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

MEDIA RELEASE

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LIVE IN CANBERRA TO TEAM WITH BRUMBIES TO PROMOTE CANBERRA IN SOUTH AFRICA

The award winning *Live in Canberra* and Skilled and Business Migration programs will be returning to South Africa in May to present *Live in Canberra* seminars to coincide with Brumbies Super 14 matches in Cape Town and Pretoria.

Chief Minister Jon Stanhope said the South African seminars are a fantastic opportunity to 'sell' Canberra's employment and lifestyle advantages to South African's interested in migrating to Australia. The trip is also a great opportunity to investigate some trade opportunities.

"The opportunity to conduct seminars and leverage off the popularity of the Brumbies in South Africa is one we will grab with both hands, particularly following the level of awareness Canberra has had in South Africa since the last visit there in September 2007," Mr Stanhope said.

"The *Live in Canberra* team will conduct daily seminars on the advantages of living and working in Canberra where Brumbies players and officials will help sell the message. The relationship the team has developed with South African based migration agents will ensure an audience of people who are not only committed to moving to Australia but have convinced the agents they have the skills needed to succeed.

"Our city is ideally located, just two hours drive to the ski-fields and the beautiful beaches of the south coast, with a wide range of excellent and well-paid jobs. We're offering South Africans with the right skills a great lifestyle – a city of four seasons, relatively low crime, no toll roads or traffic jams and wonderful schools and other community facilities."

The Skilled and Business Migration Program will also be investigating opportunities for South African businesses to invest in Canberra and also opportunities for Canberra businesses to expand into the South African market.

Mr Stanhope said it is important to continue to target South Africa, particularly with other States and Territories being so active in their activities to attract skilled workers from South Africa and other parts of the world.

"The activities of *Live in Canberra* are not designed to encouraged skilled workers to leave South Africa, but to ensure those who have already decided to come to Australia know that Canberra is the best place in which they could settle."

Statement Ends

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