



ACT Government
2004-2005 BUDGET

MEDIA RELEASE

NEW COMMUNITY HALL FOR PALMERSTON

The Stanhope Government will set aside \$1 million in its 2004/05 Capital Works Program to build a new community hall in Palmerston.

Disability, Housing and Community Services Minister Bill Wood said the existing demountable building at Palmerston was no longer adequate to meet the requirements of the growing community, and a purpose built facility would better serve Palmerston residents.

“The current facility at Palmerston is a relocatable hall originally erected on the site in 1993,” Mr Wood said.

“Due to the condition of this building, it’s lack of facilities, and population growth throughout the Gungahlin area, there is now a need for a more appropriate and permanent facility.

“Gungahlin is the fastest growing area in the ACT (currently 11.1%) and the Government is firmly committed to developing new facilities in the district that can properly service this growth.

“The existing hall is used for a range of activities including playgroups, parent support groups, and community meetings, programs and activities. The hall and grounds are in regular use both during the day and in the evenings.

“A final brief will be determined through a community consultation process, but it’s anticipated the hall will be approximately 300m² and will contain meeting rooms, large multi-purpose room, community office space, kitchen, storage rooms, toilets and other essential facilities. The grounds will include play equipment and activity areas, including covered areas and a car park.

“The brief and design will draw on experience from recently constructed community facilities such as the Lanyon Community Centre, Gungahlin Community Resource Centre and Nicholls Community House.

“Developing this facility runs true to *The Canberra Plan’s* strategic themes of Investing in Our People and Building a Stronger Community and represents an important piece of social infrastructure for the Gungahlin district,” Mr Wood said.

Statement Ends.

