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Ms Joy Burch MLA  
Minister for Education

**Re: Closure of Woden CIT**

Dear Ms Burch,

With the announcement of the new Tuggeranong Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) this, sadly will mean the impending closure of the Woden CIT. Current courses from the Woden CIT will be relocated from Woden to Tuggeranong in 2016 with the final course(s) to be relocated out of Woden by 2017.

The Woden Valley Community Council (WVCC) would like to ask the ACT Government:  
**What is the future for higher education in the Woden Valley area?**

The CIT has had a presence in Woden for about 30 years, and the move to relocate CIT courses out of Woden is in the WVCC's view is a political one. Given that Woden is home to the Canberra Hospital and the Federal Health Department, the ACT Government should continue to have a CIT presence in Woden that is based around Health related courses.

There are currently several health related courses at the CIT including Nursing, Pathology, Mental Health and Dental assisting that should remain and or could be relocated to Woden. This can be expanded in future to include health research and science related courses, with a view to create a 'health research and science innovation hub' for Woden.

Given that Woden is experiencing some economic challenges at the moment, the WVCC believes that there is a real lack of vision for the Woden town centre area. One district area like Woden shouldn't be cannibalised in its ACT Government services for another district as is currently being the case.

The WVCC looks forward to your response to this important matter and if you would like to attend a future WVCC public meeting that would be warmly welcomed.

**WVCC Public meetings 2015/16:**

7.30pm Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015 Woden Hellenic Club

7.30pm Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015 Woden Hellenic Club  
7.30pm Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2016 TBA

Yours Sincerely

Martin Miller 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015

WVCC president  
President@wvcc.org.au  
On behalf of the Woden Valley Community Council.