

Canberra Airport's Big Day Out



Photos by Paul Sadler

Sunday, 28 October: According to an early 20th century proverb; every picture tells a story. And this picture captures in a single frame the success of the Airport's Open Day. Around 15,000 people turned out to help celebrate almost 10 years of achievement under our management.

Declaring the day "a tremendous success", Airport Managing Director, Mr Stephen Byron, said he was delighted that so many families had decided to take advantage of the large amount of free entertainments and activities that were on offer.

"We are proud of what we have achieved at Canberra International Airport and we wanted

to share that sense of celebration with a community that's very important to us."

And celebrate they did. While families enjoyed free face painting, the penned farmyard animals and the fun and antics of Milo the Clown, hundreds of aviation enthusiasts queued patiently to board the line of parked jets from Qantas, Virgin Blue and Brindabella Airlines and the general aviation community.

"Interest in the aircraft was phenomenal," Mr Byron said. "The airlines could have kept them on the tarmac all day and the crowd would still have been there."

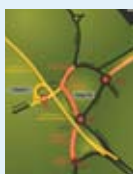
However, no day out is complete without a cake- and cutting the one metre chocolate mud cake into 400 separate slices disproves yet another old saying that you can't have your cake and eat it too.

More Open Day pictures on back page...



MD Stephen Byron: Cutting the cake and eating it too.

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ALP Pledges \$30 Million to Upgrade Transport Corridors

12 October: Federal Labor says it will help fund a \$60 million upgrade of roads in and around Canberra International Airport if elected to government.

Shadow Minister for Transport, Roads and Tourism, Mr Martin Ferguson, says a Rudd Labor Government will work cooperatively with the ACT and the Airport to get the roads built.

"Canberra International Airport is the gateway to the national capital and is very important to business and tourism in the surrounding regions of NSW. It has also become an important business and employment hub for Canberra and Queanbeyan," he said.

Federal Labor's election pledge follows a decision by the ACT Government to allocate \$15 million in its 2007/08 Budget for a new entrance to the Airport off Pialligo Road and improvements

at the Monaro Highway/ Morshead Drive and Morshead Drive/Dairy Road intersections. The Airport will provide around \$5 million toward the cost of the road improvements.

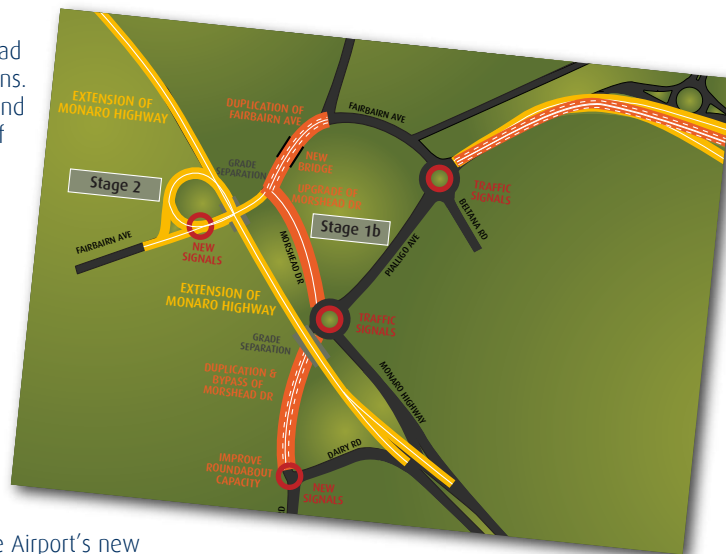
The ACT Budget allocation includes the duplication of Pialligo Avenue providing two lanes each way from the intersection of Fairbairn Road, Beltana Road and Pialligo Avenue and running past the Airport.

Two lanes will also be built for traffic entering the Airport and a grade separated interchange at the Airport's new main entry point so two lanes can also exit the Airport by passing under Pialligo Avenue and joining traffic heading to Civic.

"The interchange will remove current traffic conflicts between Airport passengers trying to get to Canberra and commuters and business vehicles heading to Queanbeyan," Mr. Ferguson said.

Federal Labor's \$30 million pledge would fund Stage 2 works and include:

- grade separation of the Monaro Highway and Pialligo Avenue; and
- extension of Morshead Drive north by two kilometres to link into Majura Road.



Around 28,000 motorists use Pialligo Avenue every day and there was a clear need for its duplication. In addition, the construction of thousands of new homes in Gungahlin had led to a trebling of traffic volumes on Majura Road from 5,000 to 17,000 a day.

Airport Managing Director, Mr Stephen Byron welcomed Federal Labor's election pledge. "Both Mr Ferguson and his ACT Labor counterpart, Territory and Municipal Services Minister, John Hargreaves are to be congratulated for their commitment to solving this problem of traffic congestion."

Construction Control Opts For Excellence

Thursday, October 25: Construction Control, the Canberra company responsible for constructing most of the Airport's new buildings, has won a highly coveted ACT Occupational Health and Safety Excellence Award.

Presenting the award to Managing Director, Mr John Gasson, ACT Attorney General, Mr Simon Corbell, said Construction Control had a demonstrated commitment to integrating occupational health and safety into every aspect of their business.

The company's OHS system ensured safe design, building, occupation, maintenance and demolition through a 'cradle to the grave' concept of construction. The system allows all

those involved in construction – project managers to brickies – to know and understand the safety requirements on sites.

In keeping with the theme 'Opt for safety in October,' the ACT Occupational Health and Safety Awards 2007 were the highlight of Health and Safety Month.

"The annual OHS awards provide recognition for the achievements of business, unions and individuals in the ACT in finding solutions to improve workplace safety and injury management," Mr. Corbell said.

"This is a real feather in the cap for all staff at Construction Control," Mr. Gasson said. "The system was developed by Mark Southwell and implemented across our workforce. It is applied across each site and comprehensively includes contractors and their systems of work and their interactions across the project."

Twenty-five entries were received across six award categories, ranging from small to large, private and public workforces, and from industries including construction health and not-for-profit organisations.



Construction Controls MD, John Gasson.



Canberra tames a Tiger.

Photo by Rob Finlayson

New Era of Low Cost Flying

Friday, 9 November: 2008 promises to deliver a new era of genuine low cost air travel to Canberra and the region, says Airport Managing Director, Mr Stephen Byron.

This follows the decision of Virgin Blue to resume its 'Capital Jet' flights to Sydney on 4 February 2008 and Tiger Airline's announcement that it will start a daily service to Melbourne 10 days later.

Both airlines will introduce new jet services: Virgin Blue with its 78 seat Embraer E-jet and Tiger its wide body 180 seat Airbus 320. "Both airlines will bring a new era of value-for-money air travel to the nation's capital city," Mr Byron said. "A competitive airline market is good for business and good for tourism. We look forward to helping all the airlines serving Canberra grow their businesses."

Announcing daily services to Melbourne, Tiger Airlines Chief Executive, Mr Tony Davis, said not everyone who flew to Canberra had an expense account. "Tiger's low cost fares will create an entirely new market by providing consistently low fares." Mr Byron agrees. "A flight to Melbourne next year will be cheaper for families than a car trip to the coast." Tiger's introductory sales launch offering low cost tickets to Melbourne, some as little as \$9.95, proved they are serious competitors. Tiger will operate its 7-day a week service from the Airport's multi-user terminal.

Virgin Blue's new fleet of Embraer E-jets will

operate 'a high frequency' service between Canberra and Sydney. Offering 8 daily flights, the airline is out to capture a greater share of the corporate and government market. "We have spent the past four years investigating aircraft options to give us maximum efficiency, economies of scale and the ability to venture into new markets currently serviced by turbo-props," Virgin Blue Chief Executive, Mr Brett Godfrey, said. "We are confident the E-Jet is the perfect aircraft to deliver on all fronts both now and into the future." Fares for Virgin Blue's new Sydney service will start from \$99 one-way.

"We are delighted that Virgin Blue is returning to Canberra with a brand new service and brand new jet aircraft," Mr Byron said. "The Embraer represents new standards in comfort and efficiency. Its unique cabin design offers travellers an extraordinary amount of personal space, wide aisles and the widest seats of any aircraft in its class," he said.

"If you are planning to fly in 2008, book now, because next year promises to usher in a new era of unprecedented low cost flying."



Virgin's back in numbers.

Qantas Expands Q400 Fleet

Monday, 22 October: Qantas says it will purchase an additional 12 Bombardier 72-seat Q400 aircraft for QantasLink.

The airline also says it will take options and purchase rights for another 24 Q400s.

The Chief Executive Officer of Qantas, Mr Geoff Dixon, said the \$400 million order would boost the QantasLink Q400 fleet to 21 aircraft. The new aircraft will replace all of the 36 Dash 8-100 series aircraft by early 2010.

"Capacity growth for QantasLink over the period July 2008 to June 2010 will be around 19 per cent per annum," Mr Dixon said. The new Q400 aircraft will operate extensively on the Qantas shuttle service between Canberra and Sydney.



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