

5 November 2020

Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA
Minister for Health
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

By email: stephen-smith@act.gov.au

Dear Minister Stephen-Smith

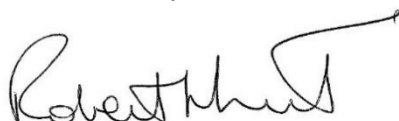
Congratulations on your re-election to the ACT Legislative Assembly and re-appointment as Minister for Health.

As the 10th Legislative Assembly starts its work, it is essential that the role of dietitians, food and nutrition in health and quality of life are considered. Dietitians Australia has long advocated for recognition of this. Our recent work includes:

- **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health** – [Submission](#) in response to the Senate Inquiry into Food Pricing and Food Security in Remote Indigenous Communities
- **Telehealth** – [Position paper](#) on the benefits of telehealth including access to dietetic services
- **Aged care** – Representation of Dietitians Australia at a hearing at the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, which resulted from Dietitians Australia's formal [submission](#) to the Royal Commission
- **Mental health** – [Submissions](#) to the Productivity Commission's Inquiry into Mental Health, advocating for increased recognition of the role of food, nutrition and dietitian services in supporting the mental health of all Australians and better integration of physical and mental health care
- **Disability** – [Submissions](#) to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability
- **Sustainability** – Briefing paper to support the prominent integration of sustainability principles within future iterations of the Australian Dietary Guidelines

Dietitians Australia would be glad to discuss the role dietitians and nutrition play in health and wellbeing further with you.

Yours sincerely



Robert Hunt
Chief Executive Officer