



Dear Friend,

Greetings and salutations! I trust that 2026 has looked after you so far.

BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT

Please keep telling me your ideas, concerns, and suggestions for Tuggeranong when we meet in and around our community or at a TWG Tuggeranong Office ([August Schedule](#)), on the phone ([02 6205 4466](tel:0262054466)) or via [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and email (taimus.wg@parliament.act.gov.au).

Now taimuswg.com.au is up and clickable, I can thank you for having a quick scroll through my inaugural Tuggeranong eNewsletter! How exciting for us both...

For my first effort, I've pulled together information about what the ACT Government and I are doing for Tuggeranong, as well as about some issues our community has raised with me.

Brindabella

ACT Budget 2026-27

It is a very respectable budget for Tuggeranong. In my opinion, the best elements are:

- \$2.1m to improve Lake Tuggeranong's water quality. This includes more street sweeping, a trial of anti-algal technologies, and support for Tuggeranong residents to reduce our impact on Lake Tuggeranong's water quality.
- \$1.1m to renew the Erindale Leisure Centre (I've been vocal in the Assembly about the need for real budget commitment to fix it).
- \$2.5m to revitalise and improve the public spaces at Chisholm Shops.
- \$4.5m to improve and upgrade Lanyon Homestead, including the establishment of a permanent exhibition space.
- \$250,000 to begin the planning for upgrades to the pavilion/changerooms at Kambah District Playing Fields.

- Replacing 32 gas furnaces with electric reverse-cycle appliances at Charles Conder Primary School, Lanyon High School, Caroline Chisholm School, Calwell High School, Bonython Primary School, Isabella Plains Early Childhood School, Gilmore Primary School and Wanniasa Hills Primary School.

More broadly, this year's budget continues to deliver on the commitments ACT Labor made to Canberrans, including targeted investments in housing, health and frontline services to support our growing city, like:

- All first home buyers, eligible pensioners, eligible NDIS participants and those who have not owned property in the last five years will no longer pay stamp duty.
- Building and buying an additional 450 public houses.
- Increased investment in frontline domestic, family and sexual violence services.
- Permanent funding uplift to community sector organisations.
- Expanding the Education Equity Fund to help families with uniforms, books and excursions.
- A 25% increase in arts investment to support Canberra's creative sector.
- Funding to hire 35 new firefighters and 32 paramedics.

Status Update: ACT Labor's 2024 Plan for Tuggeranong

As of July 2026, The ACT Labor Government has now delivered, is delivering or has funded 58 of the 67 commitments in [ACT Labor's 2024 Plan for Tuggeranong](#). While that's good going, I will keep at them to deliver every commitment, including:

- Signing a sensible contract with the ice rink developers to ensure they build it in Tuggeranong.
- Spending all of the \$7.5m allocated in the last budget to improve Tuggeranong's footpaths and streetlighting.
- Establishing a new Lanyon Rapid Bus Service.
- Duplicating Athllon Drive.
- Upgrading the Gordon Community Centre.
- Expanding health services at Tuggeranong's Walk-in Centre.

But that's just the start. Now I need your ideas and suggestions to include in ACT Labor's **2028 Plan for Tuggeranong**! Please send them through.

South Tuggeranong Health Centre

The ACT Government's construction of South Tuggeranong's new health centre is on track for completion in October this year, with services commencing soon after that. It is located near Lanyon Marketplace, at the corner of Box Hill Ave, Heidelberg St and Lowcay St, and will offer community-based services that are closer to home.

The initial services funded in the 2026-27 Budget include paediatrics, diabetes clinics, falls and injury prevention programs, community nursing, multidisciplinary group

programs and virtual care.



I'm with Health Infrastructure Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith and fellow Brindabella MLA Caitlin Tough at the construction site of the South Tuggeranong Health Centre

Other business

Beanie Big Good Turn

This year I've had the distinct honour of being Patron of the Brindabella Trefoil Guild's 2026 *Beanie Big Good Turn* (BBGT). The BBGT is an annual tradition where ACT knitting enthusiasts "purl" together to transform donated wool into woollen beanies for vulnerable Canberrans. The Guild will continue accepting donations of beanies until the end of August. To join in and make good, please contact Guild President Christine Brill on 0407 123 670.

Annoying people on motorised bikes

Some in our community are using dirt bikes, illegal motorcycles (bicycles with small petrol engines), ebikes and escooters dangerously, disruptively and damagingly around our suburbs and on our sportsgrounds. ACT Policing is cracking down on this extremely anti-social behaviour. All reports of this activity strengthen their targeted operation. You can make reports through [Crime Stoppers](#) or [ACT Policing's online Dangerous Driving portal](#).

Tuggeranong's new mascot!

Before the election, I made a [video](#) suggesting that while Belconnen's owl mascot wasn't that good, at least they had one and it was on socks. In response, allow myself to introduce Tuggeranong's first mascot – **Woolpac**!



Woolpac is one of the Kambah Shops flock who greets people returning to or joining our community. Those people love where they live and are proud of it. Their determination and resilient attitude to succeed, to build up themselves and their community, is captured in the slogan #TuggLife. We're working on some merch for proud, determined and resilient Tuggeranong citizens that will be coming soon to my [website's merch page](#).

Please also let me know If you would like the graphic files to use for your own creative, pro-Tuggeranong purposes and I'll send them to you for free!

ACT Legislative Assembly

Legislation

I am officially a legislator!

In May this year my first private members bill to reform the Juries Act 1967 passed the ACT Legislative Assembly. It reduced the number of peremptory challenges available during jury selection from eight to four. It's a practical change that will improve the representativeness of Canberra juries and make the jury selection process more efficient. You can read more about it [here](#).



Last Tuesday was the final day of the 2026-27 Budget Estimates public hearings

Motions

In February I moved a motion in the Assembly that asked the ACT Government to review the location, accessibility and availability of needle and syringe disposal options in public spaces. This is useful because the appropriate disposal options for sharps is essential to public health and safety. Many people use disposal bins for genuine medical reasons, including those living with diabetes (like me) and those undergoing IVF. The ACT Government agreed to report back to the Assembly by the end of 2026. More information about my motions is available [here](#).

Petitions

The most important petition I have sponsored in the ACT Assembly this year called on the ACT Government and its private partners Pelligra Holdings and Cruchan Investments to complete their commercial-in-confidence negotiations and deliver a Tuggeranong Ice Sports Facility as quickly as possible. While acknowledging that the ACT Government has committed \$16.2 million towards the facility, the petition stated that delays to the project – which have extended well beyond anyone's initial expectations – have been deeply disappointing for Canberra's ice sports community and Tuggeranong's residents.

Tuggeranong needs a destination that draws people in from outside its bounds – a place with real gravitational pull. An ice sports facility would deliver exactly that by providing a

permanent, state-of-the-art home for the ACT's ice sports community while also bringing more people into the Tuggeranong Town Centre, supporting local businesses and strengthening social connection. The fight continues!

The view from the streets

I am very grateful to have represented Tuggeranong in the ACT Legislative Assembly since October 2024 – thanks to votes from many of you and a brilliant team of volunteers. My role is an extraordinary privilege, and I am dedicated to ensuring our community gets the interest and investment we need and deserve.



Visiting the ACT Woodcraft Guild in Kambah last month

So far this term I've knocked on 1,104 doors in Wanniasa, Fadden, Kambah and Theodore, and spent over 200 hours at street offices at the Tuggeranong Library (first Friday of every month), Anketell Street, Kambah Shops, Wanniasa Shops, Erindale Shops, Gowrie Shops, Chisholm Shops, Calwell Shops, Lanyon Shops and the Tharwa General Store.

Being in Tuggeranong is the best way of meeting my fellow citizens and hearing your thoughts. These conversations are where I properly understand what actually matters to our community — and they shape everything I raise in the Assembly.

Your voice matters to me and I want to hear it, because hearing it makes me a more informed representative who is better able to influence the decisions that affect our community. Please keep contacting me with your ideas, concerns, and suggestions for Tuggeranong. My details are taimus.wg@parliament.act.gov.au and [02 6205 4466](tel:0262054466).

Thank you again for reading my August eNewsletter and trusting me to represent you. Together, we are making a difference for Tuggeranong.

Yours sincerely,



Taimus Werner-Gibblings MLA
Member for Brindabella

PS. Know someone who might enjoy my regular updates? Feel free to forward this email and invite them to subscribe [here](#).



Authorised by Taimus Werner-Gibblings MLA for ACT Labor

Our mailing address is:

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Taimus Werner-Gibblings acknowledges the traditional custodians of country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and community. He pays his respects to them and their cultures; and to Elders both past and present.

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