

Tuggeranong Community Council

By Nick Tsoulas, president

THE Tuggeranong Community Council (TCC) fears the loss of one of our major employers in the Tuggeranong Town Centre, the Federal Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, will be devastating for businesses and investment and lead to job losses in the future.

The TCC is concerned if the department plans to consolidate its offices and workers to another region of the ACT, it will have a negative impact on businesses in the Town Centre that rely on their business and provide employment themselves from this department and its workers.

The views of the Tuggeranong retailers are of immediate concern that Anketell Street Tuggeranong will be impacted with the loss of 2700 workers. Cafes and restaurants may put off some its staff, which a lot of these are aged 16-20 years old. With teen unemployment in the valley now at almost 50 per cent of this age group, we cannot afford any loss of any jobs, whether they be public servants or from the private sector.

The TCC has launched a petition, with Communities@Work, and the Tuggeranong Hyperdome calling on the Federal Government to maintain and improve the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs in Tuggeranong.

The TCC urges all Tuggeranong residents to follow the link and sign the petition:

www.gopetition.com/petitions/tuggeranong-community-council-save-our-public-service-petition.html

Residents can also pop into Federal Member for Canberra Gai Brodtmann's office to sign in person.

The TCC will be having an update on this petition at our next council meeting on Tuesday, May 7 from 7.20pm at the Southern Cross Club Tuggeranong. Guest speakers will be Lend Lease presenting the Isabella Plains Aged Care development, followed by Land and Development Agency to present Tuggeranong's newest suburb of Southquay.