



# ACT Government

## 2002-2003 BUDGET

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### ENHANCING SUPPORT FOR INDIGENOUS YOUNG PEOPLE

The Stanhope Labor Government has provided an additional \$0.787m over the next four years to programs to support Indigenous students in Government schools.

Funding will be directed towards enhancing the Indigenous education program in ACT Government schools. The aim is to improve outcomes for Indigenous students by increasing the skills of staff working with Indigenous young people, and placing greater emphasis on home-school liaison for Indigenous students.

This additional funding reflects the ACT Labor Government's commitment to improving the learning outcomes and retention rates for Indigenous children in the mainstream education system. It specifically addresses the gap in learning outcomes in literacy and numeracy between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students.

Mr Corbell said, "Improvements in literacy and numeracy skills will enhance the likelihood of success of Indigenous students at school and work. Self-esteem will be raised and attitudes to learning will become more positive.

The Government recognises that many Indigenous students have specialised needs that require more targeted assistance and additional support.

The initiative addresses issues raised by the Indigenous Education Consultative Body and the Legislative Assembly Standing Committee on *Adolescents and young adults at risk of not achieving satisfactory education and training outcomes* (2001) including the need to enhance the Indigenous Home-School Liaison Program.

**Statement ends 25 June 2002**

Media Release



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