



**CANBERRA REGION  
JOINT ORGANISATION**



**ACT**  
Government

**Memorandum of Understanding**  
between  
**Canberra Region Joint Organisation**  
and  
**Australian Capital Territory  
Government**

## **Purpose**

We, the Canberra Region Joint Organisation (CRJO) and the Australian Capital Territory Government (ACT Government) (the parties) acknowledge the important relationship between the Australian Capital Territory and the surrounding NSW South East and Tablelands Region.

The proximity of the region to Canberra and the shared vision of growth and prosperity for the region requires close cooperation and collaboration between the parties to ensure strong mutual benefit for our communities.

The CRJO agrees the ACT Government shall be an associate member of the CRJO. This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) provides a framework for the cooperation and collaboration between the CRJO and the ACT Government.

The CRJO is a regional leader, advocating for all parts of the Canberra Region to create vibrant communities and be the voice of a strong and cohesive region which recognises and celebrates unique sub regions.

The ACT Government's associate membership of the CRJO will contribute to the pursuit of CRJO's objectives, including:

- Facilitating opportunities and partnerships to create vibrant communities;
- Providing a forum for regional cooperation and resource sharing; and
- Cultivating investment and infrastructure development opportunities.

Where appropriate, the ACT Government will support the CRJO in its core functions as detailed in the CRJO Charter, including:

- Strategic planning and priority setting;
- Intergovernmental collaboration; and
- Regional leadership and advocacy.

## **1. Parties**

This Memorandum of Understanding is made between the CRJO and the ACT Government.

## **2. Status of Memorandum of Understanding**

The CRJO and ACT Government acknowledge the MoU:

- is not legally binding on either party or members of CRJO; and
- does not diminish either party or CRJO members' ability to make independent policy decisions.
- creates a partnership of cooperation and respect.

## **3. Progressing Regional Collaboration**

The ACT Government will work with the CRJO on priorities identified through a priorities list ([Attachment A](#)).

#### **4. Australian Capital Territory Membership and Representation**

The Chief Minister for the Australian Capital Territory, or a delegate nominated by the Chief Minister, will participate in CRJO Board meetings, as an associate and non-voting member.

The ACT Head of Service, or a delegate nominated by the ACT Head of Service, will participate in CRJO General Managers Advisory Group (GMAG) meetings.

#### **5. Financial Contribution**

As a non-voting associate member of the CRJO, the ACT Government will pay a fixed annual membership fee of \$46,057 (excluding GST). This fixed fee is equivalent to the associate membership fee paid by the largest local Government associate member - Wagga Wagga City Council at signing of this MoU. This annual fee is subject to any annual or proportional increases resolved by the Board of the CRJO and incurred by members from time to time.

In addition, the ACT Government will partner with the CRJO to contribute financially and/or in kind to initiatives aligned with the MoU priorities list.

#### **6. Review of this Memorandum of Understanding**

The MoU will be reviewed three years from its commencement, and every three years thereafter. The MoU may be amended at any time by agreement in writing of the Parties.

The associated MoU priorities list ([Attachment A](#)) will be reviewed annually.

#### **7. Commencement**

This MoU commences on the date of execution.



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**Cr. Russell Fitzpatrick**  
Chair – Canberra Region Joint Organisation

Date: 03/07/2023



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**Andrew Barr MLA**  
ACT Chief Minister

Date: 2.6.23

## **Attachment A**

# **Memorandum of Understanding between the Canberra Region Joint Organisation and the ACT Government Priorities List**

The ACT Government agrees to support the CRJO Vision, Mission and Outcomes through the following priority areas, including:

1. **Economic development and tourism** – supported by the regional collaborative framework with NSW established under the Canberra Region Economic Development Strategy.
2. **Infrastructure** – with a particular focus on working together on regional infrastructure priorities and advocating for improved rail passenger services between Canberra and Sydney.
3. **Waste management and resource recovery** – including working with NSW through the ACT-NSW MoU for Regional Collaboration on identifying opportunities for broader regional cooperation on waste management and circular economy initiatives.
  - i. Identification of opportunities for alignment of policy and program delivery.
  - ii. Options to be presented for CRJO Board and ACT Government consideration by July 2024.
4. **Regional resilience** – building on the CRJO Resilience Blueprint, share findings and support a regional framework for responding effectively to emergencies.
5. **Joint purchasing** where there is mutual benefit e.g. economies of scale through joint purchase of materials for infrastructure.
  - i. Options to be presented for CRJO Board & ACT Government consideration by July 2024.
6. **Air Freight** – with a focus on supporting regional infrastructure and taking advantage of resumed international services to identify new routes to market for regional products while increasingly, the long-term sustainability of air routes.