



Australian Capital Territory

Budget 2011-2012

Media Release

No. 27

\$32.3 million investment to improve sport and recreation opportunities for Canberrans

The ACT Government is committed to creating more sport and recreation opportunities for Canberrans with the 2011-12 Budget providing \$1.3 million in new recurrent funding and \$31 million in new capital, Minister for Sport and Recreation, Andrew Barr MLA announced today.

“Keeping the Canberra community active and improving sport and recreation facilities, is a key priority for the ACT Government. By investing in valuable community assets such as new and improved sporting facilities and support for key sporting events also means we are investing in the health and wellbeing of Canberrans,” Mr Barr said.

The 2011-12 Budget provides:

- \$26.3 million for the Gungahlin Pool;
- \$2.1 million for the Tuggeranong Multi-use Indoor Community Facility and Men’s Shed;
- \$2 million for the redevelopment of the Kippax District Playing Fields;
- \$1.1 million for the restoration of Charnwood and Isabella Plains Ovals;
- \$330,000 over three years for hosting Sheffield Shield Cricket;
- \$260,000 million for AFL matches in 2011;
- \$235,000 over three years for the Minister’s Physical Activity Challenge;
- \$200,000 for a feasibility study into future sporting facilities in Molonglo; and
- \$50,000 to assist ACT athletes to the 2012 Olympic Games.

Meeting the demands of a growing city, and in particular the rapidly growing Gungahlin community, the Budget brings to \$28.7 million the total funds available to design and deliver a new 50-metre pool and a 25-metre program pool in the new swimming centre.

“Also on the North side, the ACT Government will provide \$2 million towards the redevelopment of the Kippax district playing fields, including a new pavilion, incorporating change rooms and canteen facilities. This investment, which will be in partnership with the Belconnen Magpies Football Club, will also see the upgrade of the playing surface to incorporate drought resistant turf, improved irrigation and upgraded lighting.

“Following the easing of water restrictions due to increased rainfall, the Budget provides \$1.1 million for restoration work at two significant former sportsgrounds – Isabella Plains Neighbourhood Oval and the Charnwood District Playing Fields. These sportsgrounds will now be restored with water efficient grass so they can cater for sports such as Australian Rules football, soccer and cricket as well as better allow for informal recreation,” Mr Barr said.

The Budget provides \$200,000 for a feasibility study into a future Molonglo Leisure Centre. The study will make a recommendation on the site’s size and features. A major consideration will be whether the site is built within the Stromlo Forest Park complex, or at another location adjacent to the proposed group centre.

“Delivering new and improved sporting facilities right across Canberra is key to providing access by the community to a variety of social and recreational activities. The South side sport and recreation sector will be further boosted by a \$2.1 million funding in the Budget for the development of a multi-use community facility at Greenway, adjacent to the enclosed oval. This will be able to be used for activities such as archery, table tennis and fencing. The project will also include a separate area for the Tuggeranong Men’s Shed,” Mr Barr concluded.

3 May 2011

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