



Bill Stefaniak MLA

Australian Capital Territory

Minister for Education
with responsibility for:
Schooling
Vocational Training
Children's Youth and Family Services
Sport and Recreation

Budget 2000-01
*Department of Education
& Community Services*

TUGGERANONG YOUTH BIG WINNERS FROM ACT BUDGET

The ACT Government has reaffirmed its commitment to fostering a caring community in the Tuggeranong Valley, with the allocation of **\$332,000** over four years to fund the operation of the new Lanyon Youth Centre.

Community Services Minister Bill Stefaniak said the 2000-01 Budget initiative follows last year's commitment of \$780,000 for construction of the Youth Centre.

"The Lanyon Youth Centre, when completed in early 2001, will undoubtedly be a welcome addition to the social infrastructure of the Tuggeranong Valley," Mr Stefaniak said.

"The funding announced today will provide for a **Youth Services Program**, to provide the community with a drop-in service, information and referral services, and recreation and education programs for young people in the area.

"The YWCA is currently providing an interim service in Lanyon, which will finish at the end of 2000. A permanent Youth Centre service will commence on completion of the centre in early 2001."

Mr Stefaniak said in order to maintain stability in the program, the YWCA will provide Youth Centre programs in the first six months of operation, whilst the full provision of the service goes out to tender and the permanent provider and contract are finalised.

"The Tuggeranong community has shown outstanding commitment and enthusiasm in their support of the development of this new community facility, and the Government is happy to fund this initiative.

"It's important to recognise the outstanding input that local residents, young people and other community groups have had into the development of this new facility.

"When it's complete, it is destined to be a facility of which the entire community can be proud."

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