



Laying the Foundations for Future Steps

Analysis of the ACT Government 2008/09 Budget

May 2008

The Youth Coalition of the ACT acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as the traditional owners and continuing custodians of the lands of the ACT and we pay our respects to the Elders, families and ancestors. We acknowledge that the effect of forced removal of Indigenous children from their families as well as past racist policies and actions continues today.

We acknowledge that the Indigenous people hold distinctive rights as the original people of modern day Australia including the right to a distinct status and culture, self-determination and land. The Youth Coalition of the ACT celebrates Ngunnawal culture and the invaluable contribution it makes to our community.

The Youth Coalition of the ACT (Youth Coalition) is the peak youth affairs body in the Australian Capital Territory and is responsible for representing the interests of people aged between 12 and 25 years of age and those who work with them. The Youth Coalition works to actively promote the well being and aspirations of young people in the ACT with particular respect to their political, cultural, economic and social development. The Youth Coalition is represented on many ACT advisory structures and provides advice to the ACT Government on a range of issues related to young people and youth services. For more information phone the Youth Coalition on (02) 6247 3540 or email info@youthcoalition.net

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Thank you to the Youth Coalition team for their support.

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Laying the Foundations for Future Steps: **Youth Coalition of the ACT Analysis of the ACT Government Budget 2008 / 09**

The 2008/09 Budget contains a number of promising gains for young people, with a particular focus on infrastructure. The Budget features a number of initiatives for young people that aimed at improving access to services and education in the ACT. Other areas, however, have again been overlooked.

We congratulate the ACT Government on allocating:

- \$6m for playground and park upgrades
- \$14.2m to provide three community hubs, 6 neighbourhood halls and new community parks
- \$100,000 for a feasibility study for a new swimming pool in Gungahlin
- \$12.9m to improve public transport services
- \$402,000 for Equity in Student Learning over 4 years
- \$1.6m over 4 years for support for students with a disability
- \$2.5m over four years for an integrated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Support Service
- \$775,000 for the design of a mental health unit for young people
- \$90m for building the Women's and Children Hospital
- \$3.4m over four years for Moving Forward (careers education in secondary schools)
- \$4.2m over four years to support Vocational Education and Australian Apprenticeships
- \$2.7m to increase trainees in ACT Public Service

Though some promising initiatives have been launched, the primary causes of workforce development issues in the community sector have not been adequately addressed. In particular, the disparity in wages between community sector and Government workers, which differs by up to \$20,000 for similar positions, is a critical concern and needs immediate action by the ACT Government and significant investment workforce development opportunities for the youth sector.

The Youth Coalition is pleased that in the Youth Mental Health Unit is being designed, however, other gaps in services include queer specific services; refugee and multicultural services; and improved access to public housing for young people.

We look forward to working with the ACT Government and other community stakeholders in implementing the initiatives from this budget that relate to young people and youth services.

Meredith Hunter
Director

Part 1: EXPENDITURE INITIATIVES

i) CHIEF MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT			
Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
<p>Confronting the Demographic Challenge - Policy and Demographic Research (Budget Paper 3, page 65)</p>	<p>This will provide the Government with its own specialist demographer who will produce demographic analysis and population forecasting to inform the Government about the changing nature of Canberra's population, and to help agencies efficiently plan and deliver infrastructure and services to the community.</p>	<p>\$300,000 (2008-09) \$300,000 (2009-10) \$119,000 (2010-11) \$122,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: We support this initiative as the Youth Coalition has been calling for the ACT Government demographic work to be enhanced.</p> <p>Demographic analyses and population forecasting are crucial to inform the ACT Government and youth services about the changing nature of Canberra's youth population, and help agencies efficiently plan and deliver infrastructure and services to young people and their families.</p> <p>Next steps: The last demographic profile of young Canberrans, <i>Youth in the ACT: A Social and Demographic Profile (2002)</i> used primarily 1996 data – a new youth demographic profile should be a priority action.</p>
<p>Strengthening the Community (Budget Paper 3, page 65)</p>	<p>This initiative will continue to support the Community Inclusion Board in 2008-09 allowing it to advise on priorities, recommend policy and program reforms and draft an implementation plan for the ACT Government to improve social, economic and wellbeing outcomes for disadvantaged groups in the ACT.</p>	<p>\$450,000 (2008-09)</p>	<p>Foundation: It is imperative that the social justice principles outlined in the Canberra Social Plan are actioned.</p> <p>The Community Inclusion Board plays a role, alongside community peak bodies, in identifying priorities for disadvantaged people.</p>

	This initiative builds on the Community Inclusion Board's funded research and programs from 2003 to 2008 that defined the demographics of economically and socially excluded groups in the ACT and identified effective approaches to reducing exclusion and improving economic, health and wellbeing outcomes for these groups.		<p>Next steps: It is important that the funding available through the existing grants programs are increased to address needs identified in CIB research and to support innovation in the youth sector.</p> <p>We look forward to hearing the details of how the <i>Strengthening the Community</i> initiatives across the Chief Ministers Department and the Department of Disability Housing and Community Services will be rolled out.</p>
Community Support Fund (Budget Paper 3, page 66)	This initiative will establish a Community Support Fund to provide valuable small-scale and one off support for important priorities and those in need in the ACT, to support specific events, respond to emergency events or to make charitable donations from the ACT to specific organisations.	<p>\$150,000 (2008-09)</p> <p>\$154,000 (2009-10)</p> <p>\$158,000 (2010-11)</p> <p>\$162,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: This initiative is important in recognising that additional funds are required within youth and community sectors.</p> <p>Next steps: It is important that small grants funding such as this is accompanied by appropriate funded core funding for youth services.</p> <p>We look forward to hearing further information as to how this fund will be administered.</p>
ACT Arts Fund and Arts Capacity (Budget Paper 3, page 67)	This initiative will provide an increase to the ACT Arts Fund's base so that the Government can better meet the needs of the arts community, including support for the new Program Funding category, and increased support to the Key Arts Organisations Funding and Project Funding categories. It will also build the Government's capacity to deliver an increasingly diverse suite of programs, projects and initiatives to meet community expectations.	<p>\$450,000 (2008-09)</p> <p>\$461,000 (2009-10)</p> <p>\$473,000 (2010-11)</p> <p>\$485,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: We welcome this funding injection into arts funding in the ACT.</p> <p>Young people develop and have dynamic cultures that are distinct and separate from the broader ACT culture while also making other significant contributions to the cultural life of the ACT. Young people's cultures are influential in the development of self-identities and add to the vibrancy of the Canberra community.</p> <p>Next steps:</p>

			We look forward to hearing further information about how young and emerging artists will be able to access these new initiatives.
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ii) SHARED SERVICES CENTRE

Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
Addressing the ICT Skills Shortages (Budget Paper 3, page 72)	This will expand a staged ICT Traineeship Programme targeting ACT college students in Years 11 and 12, to meet InTACT's recruitment needs for generalist ICT support staff at the Information Technology Officer Grade 1 (ITO-1) level. The successful attraction and retention of suitable ICT staff underpins every aspect of ICT delivery and the ICT Traineeship Programme will enable the engagement of an additional 26 ICT Trainees over the two stages of the expanded program.	\$669,000 (funding amount recurrent to 2011 – 2012)	Foundation: It is encouraging that ACT Government is supporting young people to access information technology traineeships. In order for young people to begin and complete apprenticeships and traineeships, there is a responsibility placed on employers to provide appropriate, high quality training that supports young people's learning. Next steps: It is important that all ACT Government Departments identify areas other than ICT where they may be able to support similar initiatives.

iii) ACT HEALTH

Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
Mental Health Growth and Promoting Recovery (Budget Paper 3, page 74)	This initiative will address the identified needs in mental health in the ACT by enhancing community non-government services, carer and consumer participation and access to community mental health care across the continuum	\$2,000,000 (2008-09) \$2,075,000 (2009-10) \$2,153,000	Foundation: This responds to the Youth Coalition's calls for increased and recurrent funding for community based mental health services for young people and their families.

	with qualified and skilled staff.	(2010-11) \$2,224,000 (2011-12)	Next steps: We look forward to hearing how this initiative will build on existing programs and connect with existing and new youth mental health initiatives such as the STEPS and headspace ACT.
Integrated Prevention of Chronic Disease (Budget Paper 3, page 74)	This builds on the funding provided in previous budgets by enabling the referral of people with, and at risk of, chronic disease to appropriate prevention and support services in the community. The expanded community based services will prevent chronic disease, reduce its impact and provide support for people to improve their self-management and health outcomes.	\$1,000,000 (2008-09) \$1,034,000 (2009-10) \$1,069,000 (2010-11) \$1,106,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: The Youth Coalition strongly supports early intervention and prevention initiatives particularly considering adolescence is an important time in preventing the later onset of chronic diseases. Next steps: We look forward to hearing how this initiative will target groups with high rates of chronic diseases such as disadvantaged young people and their families.
Scoping Study for Primary Care Walk In Centres (Budget Paper 3, page 75)	This initiative will provide for a scoping study into establishing extended hour primary care walk in centres staffed to improve access to primary care for patients who require episodic, non-ongoing care for minor illness and injuries, which is consistent with the principles and aims of the <i>ACT Primary Health Care Strategy 2006-09</i> .	\$150,000 (2008-09)	Foundation: Due to the limited primary health services that are available, and accessible, to young people in the ACT the Youth Coalition supports initiatives that improve access to young people. Next steps: It is important to ensure that this service is youth friendly and connects and builds upon existing youth health services in the ACT.
Workforce Initiatives (Budget Paper 3, page 74)	This will allow ACT Health to build its workforce capacity, both directly and by providing training opportunities for new and expanded roles through various initiatives. These initiatives will strengthen the workforce against Nursing and Midwifery, Allied Health, and Medical workforce shortages. The initiatives will also ensure that the local	\$1,000,000 (2008-09) \$1,034,000 (2009-10) \$1,069,000 (2010-11) \$1,106,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: We support a well trained health workforce. Next steps: It is important to ensure that this training includes best practice in working with young people. It is also important to ensure that investments such as this are also made in the youth and

	and regional community continues to enjoy high quality health services into the future.		community sectors.
Integrated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Support Services (Budget Paper 3, page 76)	<p>This will provide targeted, intensive family support services to at-risk Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families through an integrated service delivery model jointly developed by the Department, the Department of Education and Training and the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services.</p> <p>The initiative will divert at-risk children away from the statutory care and protection system, reduce care and protection reports and re-reports, improve access to services and improve families' and children's well being.</p>	\$100,000 (2008-09) \$104,000 (2009-10) \$105,000 (2010-11) \$107,000 (2011-12)	<p>Foundation: We support this important initiative which recognises that the significant health inequities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people and families.</p> <p>We acknowledge this is a cross Departmental initiative that seeks to provide holistic support, minimise red tape and increase collaborative practices.</p> <p>Note: this initiative is part of a package of initiatives across ACT Health, Department of Education and Training and the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services.</p> <p>Next steps: It is important to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, services and programs are involved in the development and built upon as part of this initiative.</p> <p>It is important to document and evaluate these initiatives so as to be able to showcase their success.</p>
Primary Care Services at Companion House (Budget Paper 3, page 76)	This initiative will enhance the current medical program for refugees and humanitarian entrants operating from Companion House, by providing a part-time Registered Nurse (3 days per week) to better meet the increasingly complex needs of existing and future clients.	\$43,000 (2008-09) \$38,000 (2009-10) \$40,000 (2010-11) \$42,000	<p>Foundation: It is crucial that the service system has the capacity and flexibility to meet the specific health and wellbeing needs of young refugees and newly arrived young people.</p> <p>It is also significant that these health services will be provided through outreach and work with</p>

		(2011-12)	young refugees and newly arrived young people and their families in their communities.
Health Services for the Alexander Maconochie Centre (Budget Paper 3, page 77)	Expansion of existing correction health services to cater for the increased number and longer term care of prisoners at the Alexander Maconochie Centre. This initiative will provide for a high quality correctional health model, which will have a positive effect on inmates' lives and provide services equal to, based on individual need, those available in the general community.	\$988,000 (2008-09) \$1,018,000 (2009-10) \$1,048,000 (2010-11) \$1,080,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: The Youth Coalition supports health equity for Canberra's prisoner population. Next steps: It is crucial to ensure that these initiatives and health equity also occurs at the Bimberi Youth Detention Centre.

iv) DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
Working with Vulnerable People Checks (Budget Paper 3, page 79)	This initiative will develop a regulatory system to screen people who work with vulnerable people, specifically children, young people and vulnerable adults. The system will be administered through the Department of Justice and Community Safety from 2009-10 onwards.	\$182,000 (2008-09)	Foundation: We support a whole of community approach to the on-going strengthening of systems and structures that protect "vulnerable people". Next steps: There is limited evidence to suggest that universal screening alone can protect "vulnerable people". The Youth Coalition advocates for complementary evidence base initiatives such as appropriate investment in staff, supervision and training.
West Belconnen Children and Family Support Service (Budget Paper 3, page 79)	This builds on the funding provided in previous budgets by enabling the referral of people with, and at risk of, chronic disease to appropriate prevention and support services in the community. The	\$200,000 (2008-09) \$207,000 (2009-10)	Foundation: This initiative is a recognition that the Youth Coalition and others have been calling for services to be provided to young people and their families in West Belconnen.

	expanded community based services will prevent chronic disease, reduce its impact and provide support for people to improve their self-management and health outcomes.	\$215,000 (2010-11) \$223,000 (2011-12)	Next steps: It is important to ensure that this initiative builds on existing programs and links in with program developments occurring through U-Turn Youth Services (Belconnen Youth Centre).
Integrated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Support Services (Budget Paper 3, page 79)	This builds on the funding provided in previous budgets by enabling the referral of people with, and at risk of, chronic disease to appropriate prevention and support services in the community. The expanded community based services will prevent chronic disease, reduce its impact and provide support for people to improve their self-management and health outcomes.	\$395,000 (2008-09) \$406,000 (2009-10) \$413,000 (2010-11) \$420,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: We support this important initiative which recognises that it responds to the significant health inequities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people and families. We acknowledge this is cross Departmental initiative that seeks to provide holistic support, minimise red tape and increase collaborative practices. Note: this initiative is part of a package of initiatives across ACT Health, Department of Education and Training and the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services. Next steps: It is important to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, services and programs are involved in the development and built upon as part of this initiative. It is important to document and evaluate these initiatives so as to be able to showcase their success.
Specialised Children and Young People's Equipment Loan Service (Budget Paper 3,	This initiative provides children who have developmental delays and disabilities, aged 0-16 years, with access to a variety of equipment for assessment and trial purposes, as well as for loan	\$304,000 (2008-09)	Foundation: We support additional resources to be invested in support and infrastructure for young people with disabilities.

page 74)	prior to purchase. This equipment will significantly enhance functional outcomes and maximise the independence of these children and young people.		Next steps: It is important that additional initiatives are developed to meet the needs of young people post school.
Strengthening the Community (Budget Paper 3, page 79)	This initiative will assist community organisations to strengthen capacity, sustainability and address disadvantage in the community. It includes the establishment of a targeted grants scheme in 2008-09 and a portable long service leave scheme across community organisations during 2009-10.	\$700,000 (2008-09) \$800,000 (2009-10) \$800,000 (2010-11) \$800,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: This is one step towards providing better conditions to workers in the youth and community sectors. Next steps: We are concerned that the funding allocated to establish the portable long service scheme is inadequate. We look forward further working with ACT Government to progress sector viability issues, including government and non-government wage disparity. It is important that the funding available through the existing grants programs are increased to address needs of disadvantage young people and their families and to support innovation in the youth sector. We look forward to hearing the details of how the <i>Strengthening the Community</i> initiatives across the Chief Ministers Department and the Department of Disability Housing and Community Services will be rolled out.
Homelessness Drop-in Centre (2nd Appropriation) (Budget Paper 3, page 80)	This initiative provides for the continuation and expansion of the Early Morning Drop-in Centre located in Pilgrim House Civic. The expansion of the services will include a range of responses for 50 clients per day	\$195,000 (2008-09) \$200,000 (2009-10) \$205,000	Foundation: We support additional services and supports for young people experiencing homelessness.

	including food services, emergency relief, drop-in services and flexible support to address homelessness and associated poor health.	(2010-11) \$211,000 (2011-12)	
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v) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
Guardianship of Last Resort Services (Budget Paper 3, page 82)	This initiative provides two additional professional staff for the Public Advocate ACT, to allow that office to adequately meet its increasing statutory guardianship responsibilities, both as guardian of last resort and emergency guardian, for vulnerable members of our community.	\$237,000 (2008-09) \$245,000 (2009-10) \$249,000 (2010-11) \$253,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: We welcome additional resources being invested in the Office of the Public Advocate.
Additional Funding for Liquor Regulation (Budget Paper 3, page 82)	This initiative will provide for an additional two liquor inspectors to improve the liquor regulatory regime, which will assist in lessening alcohol related violence and anti-social behaviour.	\$241,000 (2008-09) \$248,000 (2009-10) \$256,000 (2010-11) \$259,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: It is important that funding is allocated towards lessening alcohol related violence and anti-social behaviour - these issues disproportionately affect young Canberrans. Next steps: It is important to ensure that lessening alcohol related violence and anti-social behaviour in our community is approached in a multifaceted way and is based on harm minimisation principles as outlined in the ACT Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Strategy 2004 – 2008. It is hoped that the Liquor Act (1977) Review will inform additional measures that can seek to

			address these community wide issues.
Prison and Offender Related Crime Prevention Measures (Budget Paper 3, page 83)	This initiative will fund several new programs for prisoners while they are in the ACT correctional facility, the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC), and in preparation for their release. A focus on the establishment of a therapeutic community, on planning for supported accommodation and employment/skills training are all in keeping with the throughcare case management model that underpins the AMC's planned operations.	\$2,442,000 (2008-09) \$2,507,000 (2009-10) \$2,550,000 (2010-11) \$2,616,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: The high rates of alcohol and other drug issues amongst prisoners are well documented. Therefore, the development of alcohol and other drug services and transitional support services is welcomed and crucial in reducing recidivism, fostering positive rehabilitation and sustainable community integration of prisoners post-release. It is encouraging that this additional funding will contribute be provided and the programs will not be relying on existing youth and community sector resources. Next steps: It is important to ensure that targeted initiatives are put in place to support children of incarcerated parents. It is important to ensure that targeted programs are developed to support the specific need of young people aged 18 – 25 within Alexander Maconochie Centre.
Alexander Maconochie Centre - Transitional Costs (Budget Paper 3, page 83)	This initiative facilitates a smooth and graduated transition for sentenced prisoners and remandees into the Alexander Maconochie Centre following its commissioning in early 2008-09. It also funds the costs of decommissioning the existing Belconnen remand facility and reconfiguring the Symonston temporary remand facility to accommodate periodic detainees.	\$1,453,000 (2008-09)	Foundation: The high rates of alcohol and other drug issues amongst prisoners are well documented. Therefore, the development of alcohol and other drug services and transitional support services is welcomed and crucial in reducing recidivism, fostering positive rehabilitation and sustainable community integration of prisoners post-release. It is encouraging that this additional funding will contribute be provided and the programs will not be relying on existing youth and community sector resources.

			<p>This initiative is particularly important considering the lack of affordable housing in the ACT.</p> <p>Next steps: It is important to ensure that targeted initiatives are put in place to support children of incarcerated parents.</p> <p>It is important to ensure that targeted programs are developed to support the specific need of young people aged 18 – 25 within Alexander Maconochie Centre.</p>
<p>Alexander Maconochie Centre - Operating Costs (Budget Paper 3, page 84)</p>	<p>This enables ACT Corrective Services to resource the operations of the 301 bed correctional facility, the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC), planned for commissioning in early 2008-09 and to ensure adequate support for the AMC in the broader justice portfolio. This level of resourcing will allow ACT prisoners and remandees to be accommodated and managed locally in a centre to be operated on a rehabilitation focussed and human rights compliance model, rather than being sent to NSW.</p>	<p>\$3,379,000 (2008-09)</p> <p>\$3,528,000 (2009-10)</p> <p>\$3,602,000 (2010-11)</p> <p>\$3,718,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: The high rates of alcohol and other drug issues amongst prisoners are well documented. Therefore, the development of alcohol and other drug services and transitional support services is welcomed and crucial in reducing recidivism, fostering positive rehabilitation and sustainable community integration of prisoners post-release.</p> <p>It is encouraging that this additional funding will contribute be provided and the programs will not be relying on existing youth and community sector resources.</p> <p>Next steps: It is important to ensure that targeted initiatives are put in place to support children of incarcerated parents.</p> <p>It is important to ensure that targeted programs are developed to support the specific need of young people aged 18 – 25 within Alexander Maconochie Centre.</p>

<p>Crime Reduction (2nd Appropriation) (Budget Paper 3, page 84)</p>	<p>This initiative centres on improving safety and reducing crime by providing funding for ACT Policing to support a multi-agency pilot project aimed at addressing crime and anti-social behaviour in higher density public housing; and by providing up to 5,000 engine immobilisers and the trial in 2007-08 of anchor bolts in public motor cycle parking bays to help prevent opportunistic and professional vehicle theft.</p>	<p>\$635,000 (2008-09) \$141,000 (2009-10) \$146,000 (2010-11) \$152,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: Residents in high density public housing should have the same expectation of safety in their homes as the rest of the Canberra community. We strongly support a multi-agency and community development approaches to this pilot.</p> <p>Next steps: We look forward to hearing how young people specific safety needs will be incorporated into this initiative.</p> <p>It is important to document and evaluate the success of this initiative so as to be able to show case its success and advocate for recurrent funding.</p>
<p>Sexual Assault Reform Program (2nd Appropriation) (Budget Paper 3, page 84 - 85)</p>	<p>The Sexual Assault Reform Program is designed to improve the criminal justice system response to investigating and prosecuting sexual offences, including thorough measures to reduce trauma for victims when giving evidence. This includes establishment of facilities to enable a witness to give evidence from a location away from the court room, and technology in the courts to enable the victim's evidence to be pre-recorded and re-played when needed without requiring the victim to be questioned again at retrials or appeals. This initiative also provides for additional resources in ACT Policing and specialist staff in prosecutions and witness assistance, to interview and support victims of sexual assault, and to enhance capacity in legal policy, training and development and evaluation to ensure efficient sustainable</p>	<p>\$1,069,000 (2008-09) \$867,000 (2009-10) \$879,000 (2010-11) \$892,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: We welcome the second appropriation of this initiative as a recognition of the importance of providing coordinated support to young people who have been victims of sexual assault.</p> <p>Next steps: We look forward to hearing further information as to how the youth sector will be involved in the further roll out of this initiative.</p>

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vi) DEPARTMENT OF TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES			
Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
ACTION - Network 08 Implementation (Budget Paper 3, page 94)	This initiative will implement 'Network 08', improving the ACTION bus network, in response to extensive community consultation undertaken in late 2007. The improved bus network will provide additional and more frequent bus services.	\$3,050,000 (2008-09) \$3,170,000 (2009-10) \$3,300,000 (2010-11) \$3,430,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: The Youth Coalition called for improvements to the ACTION bus network through our 2008/09 Budget Submission. Young people generally fit into the low-income bracket and have an inflexible reliance on bus services. While young people have a number of concerns about ACTION services in the ACT, frequency of bus services is the primary factor that, if improved, would increase young people's usage of ACTION services in the ACT. Next steps: We look forward to seeing how the recommendations made by the Youth Coalition of the ACT to the <i>Legislative Assembly Committee on Planning and Environment Inquiry into ACTION Buses</i> will inform 'Network 08'.
ACTION - ACT Prison Visitors' Bus Service (Budget Paper 3, page 94)	The service will provide public transport to prison visitors at the prescribed visiting times. The service will operate six days per week between the Woden Bus Interchange and the Alexander Maconochie Centre.	\$70,000 (2008-09) \$75,000 (2009-10) \$78,000 (2010-11) \$79,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: This initiative recognises the importance of prisoners maintaining contact with their families and communities. Next steps: It is important that this initiative is mirrored for Bimberi Youth Detention Centre.

<p>Nightlink Taxi Scheme (2nd Appropriation) (Budget Paper 3, page 96)</p>	<p>This initiative will provide a taxi scheme to improve public transport provision and public safety in Civic late at night through a reliable, low cost service provided by large vehicle taxis on Friday and Saturday nights.</p>	<p>\$254,000 (2008-09) \$150,000 (2009-10) \$150,000 (2010-11) \$150,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: This initiative is important to ensure that young people are safe in Civic and that the lack of late night public transport is partially addressed.</p> <p>Access to affordable, safe and timely public transport is a key socio-economic determinant of health and wellbeing for young people.</p> <p>Next step: We look forward to supporting the ACT Government to implement additional innovative strategies to improve young people's access to public transport in the ACT.</p> <p>We look forward to seeing how the recommendations made by the Youth Coalition of the ACT to the <i>Legislative Assembly Committee on Planning and Environment Inquiry into ACTION Buses</i> will inform 'Network 08'.</p>
<p>ACTION – Improved Bus Network Services (2nd Appropriation) (Budget Paper 3, page 96)</p>	<p>This initiative will allow ACTION to respond to the report of the Standing Committee on Planning and the Environment Inquiry into ACTION Buses and to improve service levels through Network 08, planned for implementation in June 2008.</p>	<p>\$5,500,000 (2008-09) \$5,500,000 (2009-10) \$5,500,000 (2010-11) \$5,500,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: The Youth Coalition called for improvements to the ACTION bus network through our 2008/09 Budget Submission.</p> <p>Access to affordable, safe and timely public transport is a key socio-economic determinant of health and wellbeing for young people. Young people generally fit into the low-income bracket and have an inflexible reliance on bus services. While young people have a number of concerns about ACTION services in the ACT, frequency of bus services is the primary factor that, if improved, would increase young people's usage of ACTION services in the ACT.</p>

			<p>Next steps: We look forward to seeing how the recommendations made by the Youth Coalition of the ACT to the <i>Legislative Assembly Committee on Planning and Environment Inquiry into ACTION Buses</i> will inform 'Network 08'.</p>
<p>Implementation of Climate Change Strategy (2nd Appropriation) (Budget Paper 3, page 96)</p>	<p>The initiative will commence delivery of a range of climate change initiatives as outlined in the ACT Climate Change Strategy 2007-2025 and the supporting Action Plan 2007-2011 launched in July 2007. This will include free bus travel for bicycle riders, doubling the free plant issue scheme entitlement and a grant program to enable community and not for profit groups to implement responses to climate change.</p>	<p>\$871,000 (2008-09) \$172,000 (2009-10) \$173,000 (2010-11) \$173,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: We look forward to hearing further details about the grant program and how it will support community and not for profit groups to implement climate change.</p>

vii) HOUSING ACT			
Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
<p>Improving Housing Outcomes for Children Living in Public Housing (Budget Paper 3, page 98)</p>	<p>This initiative will provide for an assessment of the needs of children residing in public housing to ensure that the accommodation provided meets the needs and circumstances of the children.</p>	<p>\$110,000 (2008-09)</p>	<p>Foundation: We strongly support having the specific needs and issues of children residing in public housing addressed.</p> <p>Next steps: We look forward to working with Housing ACT to identify key stakeholders, connect with youth services and build on evidence base work that has been conducted in the ACT in regards to research with children and young people.</p>

viii) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
<p>Literacy and Numeracy for All (Budget Paper 3, page 100)</p>	<p>This initiative builds capacity within the teaching workforce by providing targeted professional development to literacy and numeracy coordinators in all public schools, to enhance their knowledge and skills about best practice in teaching literacy and numeracy. It will assist schools in implementing a whole school approach to improving the literacy and numeracy outcomes of all students.</p>	<p>\$131,000 (2008-09) \$275,000 (2009-10) \$282,000 (2010-11) \$289,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: We welcome the investment of recurrent funding to support the further development of literacy and numeracy initiatives in schools.</p> <p>Next steps: We look forward to hearing further information as to how this initiative is administered through school based management to ensure it targets and reaches young people in greatest need of these limited resources.</p> <p>We would like further information as to how this links to the community based programs such as the High School Student Support Centres.</p> <p>We would also like further information on whether funding for professional development has been extended to Youth Support Workers in Schools.</p>
<p>Equity in Student Learning - Student Equity Funds (Budget Paper 3, page 100)</p>	<p>This provides additional School Equity Funds (SEF) to support students in schools identified as serving lower socio-economic communities. It will provide additional resources to enable these schools to address the effects of socio-economic disadvantage on student learning, especially in the areas of literacy and numeracy.</p>	<p>\$57,000 (2008-09) \$112,000 (2009-10) \$115,000 (2010-11) \$118,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: We welcome the additional funds allocated to disadvantaged young people to support their engagement in the mainstream education system.</p> <p>Next steps: We look forward to hearing further information as to how this initiative is administered through school based management to ensure it targets and reaches young people in greatest need of these limited resources.</p>

<p>Equity in Student Learning - Students with a Disability (Budget Paper 3, page 100)</p>	<p>This initiative will help meet the needs of increasing numbers of students and young children with a disability in ACT government preschools and schools, including those with very complex needs.</p>	<p>\$388,000 (2008-09) \$398,000 (2009-10) \$408,000 (2010-11) \$418,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: We welcome the additional recurrent funds allocated to meet the needs of students with a disability.</p> <p>Next steps: We look forward to hearing further information as to how this initiative is administered through school based management to ensure it targets and reaches young people in greatest need of these limited resources.</p>
<p>VET Growth to Meet Skills Shortages through User Choice (Budget Paper 3, page 101)</p>	<p>This initiative will support current demand for vocational training for Australian Apprenticeships through User Choice in the ACT.</p>	<p>\$1,000,000 (2008-09) \$1,028,000 (2009-10) \$1,056,000 (2010-11) \$1,085,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: We strongly support initiatives that provide additional Vocational Education and Training opportunities for young people.</p> <p>In order for young people to begin and complete apprenticeships and traineeships, there is a responsibility placed on employers to provide appropriate, high quality training that supports young people's learning.</p> <p>These opportunities should be done in an environment where employers understand and uphold their obligations as responsible employers and provide a workplace that is safe.</p> <p>Flexibility and adaptability in the workplace is another component that is critical to the success of young people, it is important that young people do not miss out on continuing and completing training and qualifications because of a need to address important issues in other aspects of their lives.</p> <p>Next step:</p>

			<p>We look forward to hearing further information about how the range of Vocational Education and Training initiatives outlined through this Budget will engage with disadvantaged young people.</p> <p>It is crucial that young apprentices are paid a liveable wage and provided with subsidises and support to optimise and sustain their engagement in Vocational Education and Training.</p>
<p>SPICE Program for Young People at Risk (Budget Paper 3, page 102)</p>	<p>This establishes ongoing funding to enable Volunteering ACT to continue to deliver the Students Participating in Community Enterprises (SPICE) program. The program will be offered to all students between the ages of 12 to 15 years at high school in the ACT who are at risk of dropping out prior to completing their Year 10 certificate.</p>	<p>\$193,000 (2008-09)</p> <p>\$198,000 (2009-10)</p> <p>\$203,000 (2010-11)</p> <p>\$208,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: The Youth Coalition strongly supports the provision of recurrent funding for the SPICE Program.</p>
<p>Moving Forward - Transitions, Careers and Vocational Learning (Budget Paper 3, page 102)</p>	<p>This initiative provides targeted staffing support to each ACT Secondary college to facilitate the transition of students as they enter and move through the college sector and improve students' access to careers programs and vocational learning. The teachers will work between the college and high schools in their region to embed transition activities and pathways planning in the college sector; review and manage a range of VET programs; and expand and improve current careers activities in colleges.</p>	<p>\$829,000 (2008-09)</p> <p>\$849,000 (2009-10)</p> <p>\$870,000 (2010-11)</p> <p>\$892,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: The Youth Coalition strongly supports the provision transitional supports for students in the ACT Secondary college system.</p> <p>Next step: It is important to recognise that young people's careers and vocational transitional support is inherently connected with their health and wellbeing. Additional supports are needed in the ACT Secondary college system to provide the holistic support young people require to make transitions.</p> <p>It is also important to recognise the significant contribution that youth services make towards supporting young people's transitions throughout the education system. Youth services required</p>

			additional funding to meet this demand.
<p>Integrated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Support Services (Budget Paper 3, page 102)</p>	<p>This initiative will provide targeted, intensive family support services to at-risk Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, through an integrated service delivery model jointly developed by the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, the Department of Education and Training and the ACT Health.</p>	<p>\$100,000 (2008-09)</p> <p>\$104,000 (2009-10)</p> <p>\$105,000 (2010-11)</p> <p>\$107,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: We support this important initiative which recognises that it responds to the significant health inequities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people and families.</p> <p>We acknowledge this is a cross Departmental initiative that seeks to provide holistic support, minimise red tape and increase collaborative practices.</p> <p>Note: this initiative is part of a package of initiatives across ACT Health, Department of Education and Training and the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services.</p> <p>Next steps: It is important to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, services and programs are involved in the development and built upon as part of this initiative.</p> <p>It is important to document and evaluate these initiatives so as to be able to showcase their success.</p>
<p>Indigenous Education (2nd Appropriation) (Budget Paper 3, page 103)</p>	<p>This initiative provides a suite of strategies aimed at improving the literacy and numeracy outcomes for Indigenous students. The initiative aims to enhance skills and develop effective strategies to improve learning outcomes for students in Kindergarten to Year 4, providing support to students in Year 6 to transition to high school, and leadership for Indigenous education</p>	<p>\$934,000 (2008-09)</p> <p>\$958,000 (2009-10)</p> <p>\$982,000 (2010-11)</p> <p>\$1,006,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: The Youth Coalition strongly supports this important initiative that seeks to redress the educational inequities experienced by Indigenous young people.</p> <p>Through our budget submission we called for funding to be allocated to Gugan Gulwan Aboriginal Youth Corporation to maintain their literacy and numeracy, and transitional programs.</p>

	through professional development programs for all schools.		Next steps: We look forward to hearing how Gugan Gulwan Aboriginal Youth Corporation will be involved in this initiative.
Student Welfare (Pastoral Care) Package (2 nd Appropriation) (Budget Paper 3, page 103)	This provides improved pastoral care and student welfare services to students in ACT public high schools. The initiative will provide for an additional 17 senior pastoral care teacher for public high schools, as well as a further 17 staff to strengthen the provision of alternative programs for students at risk.	\$3,987,000 (2008-09) \$4,201,000 (2009-10) \$4,424,000 (2010-11) \$4,535,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: We welcome the second appropriation of this initiative as a recognition of the importance of providing well funded student support services to young people in the ACT. We welcome the strengthening of alternative education programs for young people thereby supporting them to complete their education. Next steps: We look forward to hearing further information as to how the further 17 staff will be rolled out to strengthen the provision of alternative programs for “students at risk” and how this will build upon existing alternative education programs. It is important that these services link in with youth services that provide alternative education programs and support to young people accessing these programs.
Disability Access in Non-Government Schools (Budget Paper 3, page 104)	This initiative will target additional resources to meet the needs of students with a disability in non-government schools, leading to better outcomes by providing an opportunity for these students to have enhanced access to non-government educational programs.	\$400,000 (2008-09) \$400,000 (2009-10) \$400,000 (2010-11) \$400,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: We welcome additional resources allocated to young people with disabilities to access education in non-government schools. Next steps: We would like further clarification as to how young people with a disability will access these programs and how they will be targeted.

ix) CANBERRA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
<p>Increased Outputs - Additional VET (Budget Paper 3, page 108)</p>	<p>This initiative will provide additional training hours and will increase the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) annual target for vocational education and training in the local and regional market from 3.735 million hours to 3.770 million hours, to address unmet demand. The training covered by this initiative includes a combination of traditional classroom, flexible learning, distance and recognition of prior learning (RPL). It will also provide for the growth in demand for the new CIT Vocational College.</p>	<p>\$600,000 (2008-09) \$616,000 (2009-10) \$632,000 (2010-11) \$647,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: We welcome additional funding to the Canberra Institute of Technology to strengthen post-school options for young people in the ACT.</p> <p>Next steps: We look forward to hearing further information about this initiative will be rolled out particularly in terms of supporting students with complex needs.</p> <p>It is crucial that young people have access to liveable income support and are provided with subsidises and support to optimise and sustain their engagement in Vocational Education and Training and other post-school options.</p>
<p>Vocational College - Customised Student Support Program (Budget Paper 3, page 108)</p>	<p>This initiative provides specific support services to realise the development of a holistic, integrated learning environment that engages students and fast tracks them into work. Many students coming to the CIT Vocational College have complex needs which require individualised study programs, and highly customised support to ensure their chances of successful study and transition to work. Support offered will include staff dedicated to providing additional outside the classroom, assistance to students to help them link into the broader CIT community, as well as organising extracurricular activities to</p>	<p>\$250,000 (2008-09) \$256,000 (2009-10) \$262,000 (2010-11) \$269,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: We are please to see an injection of funding to support young people, and those with complex needs to be able to access and sustain their engagement in post-school education.</p> <p>This initiative recognises that all young people, regardless of gender, culture, social background or where they live, will have the opportunity for full social and economic participation.</p> <p>Next steps: There is a clear statistical picture of the challenges young people with complex needs face when making transitions and engaging in post-school options.</p>

	assist in the students' individual development.		It is important that initiatives such as this are provided with sufficient funding to meet young people's needs and are connected with the broader service system.
Disabled Students - Growth in Student Numbers (Budget Paper 3, page 108)	This initiative involves supporting growing demand in the number of students with disabilities at CIT. It provides equipment to support the increase in the number of students requiring high-level support. This will include the acquisition of specialised equipment such as large computer monitors and adaptive software to assist disabled students with their learning.	\$72,000 (2008-09) \$74,000 (2009-10) \$76,000 (2010-11) \$78,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: We are please to see an injection of funding to support young people with disabilities at the Canberra Institute of Technology. This initiative recognises that all young people, regardless of gender, culture, social background or where they live, will have the opportunity for full social and economic participation. Next steps: This initiative needs to be part of a larger package of supports provided to young people with disabilities to participate in post-school options.

x) CULTURAL FACILITIES CORPORATION

Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
Access to Cultural Programs for Disadvantaged Groups and Individuals and those with Special Needs (Budget Paper 3, page 110)	This initiative will enable the introduction of a four-part strategy that is targeted to assist disadvantaged groups and individuals, and those with special needs, to access the Corporation's cultural programs. This includes extending: the Canberra Theatre Centre Community Ticket Scheme; support services to assist people with disabilities or special needs to experience live	\$139,000 (2008-09) \$142,000 (2009-10) \$146,000 (2010-11) \$149,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: We are pleased that this initiative will assist disadvantaged young people and their families to participate in a range of cultural programs. Next steps: We look forward to hearing how this initiative will work with youth services to ensure that disadvantaged young people are aware of and supported to access these programs.

	theatre; and a range of theatre audience development programs, as well as introducing a new program to support disadvantaged children attend education programs.		
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xi) LEGAL AID COMMISSION (ACT)

Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
Prisoners' Legal Service and Expanded Criminal Duty Lawyer Service (Budget Paper 3, page 112)	This initiative will establish a Prisoners' Legal Service at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC), and an expanded duty lawyer service at the ACT Magistrates Court. Providing legal services to prisoners and detainees in the AMC supports human rights and access to justice principles. The expanded duty lawyer service at the ACT Magistrates Court is expected to result in improved efficiency, and the saving of time as well as unnecessary legal costs.	\$148,000 (2008-09) \$152,000 (2009-10) \$153,000 (2010-11) \$154,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: We strongly support the establishment of a Prisoners' Legal Service at the Alexander Maconochie Centre Rates of recidivism are concerning for all prisoners and a successful return to the community is a key factor in reducing re-offending. It is vital that prisoners have access to legal services in areas known to impact on post release outcomes. Prisoners require access to a range of legal services including family law. There is great potential for this initiative to work closely with community based services to, in partnership, deliver a range of coordinated of legal services available to prisoners. Next steps: We hope that this initiative will be expanded to meet the specific legal needs of young people at Bimberi Youth Detention Centre.

Part 2: Capital Initiatives

xii) ACT HEALTH			
Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
Adult Mental Health Inpatient Facility (Budget Paper 5, page 53)	This provides for the construction of a 40 bed Adult Mental Health Inpatient Unit at The Canberra Hospital (TCH), replacing the existing facility at TCH campus. The initiative aims to address the shortcomings in the existing infrastructure for adult inpatient mental health treatment, by providing a new facility that promotes safety against aggressive, impulsive and unpredictable behaviours.	\$3,000,000 (2008-09) \$1,263,000 (2009-10) \$8,000,000 (2010-11) \$0 (2011-12)	Foundation: We welcome this initiative. Next steps: Due to the announcement that the new youth mental health unit is catering for 13 – 25 year olds we are unclear as to whether the adult facility will only provide a service for those over 25 years. We would like further information as to how the unit will work with youth mental health services such as STEPS (step up step down facility) and headspace ACT (new youth mental health service based at the University of Canberra).
Secure Adult Mental Health Unit (Budget Paper 5, page 53)	This provides for the construction of a 15 bed Secure Adult Mental Health Unit at The Canberra Hospital. The unit will provide a new service accommodating patients requiring short-to-medium term treatment and placement in a secure facility.	\$1,500,000 (2008-09) \$5,000,000 (2009-10) \$4,660,000 (2010-11) \$0 (2011-12)	Foundation: We welcome this initiative. Next steps: Due to the announcement that the new youth mental health unit is catering for 13 – 25 year olds we are unclear as to whether this facility will only provide a service for those over 25 years.
Mental Health Assessment Unit (Budget Paper 5, page 53)	This initiative provides for the design and construction of a Mental Health Assessment Unit adjacent to the Emergency Department at The Canberra Hospital.	\$1,639,000 (2008-09) \$371,000 (2009-10)	Foundation: We welcome this initiative. Next steps: Due to the announcement that the new youth

	The Mental Health Assessment Unit will be a short stay observation unit aimed at providing a more appropriate mental health assessment and treatment environment at the point of presentation and as an alternative environment to stabilise and discharge clients.	\$0 (2010-11) \$0 (2011-12)	mental health unit is catering for 13 – 25 year olds we are unclear as to whether this facility will only provide a service for those over 25 years.
Mental Health Young Persons Unit (Budget Paper 5, page 53)	This initiative is for the forward design of an inpatient mental health facility for young people. The facility will comprise 20 beds and the secure subdivision of the unit in order to meet the needs and safety of younger clients from 13-25 years. The unit will incorporate the integration of clinical and associated services. These include inpatient, allied health and community-based services in order to improve the transition from inpatient stay to the community. The facility is to be located adjacent to Calvary Hospital.	\$775,000 (2008-09)	<p>Foundation: The Youth Coalition has been calling for this initiative for several years and we are pleased to see progress.</p> <p>We support this initiative's recognition that young people aged 13 – 25 years tailored specific mental health services that are targeted to their needs.</p> <p>Next steps: We look forward to being part of the forward design consultation processes.</p> <p>We would like further information as to who is now responsible for young people aged 18 – 25 years and how transitions will be managed - as the services were previously provided via the adult mental health system.</p> <p>We would like further information as to how the unit will work with youth mental health services such as STEPS (step up step down facility) and headspace ACT (new youth mental health service based at the University of Canberra).</p>
Women's and Children's Hospital (Budget Paper 5, page 54)	This initiative will enable the development of a women and children's hospital consistent with the objectives and priorities of the CADP. This will incorporate the new neonatal intensive care unit, a new paediatric unit and	\$4,000,000 (2008-09) \$27,500,000 (2009-10) \$42,500,00	<p>Foundation: This is a very welcome initiative and will co-locate several women and children medical services in the same building.</p> <p>Next steps:</p>

	extended and refurbished maternity and gynaecology units.	(2010-11) \$16,000,000 (2011-12)	We will look forward to hearing how services and support will be targeted towards young mothers and their support people. We also hope that culturally appropriate services and care will be developed in consultation with potential service users.
New Gungahlin Health Centre (Budget Paper 5, page 54 - 55)	This initiative provides for the design and construction of a new Gungahlin health centre and is consistent with the objectives of the CADP.	\$1,800,000 (2008-09) \$10,200,000 (2009-10) \$6,000,000 (2010-11) \$0 (2011-12)	Foundation: This initiative will seek to ensure equitable access to health services for young people and their families in Gungahlin. Next steps: We are interested in the types of health services that will be available and possible collaborations with youth and community based health and wellbeing programs. We would also like information as to how the Centre will link with the expansion of youth health services in the ACT.
Refurbishment of Health Centres (Budget Paper 5, page 55)	This initiative provides for the refurbishment of existing health centres to meet the changing needs of the communities they serve.	\$500,000 (2008-09) \$4,500,000 (2009-10)	Foundation: We welcome this initiative. Next steps: We look forward to hearing how young people will be involved in the consultation process to ensure the health centres are youth friendly.
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Residential Alcohol and Other Drug Rehabilitation Facility (2nd Appropriation) (Budget Paper 5, page 55)	This initiative will provide for a culturally appropriate residential drug and alcohol rehabilitation facility in the ACT, servicing the adult Indigenous population, and is seen as an appropriate response to this identified need. The residential rehabilitation facility will provide for up to 16 participants to participate in a holistic community with a therapeutic program aimed at supporting them through the	\$892,000 (2008-09) \$4,690,000 (2009-10)	Foundation: This is the second appropriation for this facility and we are pleased to see that progress is being made. Next steps: It is essential that meaningful consultation and engagement with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community is ongoing during the development and establishment of this service.

	rehabilitation and recovery process and assisting with the transition back into the community.		We look forward to hearing how this service will target the needs of young people.
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xiii) DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
Belconnen Community Centre - Upgrade Heating and Air Conditioning Systems (Budget Paper 5, page 57)	This initiative will replace the existing heating units, upgrade the air-cooling plants and modify the circulation vents at the Belconnen Community Centre. The upgrade will provide a modern energy efficient heating and cooling system that will deliver an improved environment for the staff and community groups and reduce the costs associated with the frequent breakdowns and failures of the current system.	\$1,000,000 (2008-09)	Foundation: We welcome this initiative. Next steps: We look forward to hearing whether this includes upgrading the heating and air conditioning systems at U-Turn Youth Services (Belconnen Youth Centre).
Forde Community Centre (Budget Paper 5, page 57)	This initiative will establish and fit-out the new community centre at Forde. The community centre will provide a facility that will help build a strong sense of community identity and commitment. The centre will be used by the residents of Forde and the surrounding suburbs and will facilitate the development of community groups and networks.	\$352,000 (2008-09)	Foundation: We welcome this initiative. Next steps: We look forward to hearing how young people will be included in consultation processes as well as supported and encouraged to access this facility. We also look forward to hearing how this service can link with the Gungahlin Youth Services (Gungahlin Youth Centre).
Special Purpose Facility for Disability ACT Clients – Feasibility Study (Budget Paper 5, page 58)	The feasibility study will investigate and provide advice on the accommodation needs of people with highly challenging/violent behaviours related to disability, autism and life trauma, young people with chronic progressive neurological disabilities and people with	\$94,000 (2008-09)	Foundation: We welcome this initiative. Next steps: We look forward to participating in consultation processes on design and delivery of the service.

	long term chronic disabilities.		<p>The proposed facility appears to be attempting to cater for a diverse range of situations and we are concerned that it will be unable to address individual needs.</p> <p>We have questions regarding the age range and to the appropriateness of accommodating young people with a much older age group.</p>
<p>Establishment of Regional Community Facilities and Neighbourhood Halls (Budget Paper 5, page 57)</p>	<p>This initiative provides resources to develop significant community infrastructure in response to the consultation with the community on the future use of former school sites. The community infrastructure includes Regional Community Facilities that will utilise the existing buildings at Cook, Melrose and Weston to accommodate community organisations and the development of nine Neighbourhood Halls for casual hire. The facilities aim to satisfy a significant proportion of the demand for community space in these suburbs and add to the revitalisation of local precincts through community engagement.</p>	<p>\$7,089,000 (2008-09)</p> <p>\$15,522,000 (2009-10)</p>	<p>Foundation: This is a welcome initiative. We are pleased to see that the accommodation needs of community based youth services will be met and that quality facilities will be provided.</p> <p>Next steps: Access to community services are important and therefore we hope that regular bus services will be available close to the regional community facilities to facilitate young people's participation.</p> <p>We look forward to hearing how young people will be supported and encouraged to access the neighbourhood halls.</p>
<p>Child and Family Centre - Belconnen Forward Design (Budget Paper 5, page 57)</p>	<p>This initiative provides for the forward design of a third child and family centre in the Belconnen region.</p>	<p>\$250,000 (2008-09)</p>	<p>Foundation: This is a welcome initiative and will provide important services to young people and families in Belconnen.</p> <p>Next steps: We look forward to hearing how the centre will work with the new youth health service funding for Belconnen, headspace ACT and the proposed youth mental health unit.</p> <p>We will be requesting information as to whether</p>

			targeted support will be provided to young parents.
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xiv) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
Alexander Maconochie Centre - Chapel and Quiet Place (Budget Paper 3, page 60)	This provides a facility for detainees at the ACT's new correctional facility, the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC), to pursue their religious, cultural or spiritual observances, leading to reductions in stress, anxiety and disruptive behaviour. It will also facilitate religious education and chaplaincy services.	\$200,000 (2008-09) \$313,000 (2009-10)	Foundation: We welcome this initiative as it recognises that prisoners require a range of support and that the rehabilitation process is multi-faceted. Next steps: We hope that all religious and spiritual beliefs will be catered for through on-going consultation with the prisoners and their families.
Closed Circuit Television Project Phase 3 (Budget Paper 3, page 60)	Phase 3 of the Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) project provides capital funding for the planning, design, development and installation of CCTV in the entertainment precincts of Manuka and Kingston and construction of an appropriate monitoring facility at the Winchester Police Centre site, and recurrent funding for the project implementation team.	\$3,161,000 (2008-09)	Foundation: We welcome crime prevention initiatives. Given that young people are more likely to be victims rather than perpetrators of crime, we hope this measure deters crime in these areas. Next steps: We question such a significant investment in CCTV rather than community evidence based crime prevention strategies. We look forward to hearing about measures that ensure that young people will not be disproportionately targeted.
Closed Circuit Television Project Phase 2 (Budget Paper 3, page 61)	Phase 2 of the Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) project will provide for an upgrade of the Civic Safety CCTV network, and enhanced infrastructure protection for Manuka Oval and Exhibition Park in Canberra (EPIC) in	\$1,797,000 (2008-09)	Foundation: We welcome crime prevention initiatives. Given that young people are more likely to be victims rather than perpetrators of crime, we hope this measure deters crime in these areas.

	accordance with nationally agreed priorities for places of mass gathering. It will also facilitate benchmarking of existing systems and planning for expansion of the CCTV network to improve public safety in these and other commercial centres.		<p>Next steps: We question such a significant investment in CCTV rather than community evidence based crime prevention strategies.</p> <p>We look forward to hearing about measures that ensure that young people will not be disproportionately targeted.</p>
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xv) DEPARTMENT OF TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES			
Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
<p>Lake Ginninderra Foreshore Upgrade Stage 3 (Budget Paper 3, page 67)</p>	<p>Construction of Precinct 3 is the final stage of the Belconnen Lakeshore Refurbishment at Eastern Valley Way Inlet. It will integrate the recently completed promenade treatment with the lake edge through boardwalks and piers over the water. It will also improve pedestrian access between the University of Canberra, the lakeshore and thoroughfare to other central areas of the Town Centre, as well as providing improved lighting to encourage increased use of the foreshore at night.</p>	<p>\$400,000 (2008-09) \$1,000,000 (2009-10) \$1,400,000 (2010-11)</p>	<p>Foundation: We this welcome initiative as it will provide recreational amenity in this area.</p> <p>Next steps: It is important that consultations that have been conducted with young people and youth services are taken into account in the upgrade of the foreshore.</p>
<p>Upgrade of Bunda Street Paving - Stage 1 (Budget Paper 3, page 68)</p>	<p>These works provide for lighting, street furniture and paving on Bunda Street from Northbourne Avenue to Petrie Street, improving public safety and providing continuity of design along the street.</p>	<p>\$2,150,000 (2008-09) \$1,500,000 (2009-10)</p>	<p>Foundation: We welcome this initiative that will seek to improve safety and amenity in the City.</p> <p>Next steps: We hope that the recommendations put forward in the Civic Safety Audit, including those submitted by the Youth Coalition in <i>Public Space has an Image Problem</i>, are fully implemented as part of this initiative.</p>

Throsby District Playing Fields and Netball Centre (Budget Paper 3, page 69)	The project involves the design of the entire Throsby District Playing Fields and Netball Centre precinct, providing sporting facilities for the rapidly-growing Gungahlin community.	\$600,000 (2008-09)	Foundation: We are pleased to see that the sporting recreational needs of young people and their families in Gungahlin are being addressed.
Lyneham Sports Precinct Development - Stage 1 (Budget Paper 3, page 69)	The project will deliver significant redevelopment of the Lyneham Precinct (Southwell Park) in accordance with the revised draft Master Plan and Preliminary Cost and Staging Report of March 2007. The redevelopment will create a central, high profile sporting hub that better serves the ACT community. The redevelopment will also improve the precinct's capacity to host major sporting events.	\$3,500,000 (2008-09) \$3,100,000 (2009-10) \$2,000,000 (2010-11)	Foundation: We are pleased that the sporting needs of young Canberrans are being provided for and the redevelopment will also facilitate the hosting of high profile sporting events.
Belconnen Town Centre - Cohen Street Extension and Replacement of Bus Interchange (Budget Paper 3, page 72)	This construction program involves the demolition of the existing bus interchange structure, the building of additional bus facilities, extension of Cohen Street between Lathlain Street and Emu Bank, and the installation of traffic signals at Eastern Valley Way. It aims to deliver enhanced on-road bus operations as well as improvements to traffic flows and pedestrian safety throughout the Belconnen Town Centre.	\$2,000,000 (2008-09) \$10,000,000 (2009-10) \$4,500,000 (2010-11)	Foundation: This is a long overdue but welcome initiative that will enhance the quality of public transport to consumers. The Youth Coalition called for improvements to bus interchanges in our submission to the ACT Legislative Assembly Inquiry into ACTION Buses. It is also hoped that by improving public transport facilities, public transport will become more comfortable and attractive to current and potential consumers. Next steps: We look forward to being involved in a consultative that is inclusive of young public transport consumers.
Gungahlin Swimming Pool (Budget Paper 3,	A feasibility study will investigate options for a new swimming pool in Gungahlin, assessing how best to address this	\$100,000 (2008-09)	Foundation: We are pleased to see that the recreational needs of Gungahlin residents are being addressed. The

page 74)	particular need of the Gungahlin community.		<p>Youth Coalition's project with young people in Gungahlin, <i>What Young People Want</i>, identified the importance of a swimming pool in the area.</p> <p>Next steps: We look forward to a positive funding response and the construction of a swimming pool in next year's ACT Government Budget.</p> <p>We look forward to hearing how young people will be involved in public space and amenity development in Gungahlin.</p>
ACTION - Bus Fleet Replacement (Budget Paper 3, page 75)	This program will replace ACTION's ageing bus fleet whilst ensuring the Territory's requirements, under the <i>Disability Discrimination Act 1992</i> , are met. The program will see the procurement of 100 buses over the next four years.	<p>\$6,000,000 (2008-09)</p> <p>\$15,500,000 (2009-10)</p> <p>\$15,500,000 (2010-11)</p> <p>\$12,500,000 (2011-12)</p>	<p>Foundation: The continuation of the bus fleet replacement program is essential to the delivery of a quality public transport system. The buses also ensure equity of access for all Canberrans and play a role in building social inclusion.</p>

xvi) HOUSING ACT			
Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
Prison and Offender Related Crime Prevention Measures (Managed Accommodation)	This project provides housing for prisoners upon their release from the Alexander Maconochie Centre. The project provides housing for a small number of high-risk offenders with	\$1,540,000 (2008-09)	<p>Foundation: We are pleased to see that the reintegration of offenders back into the community is being supported through this initiative.</p>

(Budget Paper 3, page 77)	appropriate supports in an Intensive Supported Accommodation model and a half-way house for lower risk offenders to aid re-integration back into the community.		Evidence suggests that these types of reintegration models aid rehabilitation and reduce recidivism. Next steps: It is important to ensure that targeted initiatives are put in place to support children of incarcerated parents. It is important to ensure that targeted programs are developed to support young offenders between the ages of 18-25 years in the Alexander Maconochie Centre.
Improvement in Energy Efficiency in Public Housing (2nd Appropriation) (Budget Paper 3, page 77)	This initiative forms part of the ACT Climate Change Strategy 2007-2025 <i>Weathering the Change</i> and the supporting Action Plan. The project will improve the energy efficiency of public housing and therefore reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions for public housing properties. The project will also assist in improving the standard of living for tenants by reducing their energy costs.	\$2,333,000 (2008-09) \$2,333,000 (2009-10) \$2,334,000 (2010-11) \$2,000,000 (2011-12)	Foundation: This initiative will benefit public housing tenants, the majority of whom are on a low-income and therefore are particularly vulnerable to rising energy costs. Next steps: We hope that the money allocated is sufficient to ensure that all ACT Housing properties will have improved energy efficiency.

xvii) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING			
Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
Calwell High School Performing Arts Centre (Budget Paper 3, page 78)	This project provides for the construction of a new Performing Arts Centre at Calwell High School. The facility will be used by students from the high school, surrounding schools and the local community, and will include a number of specialist spaces for music, dance, drama practice and performance. The	\$500,000 (2008-09) \$1,500,000 (2009-10) \$3,000,000 (2010-11)	Foundation: This will be a great asset for young people in the Tuggeranong Valley and will enhance the school curriculum. We are pleased to see that it will be integrated with a new theatre arts centre.

	project also includes an upgrade of the existing performing arts area at the school to improve its functionality, integration with the new Theatre Arts Centre and provide space for an expanded curriculum.		
Erindale Leisure Centre Redevelopment (Budget Paper 3, page 78)	This project provides for the refurbishment of the pool at the Erindale Leisure Centre, including retiling, roof and ceiling rectification, refurbishment of the change rooms and replacement of associated plant and equipment. The Erindale Leisure Centre is extensively used by students of the Erindale College, as well as by the community both before and after school hours, on weekends and during school holidays.	\$1,000,000 (2008-09) \$2,000,000 (2009-10)	Foundation: The Erindale Leisure Centre is an important recreational facility for young people and we therefore welcome the investment in its maintenance.
Gungahlin College Joint Use Library (Budget Paper 3, page 78)	This initiative will significantly increase the size of the joint use library in Gungahlin College to provide additional space for the book collection and community meetings, as the population of Gungahlin continues to grow.	\$0 (2008-09) \$5,000,000 (2009-10)	Foundation: Libraries are a vital community facility and public space for young people, and we are therefore pleased to see that this facility will be expanded. Next steps: We hope that young people will continue to be engaged in the decisions surrounding the use of library.

xviii) CANBERRA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY			
Initiative, paper, page	Description in budget	Funding	Comments and / or Concerns
CIT Reid Campus Master Plan (Budget Paper 3, page 86)	This project involves developing the Reid Campus Master Plan to provide for further assessment of the proposed wide ranging redevelopment of CIT's Reid Campus. This may include redevelopment of educational and	\$400,000 (2008-09)	Foundation: The upgrade and redevelopment of the CIT Reid Campus is essential to meeting current and projected needs of students. First-rate facilities are vital to the delivery of high-quality education and training.

	student services, including the CIT Vocational College, along with the potential development of commercial and private premises.		<p>These initiatives are particularly important in light of the ongoing skills shortage and therefore the need to attract students.</p> <p>Next steps: We would hope that the educational and training needs of students will be prioritised above private and commercial interests.</p> <p>We note that no mention has been made in this budget refurbishment of upgrades of the CIT Woden Campus.</p>
Fyshwick Trade Skills Centre - Feasibility Study and Design (Budget Paper 3, page 86)	This project provides for a feasibility study for the new Fyshwick Trade Skills Centre based on a refurbishment of an existing building and construction of another. The first part will include the refurbishment of the ground floor of C block incorporating Fyshwick Trade Skills reception, trade training display area, corporate training rooms and staff office. The second part of the project will provide for a new building to house CIT's electro technology operation currently located at the Bruce Campus.	\$500,000 (2008-09)	<p>Foundation: This project could make significant inroads into meeting current and projected needs of vocational students. First-rate facilities are vital to the delivery of high-quality education and training.</p> <p>These initiatives are particularly important in light of the ongoing skills shortage and therefore the need to ensure that the diverse interests of vocational students are met.</p> <p>Next steps: We would hope to see this initiative move beyond the initial feasibility study.</p>