



Term 4, ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body

Dear Community members

It has been another challenging week with the start of Term 2 and parents, carers and children having to familiarise themselves with on-line learning. With that said and the turn of the cold weather the good news has been the flattening of the curve of COVID-19 and considerations being discussed around loosening up some of the current restrictions.

I know it is tough and that there does not seem to be any light at the end of the tunnel, and we are a resilient people so be assured as a community we are pulling together and keeping our families safe and healthy.

Last week and again this week, myself and portfolio Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body members have been meeting with Directors-General and Senior Executive staff of ACT Government Directorates to ensure that during this period, our community are still at the forefront of programs and service delivery. We also impressed upon the Directors-General the importance of continuing to deliver outcomes under the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019-2028.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body has also received the ACT Governments response to the 2019 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body Hearings Report and the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement Annual Report 2019. We are currently analysing the responses from the Hearings Report and the Annual Report and we will be responding to them along with providing the community with our thoughts on those two reports over the coming weeks. Both reports have been posted onto the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body website.

Education Directorate update

Out of hours school care

If you have an existing enrolment with the out of school hours care provider at the Safe and Supervised Site, your child can attend as usual.

If your child is enrolled with an out of school hours care provider at your usual school AND they are the same out of school hours care provider operating the service at the Safe and Supervised Site your child is attending, you can contact your provider and ask for their enrolment to be transferred to the Safe and Supervised Site OSHC service.

If you want your child to continue accessing your current OSHC at their regular school, and they are operating, then they can. As outlined above, there will be free transport provided between ACT public schools and the Safe and Supervised Site every morning and afternoon. The scheduled times accommodate participation in before and after school care at all your child's usual school.

Transport

A shuttle bus service has been arranged to collect students from their usual school and take them to and from the Safe and Supervised Site that they are attending. This means students may continue to catch their usual bus, walk or ride to their enrolled school, participate in their usual out of school hours care and be safely transported to their supervised site.

You can register your child for this service [here](#). (right click 'open hyperlink')

Students must be registered to access transport services by midday the day prior to the date they wish to start using this service. If they do not their name will not be included on the bus roll.

Transport Canberra is operating its usual bus and light rail timetable in Term 2. They are also providing Special Needs Transport services to all students currently registered for that service.

ACT Health

Three additional GP Respiratory Clinics and locations have been announced and opened offering free COVID-19 assessments and testing. These clinics will operate from this week across the ACT. General practices located on the Northside and Southside include Winnunga - open, Lakeview Medical Practice in Tuggeranong – opening 4 May 2020 and YourGP@Crace – open.

To access the clinics, you can go through your regular GP and make an appointment with one of the clinics, or alternatively you can book directly with the GP Respiratory Clinic if you have respiratory symptoms. You are also able to attend any of the existing walk-in clinics or drive-through testing clinics.

If you have issues linked to COVID-19 that we haven't covered there is also the ACT Government Helpline on 02 62077244, between the hours of 8am and 8pm (7 days a week), or go to the ACT Government COVID-19 website www.covid19.act.gov.au.

Take care of yourselves and each other over the coming weeks, if you have any topics that you need more information on please send them through to atsieb@act.gov.au so that we can find out more and provide you with the updated information.

Katrina Fanning
Chairperson

ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body



PROVIDING A **STRONG**
RESPECTED & **DEMOCRATICALLY**
ELECTED VOICE FOR

ACT ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES