TCC FORWARD PLAN 2014-16

PURPOSE

1. This plan provides the management framework governing operations and activities of the Tuggeranong Community Council Incorporated (TCC), for 2014-2016.

ROLE OF TCC

2. The role (or charter) of the TCC is governed by several formal documents:
   - the annual Deed of Grant between the TCC and the ACT Government;
   - the Constitution of the TCC, legally incorporated as an association;
   - the Articles of Association for the TCC;
   - its Code of Conduct.
3. The TCC basic charter is as set out in Schedule 2 of the Grant Funded Activity, of the annual Deed of Grant between the ACT Government and the TCC, as shown in the following box. Under the Deed, the TCC receives an annual grant of about $13,000 to assist in its work for the community.

> The Tuggeranong Community Council will undertake the following activities:
> 1. communicate to the ACT Government the views, expectations and concerns of community members;
> 2. encourage the community to participate in Community Council activities; and
> 3. hold community meetings that are :
>   - held once a month (except for January),
>   - held, as far as possible, at a consistent location and on a consistent day of the month,
>   - open to the public, and
>   - publicly advertised.

4. The Constitution of the TCC, incorporated as an association, is published on the TCC website www.tuggcc.com.
5. The Articles of Association for the TCC are not available on line but may be viewed upon request to the President of the TCC.
6. The TCC Code of Conduct is published on its website. Every member of the TCC is required to abide by this Code.

GOVERNANCE

7. Governance of the TCC, to meet the requirements of the formal documents listed earlier, is entrusted to the TCC Executive Committee. The Constitution provides for the annual election of several Committee members, namely:
   - President (Executive Officer);
   - 1st Vice President (Executive Officer);

- Treasurer (Executive Officer);
- Secretary (Executive Officer);
- 2nd Vice President (Ordinary Committee Member);
- Minute Secretary (Ordinary Committee Member); and
- Officer (Ordinary Committee Member).

8. The inclusion of an additional Officer, as an Ordinary Committee Member, will be sought through amendment to the Constitution.
9. The Constitution provides for the appointment of a Media Officer, which may be met by a Committee Member or by co-opted TCC member.
10. The Constitution provides for the Committee to appoint a Public Officer, who does not necessarily have to be also a member of the Committee, although a desirable requirement. Under relevant ACT law, a Public Officer has specific responsibilities which are not included as yet in the Constitution. The Committee will seek inclusion of these in the Constitution, through amendment, as applicable to the TCC.
11. As provided for in the Constitution, several sub-committees have been established by the TCC Committee to assist the Committee; non-Committee members may be co-opted as "Honorary Officers" to participate in these:
    - Environment;
    - Transport;
    - Planning & Development; and
    - Health & Community [health centre; Medicare Local; aged care; 55 Plus Club; Men's Shed; etc].
12. Details of tenure, duties, responsibilities and respective authority of each Committee member are detailed in the Constitution.
13. Election of Committee members takes place during the Annual General Meeting (AGM), held normally in September.

MEETINGS

14. General TCC meetings, open to all who wish to attend, are held monthly (except for January), at the Southern Cross Club in Tuggeranong, normally on the first Tuesday of the month. These meeting are formally minuted. Only those people attending a general meeting who are financial members and in possession of his or her membership card are eligible to vote on motions put to a meeting.
15. The TCC Committee usually meets the week prior to a general meeting, to address matters arising from the general meetings and to plan future activities.

TCC OBJECTIVES

16. The following TCC objectives and purposes of the association are taken from the Constitution:
    - to promote the interests of the Tuggeranong Valley community;
    - to enhance and improve the economic, cultural, social and environmental well-being of Tuggeranong residents, and community groups;
    - to identify community groups, and establish and maintain a close liaison with them;
    - to contribute to the physical and social planning of and the development of the Tuggeranong Valley;
    - to ensure that the interests of youth, the aged and other groups in the district are properly represented; and
    - to inform the community about relevant matters affecting the Tuggeranong Valley.

IMPORTANT TUGGERANONG ENTITIES

17. In performing its role, the TCC and, in particular, the TCC Executive Committee, needs to be aware of the respective interests, roles, authorities and inter-relationships of several important entities:
    - the Tuggeranong community of residents, business and government institutions and associations or groups representing sectors of the community;
    - the ACT Government;
    - all members of parliament (local Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) and Federal Members of Parliament (MP) and Senators);
    - the Australian Federal Police (AFP), serving the Tuggeranong community;
    - the Combined Community Councils (CCC);

- Communities at Work (C@W) organisation;
- potential guest speakers from any sector that may have something of importance and interest to present to the Tuggeranong community;
- Neighbourhood Watch;
- Southern ACT Catchment Group (including the Tuggeranong Lake Carers); and
- Canberra media, especially The Chronicle, The Canberra Times and local radio stations.

GENERAL ISSUES

18. Over the years, issues of importance to the community have been identified, several of which have been effectively resolved but of which some tend to be perennial.
19. In pursuing its stated objectives, the TCC has identified and will pursue resolution of issues current at a given time, through the work of the four sub-committees:
    - Environment:
        > promotion and identity of Tuggeranong
        > Lake Tuggeranong and other waterways [water quality; wetlands]
        > air pollution [stench from lake; wood smoke]
        > visual pollution
        > noise pollution [traffic; hooning]
    - Transport:
        > transport networks [bus routes and timetables; passenger shelters; light rail; the freeway; Monaro highway; local roads]
        > suburban infrastructure [street signage; lighting; dedicated and joint-use cycleways; hazard reporting; post boxes]
    - Planning & Development:
        > employment opportunities [ACT Government; Federal Government; commerce and industry]
        > Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) for Tuggeranong
        > town planning [government Master Plans; public facilities]
        > lakeshore infrastructure and amenities for recreation
        > sporting amenities
        > electoral boundaries
    - Health & Community:
        > health risks to residents
        > health facilities [health centre; Medicare Local; availability of General Practitioners (GP)]
        > aged care [accommodation; services]
        > retirement facilities [55 Plus Club; Men's Shed]
        > Occupational Health & Safety
        > law and order [police liaison; activity co-operation]
        > education and youth [schools; CIT; youth clubs]

MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES

20. The most important issues confronting the Tuggeranong community, for the foreseeable future, have been identified as:
    - maintenance and growth of Federal and ACT government employment in Tuggeranong;
    - continual consultation with the ACT Government, local MLAs and Federal MPs to provide adequate funding for a program of works to improve the water quality of Lake Tuggeranong and other waterways;
    - the establishment of a comprehensive Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) campus in Tuggeranong;
    - commercial and residential in-filling around the Tuggeranong Town Centre; and
    - the economic impact on Tuggeranong of the Capital Metro (Light Rail) project.

APPROACHES TO RESOLUTION OF ISSUES

21. Once identified, the TCC may pursue resolution of specific issues through a range of mechanisms and approaches, for example:
    - direct engagement with the Chief Minister and MLAs;

- engagement with Federal MPs and Senators as appropriate;
- written submissions to government;
- submission of petitions to government;
- engagement with the police;
- exposure of issues through the media, including the TCC's website and Valley Voice;
- regular meetings of the Combined Community Councils about common issues;
- the engagement of interesting and important guest speakers; and
- by direct action and involvement of volunteer TCC Committee and members, eg in Footsteps to Follow project, the Tuggeranong Festival, fetes and lake clean-up days.

22. Note that the TCC President and other members of the Committee have at least one audience a year with the Chief Minister, to highlight and to discuss the most important, prevailing issues of concern.
23. The Federal member for Canberra and local MLAs representing Tuggeranong, have a standing invitation to attend TCC meetings.

COMMUNITY PROPOSALS

24. The TCC recognises that various individuals and interest groups of residents may exist from time to time within Tuggeranong which may wish to take direct action in respect of one issue or another, directly impacting on their local communities.
25. The TCC further recognises that such activities can fall within the charter of the TCC and therefore deserve TCC assistance, including sponsorship and modest funding of some activities.
26. An application to the TCC committee for sponsorship or funding will need to meet the following criteria, in respect of proposed activities:
    - be made in writing to the Secretary, TCC;
    - identify the specific activities for which sponsorship or funding is requested;
    - show how each activity is in the interests of the Tuggeranong Valley community and meets the objectives and purposes of the TCC;
    - contains sufficient detail for the Committee to assess the merit of a proposal;
    - for each activity, identify the funds requested and for which period.
27. Requests for repetitive funding, eg every financial year, will not normally be approved.
28. Approval of proposals shall be subject to the projected availability of funds over the planning period.

PUBLICATIONS

29. This plan, when approved by the TCC membership will be published under '*Article Categories'* on the TCC website.
30. TCC website www.tuggcc.com is the principal medium, other than the monthly meetings, for the announcement of matters of interest and activities of the TCC. In addition to updated reporting, it hosts on-line the TCC's own publication *Valley Voice*.

TCC ACTIVITY PLANS

31. In order to implement this plan, the TCC will, from time to time, prepare three-year Activity Plans. These will provide for:
    - current issues being pursued by the TCC;
    - TCC Promotion Program for 2014-16 [in addition to pursuit of current issues];
    - current, documented TCC policies and positions; and
    - ideas and suggestions, eg as obtained through the 2012 survey.
32. The current TCC Activity Plan may be viewed on the TCC website, once endorsed by a general meeting.

TCC Executive Committee — Endorsed at TCC Meeting, 3 June 2014

3 June 2014