

CIT Board Communique – July 2023

A warm welcome to our new and returning students and welcome back to our CIT staff as we settle into Semester 2 of the academic year.

Recently, CIT commemorated the 95th anniversary of the official opening of the 'Telopea Park Technical Trades and Infants School' – the first iteration of the 'CIT', by Prime Minister Stanley Bruce, on 6 June 1928, on the grounds of the Telopea Park School in Barton.

The event was attended by many of our industry and sectoral partners, representatives of the many ACT schools and education institutions, members of the CIT Board, our partners in ACT Government, members of CIT Link and CIT Lead, Training Awards and other accolade winners, former staff, students, and of course – many of our dedicated teachers and staff.

CIT has such a central place in our community and in our economy – supplying the ACT workforce with tens of thousands of graduates with the essential skills in the essential professions that they have learned here for nearly a century.

In 1928, classes were being taught in just 11 trades - in 2023, the list has grown to over 200. Also in 1928, there was a total of 140 students enrolled, which is a far cry from the approximately 20,000 students who train every year with us at the present time.

The Board welcomes the ACT Budget announcement that \$38.136 million has been allocated over five years to enable it to deliver a better student experience – through a Cloud Campus Program.

The Cloud Campus Program Budget initiative (the Program), will modernise CIT's Information and Communications Technology (ICT) systems, learning and teaching environments, and business and administration systems – to support flexible, accessible, and contemporary learning practices that respond to the current and future education and economic needs of the ACT.

The Program will also enable students to access flexible and virtual learning environments on their own digital devices, from locations at times that suit them - by enabling the development and delivery of CIT virtual learning content. This new way of learning and delivery will enable inclusive learning delivery for diverse and disparate student communities in the ACT, such as those with parental and carer responsibilities, those with mobility or accessibility issues, and those living with disability.

The Program will also ensure that CIT's ICT systems will be easier to manage and operate – reducing the risks of legacy systems.

The Program will enable CIT to support the needs of all current and prospective students, staff, and alumni, now and into the future. As well as servicing existing campuses, it will fit seamlessly into the new flagship Woden Campus, aligning to the vision for the Woden Smart Precinct and Smart Campus Digital Infrastructure being delivered by the ACT Government.

The Board is also excited about the recent ACT Budget announcement for upgrades to trade training equipment in the CIT Fyshwick campus. Demand is strong in our region's economy across the trades and this funding will provide capacity to support the growing needs of industry.

We have all come a long way over this time, we are so fortunate to enjoy strong support from government, and our industry, sectoral and education partners – and we all look forward to a bright,

exciting, future-focused CIT powering on into the coming years – continuing to be the ACT's largest public provider of quality, state-of-the art vocational training and education in the ACT.

Kate Lundy
Chair, CIT Board