

ACT Council of P&C Associations Inc

Maitland House
100 Maitland St, HACKETT ACT 2602
Ph: (02) 6241 5759 Fax: (02) 6241 8839



To: All P&C Delegates, P&C Presidents & Secretaries

Report on P&C Council General Meeting 26 Nov 19 (attended by 15)

This report is issued after Council meetings to assist delegates in reporting back to their P&C associations and to inform parents generally about the activities of P&C Council.

Notices: Schools Clean Up Day 28 Feb 20 and Clean Up Australia Day 1 Mar 20

1. Meeting with EDU on 5 Dec

This would be only the fourth day in office for the new EDU Director General, Katy Haire and consequently the meeting would be a get to know you event. She was a Deputy Secretary of the Victorian Department of Education & Training.

2. Election 20-20 public education priorities and lobbying plan

A summary of priorities resulting from responses to our current membership survey was presented. The survey was still open and members were encouraged to submit their responses as soon as possible. The election working group will be considering the survey results when it finalises the list of priorities for the Council Executive and develops our lobbying plan for implementation early next year.

3. Recruiting Volunteers & the Social Enterprise model

The proposed meeting on 28 Nov of OHSC P&C service providers to be briefed on the social enterprise model had been postponed until next year. Instead of the joint meeting, individual visits to P&Cs may be pursued early next year.

4. Council's ACT budget submission

The Council's budget submission had been presented to the ACT government and was available for members to view on our website.

5. EDU's review of their complaint's procedures"

The new director appointed by EDU to review their complaints procedures had impressed with her "clean broom" approach and willingness to consult and listen to parents' concerns.

6. Taking photos of your child on school grounds.

Parents could not be stopped from photographing their child but due to privacy law they must ensure no other child or person is identifiable in that photo if they put the photo online or publish it in any public document. The case of a child under a protection order being put at risk by the online publishing of a photo with her in the background was referenced.

7. Risk assessment and insurance of school fetes.

It is wise for P&Cs to do a risk assessment plan for any event that they manage eg fetes, discos etc. A risk assessment template is on the Council website. P&Cs should contact Civic Insurance Brokers for advice if they have any doubts about the insurance implications of not having a risk assessment plan.

Council is considering forming a Fete working group to act as a forum for P&C fete co-ordinators to share contacts, loan/borrow equipment and co-ordinate fete dates with schools in their regions.

8. School Board Manual review.

School boards are now being asked for their comments on the revision of the school board manual. We encourage P&Cs to review the manual and provide their comments to Council as soon as possible.

9. RAP update.

Council staff and Executive members completed the assessment of their current cultural knowledge and are expanding our knowledge with an indigenous food tour of the Botanic Garden on 10 Dec. Ngunnawal elder's advice is being sought on further improvements to our cultural awareness.

10. Uniform shops selling new uniforms.

In response to a question, most members present advised that they sold new and secondhand uniforms in their P&C managed uniform shops. Some had arranged with new local suppliers for their uniforms.

11. Transport Canberra (TC) FOCUS GROUP for student bus users.

Following Council's lobbying, TC have set up a focus group (single session) to better understand how to encourage students to use public transport, and how to communicate effectively with them. We are looking for 2 students who would be interested in attending to give their perspective and insights into student needs and mindset. Parents can attend to offer support to younger students. The session is Tues 10 December, 4pm - 5pm in Dickson. Location: Boardroom, Ground floor, 496 Northbourne Avenue, Dickson (students coming by bus or light rail should get off at Dickson Interchange, 250m away).

12. Specialist School Transport & the NDIS. TLS that the Commonwealth, State and Territory

Governments are working together to develop a national approach for providing specialist school transport. The Commonwealth is hosting a number of stakeholder roundtables including one with user representatives. Council has nominated two representatives to attend.

13. NEXT MEETING – Next General Meeting will be Tuesday 25 Feb 20 at Stirling and we are planning on having an interesting speaker.