

## Media Release

23 February 2011

### CANBERRA BUSINESSPOINT OPENS SHOPFRONT OFFICE

Access to practical advice and support for small businesses in the ACT, took another step forward today when the Chief Minister, Jon Stanhope MLA, opened a shopfront office for Canberra BusinessPoint at 216 Northbourne Ave, Braddon.

“Today marks an important milestone in the expansion of Canberra BusinessPoint services for small businesses in Canberra”, Chris Faulks, CEO of Canberra Business Council, said today. “We are delighted to open the CBP shopfront office because it will give Canberra BusinessPoint a home and enable Canberra Business Council to work with the ACT Government and Lighthouse to deliver a more personalised and responsive service to small businesses in the ACT.”

Ms Faulks said the Canberra BusinessPoint contract was an excellent fit with the Council’s primary purpose of assisting the growth of business in Canberra and driving sustainable economic growth in the ACT and surrounding region.

“I have appointed Mr Andrew Black as the Manager of the Canberra BusinessPoint services delivered by Canberra Business Council. Andrew brings to the position a wealth of experience working with small businesses and a strong customer service focus. His career has been spent in Canberra working to grow Canberra & region”, Ms Faulks said.

#### **Background**

Canberra BusinessPoint, the gateway to practical advice and support for businesses in the ACT, is delivered, on behalf of the ACT Government, by a partnership between Canberra Business Council and Lighthouse Business Innovation Centre. Canberra BusinessPoint services are delivered across two modules.

Module 1, delivered by Canberra Business Council, provides information workshops, on-on-one advice, referrals and networking for people thinking of starting a business, those operating an early stage business and for established small enterprises wanting to build on their success. The second Module, delivered by Lighthouse, focuses on mentoring and targeted advice for those small firms with the potential to grow and expand rapidly.

The CBP shopfront office is co-located with the new Canberra Business Council office at 216 Northbourne Ave, Braddon.

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PROGRAM DELIVERED BY:

AN ACT GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE