders, including young people, their families, schools and youth support services, and in consideration of other work in allied fields, such as youth justice, out of home care, and housing.'

'We look forward to working with the ACT Government on the further development of these initiatives.'

For further comment please contact Emma Robertson on 0422 665 469

The Youth Coalition is the peak youth affairs body in the Australian Capital Territory and is responsible for representing the interests, rights, and wellbeing of people aged 12 to 25 years, and those who work with them.

www.youthcoalition.net