



Jon Stanhope MLA
CHIEF MINISTER

TREASURER MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS MINISTER FOR THE ARTS
MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

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NEW CANBERRANS INVITED TO SPECIAL 'WELCOME' EVENTS

The *Live in Canberra* team has announced an exciting program of upcoming activities to help welcome new Canberrans who have arrived in the national capital in the past 12 months.

Chief Minister Jon Stanhope said he was delighted that so many organisations had thrown their support behind the 'Welcome to Canberra' program.

"What started out as a trial last year with a few low-key dinners and a movie evening is now a full-blown program which really provides something for everyone," he said today.

"There will be 20 events during the next 12 months, ranging from great sporting events and picnics to behind-the-scenes visits to some of our best attractions.

"This Friday night, 100 new Canberrans will get a great night out for free, cheering on the Brumbies against the Cape Town Stormers. In early April the Raiders will have a new legion of fans when they take on the Knights in a Monday night game at Canberra Stadium. The Capitals and Prime Minister's XI matches will also provide a special seating allocation for newcomers to the city."

The Welcome to Canberra program is being supported by many of the city's best-loved attractions including the National Gallery of Australia, the National Zoo and Aquarium, Questacon, Old Parliament House and the National Film and Sound Archive.

In spring, there will be a special Floriade breakfast with a talk by the head gardener and the National Botanical Gardens will host an afternoon picnic and tour.

"The Live in Canberra program is doing a great job in spreading the word about the city being a great place to live and work," Mr Stanhope said.

"It is equally important that people who move here are made to feel welcome and this program of activities and events is helping to do just that."

Anyone wanting to register for the 'Welcome to Canberra' events should call the *Live in Canberra* team through Canberra Connect on 13 22 81 or email tellmemore@liveincanberra.com.au

Statement Ends

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