



Jon Stanhope MLA

CHIEF MINISTER

TREASURER MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND CLIMATE CHANGE
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS
MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

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BUSINESSES SUPPORT *LIVE IN CANBERRA* CAMPAIGN

Twenty seven businesses have signed on as supporters for the ACT Government's *Live in Canberra* campaign, signalling strong community endorsement for the campaign's success in encouraging people to live and work in Canberra.

Chief Minister Jon Stanhope said the *Live in Canberra* campaign was a best-practice example of government, business, tertiary and Commonwealth sectors working together to tackle the city's skills shortage head on.

"Through these partnerships we're able to stand shoulder to shoulder with a range of businesses and institutions in the Territory who are all equally concerned about the effects of the skills shortage on our economy," Mr Stanhope said. "Our 27 partners span a variety of industry sectors including recruitment, construction, retail, ICT, education, real estate and government."

Canberra's largest tertiary education institutions, the Australian National University, the University of Canberra and the Canberra Institute of Technology have again pledged their support for the program.

"We are working closely with these institutions to ensure Canberra's next generation of skilled workers, our students, know that Canberra is a great place to find work after graduation," Mr Stanhope said.

Commonwealth Government departments IP Australia, Geoscience Australia and the Australian Public Service Commission have also committed their support for another 12 months.

"It's pleasing to see Canberra's largest employer continue its backing for the next phase of the *Live in Canberra* campaign," Mr Stanhope said.

Mr Stanhope also acknowledged the ACT and Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Canberra Business Council for their ongoing support and welcomed new supporters - EDS, the Apparel Group, and Allied Pickfords.

"The strength of our economy relies on our workforce," Mr Stanhope said. "So it's vitally important that the *Live in Canberra* campaign continues to spread the word that Canberra is a great place to live and work."

Live in Canberra was launched in 2005 to raise awareness of the advantages of living and working in Canberra. The campaign is part of the ACT Government's \$51 million long-term strategy to address the effects of the skills shortage.

Statement Ends

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Live in Canberra supporters for 2008-2009 are:

- ActewAGL
- ACTTAB
- Allied Pickfords
- Apparel Group
- Australian National University
- Australian Public Service Commission
- Calvary Health Care ACT
- Canberra Institute of Technology
- Canberra Times
- Candle ICT Recruitment
- Cantlie Recruitment Services
- CFMEU
- Cardno Young
- Geoscience Australia
- GHD
- EDS
- IELTS
- Independent Property Group
- IP Australia
- Land Development Agency
- Master Builder's Association of the ACT
- Premium Placements
- Service One Members Banking
- St Hilliers
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia
- University of Canberra
- Village Building Company