

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITY

WORKING TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE BETTER OUTCOMES

The ACT Government is committed to partnering with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Canberrans to improve the wellbeing of our first peoples so that all Canberrans can participate fully in the life of our city.

The 2017 Budget will invest in more culturally-specific services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Canberrans so we can continue to work together with community leaders to build stronger families, healthier lives and a more prominent place for our unique and valuable Indigenous heritage.

Guided by the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2015-2018, we will ensure Canberra keeps getting better for our Indigenous communities.

We are delivering a range of initiatives and programs to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Canberrans including:

- > A new health facility for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Canberrans. Delivered in partnership with Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service, the **\$12 million facility** will not only ensure the continued delivery of culturally appropriate, safe and holistic healthcare, but also provide a wider range of services by late 2019.
- > Continued support for the *Growing Healthy Families Program*, which provides a range of culturally informed health, early childhood development and parenting services. *Growing Healthy Families* has been instrumental in engaging and implementing best practice approaches to build strong Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, and our further **\$502,000 investment** will ensure its services can support even more Canberra families.
- > Seed funding grants of **\$100,000 over four years** to support new and emerging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander controlled organisations.
- > Dedicated grants for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and culture projects, as part a **\$21.6 million arts package** that will grow Canberra as a creative capital.



The ACT Government is committed to seeing fewer Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Canberrans come into contact with the justice system. That is why this Budget delivers new initiatives to improve justice outcomes, including:

- > Delivering the **Yarrabi Bamirr trial**, a culturally aware and family centered justice reinvestment program.
- > Investing in scoping and design for a **Drug and Alcohol Court** and supporting programs.
- > Delivering **\$5.3 million for the Extended Throughcare program** to improve outcomes when offenders transition back into the community and help reduce rates of recidivism.
- > Starting implementation of the recommendations of the Moss Review with a **\$3.2 million investment** in the Alexander Maconochie Centre.
- > We are also delivering **\$2.5 million for community legal centres**, including Canberra Community Law's Street Law program and the Women's Legal Centre's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Access to Justice Program. This funding ensures that these vital services will continue to be available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Canberrans.

We know it will take a united and cooperative effort, delivered in partnership with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, to improve outcomes for our first peoples. We will continue to provide meaningful opportunities and pursue equitable outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, because a better Canberra is one that includes our entire community.

