

*Mr Williams*      22

NATIONAL CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

HEALTH CENTRE - NARRABUNDAH

MINUTES OF MEETING

3.00 pm Tuesday 19 January 1974 - 8th Floor

ATTENDANCE:

A.C.T. Health Services:      Mr Kleist, Mrs Kern

Department of Education:      Mr Edwards, Mr Williams, Mr Kohlhaze

N.C.D.C.:                      Mr Pascoe-Webbe, Mr Lopaten, Mr Kent,  
Mr Faulkner

PURPOSE OF MEETING:

To define a site for the Narrabundah Health Centre on the site of the present Infants' School at Narrabundah. Education advised that there was no objection to the release of portion of the Narrabundah Infants' School site for the construction of a health centre provided satisfactory alternative arrangements were made for relocation of the infants in the Primary School.

NOTE:

This meeting followed discussions with officers of the Department of Education on provisions for additional accommodation at Narrabundah Primary School as the result of the proposed integration of the Infant and Primary Schools and the timing of the new accommodation units. On the basis of enrolment trends it was accepted that the provision of one 3T.O.L.U. and a double unit transportable would be sufficient provided this was endorsed by the Interim School Authority and the Schools Board. It was also pointed out that there could be difficulties in locating 2 x 3T.O.L.U.'s on the Primary School site, and the 2nd unit would probably require relocation within 2 years as enrolments fall. As these units are not easily or economically relocated, there was a need to be completely sure of the justification for 2 units. Education agreed that the matter of upgrading the present facilities at the Primary School was a separate and later issue.

DEFINITION OF SITE:

During the discussions on this it was noted that the site preferred by Health would offer minimum disturbance to the school's workings and minimum disturbance to established trees. Mr Kent is to establish the precise location of the Health Centre and prepare butter paper outlines of how the proposed health centre would fit on the site and advise at a later date. As a result of this advice there would be an early meeting arranged on site with members of the Schools Authority, local School Board, Health Authority, P. & C. Association and the NCDC to ensure complete agreement and unanimity on the proposal. Mr Kent reiterated that the building he would be looking at would be a permanent, speedily constructed building with minimum site work within a temporary fenced boundary.

It was noted that the possibility existed of making the site available before all the children from the Infants Section of the school were relocated. On the question of timing, Mr Lopaten offered that a target date of 30 June was feasible for the provision of a 3T.O.L.U. and 2-classroom transportable to allow relocation of the infants. It was noted that Mr Kent could be ready for a site in May and that he anticipated construction time to be in the vicinity of 20 weeks.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Following discussions it was agreed that these proposals should be discussed with the local Community Health Committee in the near future; Mrs Kern advised that the next scheduled meeting with the local Community Health Committee was 6 March, and NCDC representatives were welcome to attend. It was also agreed that a meeting should be arranged on site with the Interim School Committee and the local Community Health Committee.

Health (Mr Kleist) then conveyed the thanks of the A.C.T. Health Services for the co-operation they had received from the Department of Education on this matter. He did however forecast that they would be promoting discussions on the future role of Health in the education area. Concepts such as the use of (a) a nursing sister located at each school; (b) the use of mobile units for school services; and (c) the schools containing a sub-health centre integrated with the local health centre would be the subject of early discussions.

OLD INFANTS SECTION

Following discussions on the future of the old infants building, Mr Edwards put forward some likely uses but added that the decision on which of these uses would be adopted rested with the Schools Authority. The Health representatives agreed that none of these possible uses would be in conflict with the proposed health centre on the same site.

(R.J. FAULKNER)

Narrabundah Primary School Board,  
Kootara Crescent,  
NARRABUNDAH.

26 June, 1975.

Dear Sir,

The Board of this school has studied a letter signed by D.M. Morrison to Mr. E.G. Wilson, Chairman, Narrabundah Health and Community Council of 13. 6. 75.

In it reference is made to the future of the Narrabundah Infants' School Building.

The Board of the Narrabundah Primary School, a school which now of course includes the children and staff of the former Narrabundah Infants' School, would like to draw your attention to two or three points relating to the use of the Narrabundah Infants' School building as they affect this school.

One is that the population of this school is now 450 children - a fact that has put very considerable strain upon our very limited playground space - a factor which we suggest was not considered in making the decision to combine the former Infants and Primary schools on this site. This lack of space is further hampered because of two old army hut type buildings within the public oval area which constitutes the major part of our playground. One of these is used as a YMCA building and the other is used by a Leisure Centre Group for pre-school children. We would suggest that these groups be given space in the projected community use of the Narrabundah Infants' School if the school is to be put to community use.

The Leisure Centre offers the major problem in that as well as limiting our playground space, it is used most mornings and up to fifty cars invade the school's grounds constituting a considerable hazard to children of this school.

We are preparing a major submission on the upgrading of the grounds of this school and will forward a copy when it is ready.

In the interim I would urge your consideration of these points as they affect this school and particularly the children in it. I will be happy to meet with officers of your department on site to discuss this matter.

Yours faithfully,

J. HAMILTON  
Executive Officer.

11 November, 1975.

Mr. P. Alston,  
Private Secretary to  
The Minister for The Australian Capital Territory,  
Parliament House,  
CANBERRA.

Dear Sir,

Since the beginning of this school year Narrabundah Infant and Primary schools have been combined into one primary school for children from Kindergarten (i.e. children age 5) to Year 6 (i.e. children age 12).

During this period it has become apparent that among the many problems of this school one of the main ones relates to grounds. Specifically:

1. the area of the site and its suitability as a schoolground, (with double the number of children we need more space, particularly space which will allow us to cater to the age range we now serve),
2. the traffic hazard due to
  - (a) the present and use of the Leisure Centre building. This brings many cars into and through the schoolground. The Leisure Centre Group has stated that from early November it intends to increase the use of the building threefold, with presumably a similar build up in car t traffic. Teachers and children are under a direct instruction to avoid the area as much as possible even though this is difficult because the area concerned is immediately in front of the main entry to the school. We have had some near accidents on several occasions this year and eventually our luck is going to run out and a child will be killed or seriously injured.
  - (b) The presence and use of the YMCA building. Again this brings traffic into the area of the school and though this is small in volume it is frequently fast in speed.
  - (c) The fact that the school ground frontage to Footara Crescent, the main street, is unfenced thus allowing cars complete freedom of access to the grounds.
3. The fire hazard both buildings constitute. The buildings are very old weatherboard army style "temporary" buildings which are a fire hazard both to their users and to this school. The Leisure Centre building is being used by young children and their mothers, many of whom when they bring their children stay on for coffee and a smoke. In normal circumstances this is a socially useful function, but not in a "firetrap" building. Access to the cyclone fenced play area is through the building and in the event of fire children could be trapped in the play area. Double gates in the fence are normally locked.

Mr. P. Alston,  
Private Secretary to  
The Minister for The Australian Capital Territory.

## 2.

Early in the year the problems were discussed with the "Committee for Establishment of Priorities for Upgrading Primary School". Members of the Committee visited the school and saw at first hand the area causing concern. Further concern was held with officers of the Interim Schools' Authority and the Department of Education.

One further complication was that no map of the school area was available. This was remedied by the mapping section of the Department of Housing and Construction.

As results were slow to follow from these earlier discussions, and as the dangers to the children continued, the Board wrote in mid-year to the Chief Executive Officer of the A.C.T. Interim Schools' Authority outlining general points concerning the school ground and emphasising particularly:

- (i) the real and considerable danger to children from traffic, and
- (ii) the willingness of the Board to meet "with officers of the Authority, N.C.D.C., Parks and Gardens and other involved bodies" to discuss possible solutions to the problems.

The Department of Education made a submission to N.C.D.C. and Services and Property in support of the requests from the School Board.

The School Board again discussed the problems at its October meeting and again restated its view and directed the Executive Officer of the Board to make every attempt to resolve the problems prior to the 1976 school year.

Consequently on Wednesday 29th October, 1975, I, as Executive Officer of the School Board, went to the Centre and spoke with Mrs. Souter (Treasurer) and Mrs. Clarke (President) expressing my concern regarding the traffic and fire dangers and intimated that as potentially suitable alternative accommodation was available I would like to meet with members of their organisation to view both this alternative accommodation and to discuss the possibility of their group considering moving into this alternative accommodation. They agreed to arrange this meeting and also agreed to notify me of a suitable date for such a meeting. I, in turn, agreed to have officers of the Authority and Department of Education present and also a representative of the Narrabundah Community Centre.

On Thursday 30th October, Mrs. Clarke telephoned stating that her committee would neither attend a meeting nor contemplate moving.

The same afternoon I noticed surveyors at work in the vicinity of the building, and on approaching them I was informed that they were executing a survey preparatory to the granting of a lease of the area and building to the Leisure Centre Group.

Following on from this I telephoned Mr. Alston, Secretary to the Minister for the Australian Capital Territory, Mr. Bryant, and asked that the matter of the granting of the lease be postponed until it is possible to undertake a total review of all matters relevant to the problem.

Mr. F. Alston,  
Private Secretary to  
The Minister for The Australian Capital Territory,

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The School Board, in briefly stating its case, is aware of the quality of the job being done by both the Leisure Centre and the YMCA. Indeed the School and the YMCA have worked together closely in developing community programs in Narrabundah. In the case of the Leisure Centre the Board is equally aware that their activities do not benefit the people of Narrabundah as the people involved are from outside this area.

The Board has also been informed that at present potentially suitable alternative accommodation is available in the former Narrabundah Infants' School, now to become the Narrabundah Community Centre. This, in the case of the Leisure Centre, could include:

- (i) a room of its own,
- (ii) access to a hall for wet weather use,
- (iii) an area for outside play, and
- (iv) better and safer car parking facilities.

The present availability of this accommodation has also to be considered in relation to the age, state of repair, cost of future maintenance, and potential total useful life of the present Leisure Centre and YMCA buildings.

Yours faithfully,

John Hamilton  
Principal.

Copy to:

The Secretary,  
Department of Education,  
M.L.C. Tower,  
WODEN. 2606.

Chief Executive Officer,  
A.C.T. Schools' Authority,  
Box 20, P.O.,  
CIVIC SQUARE. 2608.

The Secretary,  
Department of Services and Property,  
Box 1920,  
CANBERRA CITY. A.C.T.

Secretary and Manager,  
National Capital Development Commission,  
Box 373,  
CANBERRA CITY.

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1. ~~Dr Beare~~  
2. ~~Mr Peck~~

RAF:BW

Mr Hood  
→ cc Dr Beare *AFB 24/7*

RECEIVED  
23 JUL 1975  
Chief Education Officer  
ACT Schools Authority

**NARRABUNDAH INFANTS SCHOOL**

During my recent contact with members of the ACT Legislative Assembly M/s Ros Kelly buttonholed me about what was happening to the Narrabundah Infants School. She said that there seemed to be an extremely long gap between a decision being made and some announcement by the Department or the Minister.

I explained that we were waiting to hear from the ACT Schools Authority as to whether that Authority would continue to need the infants school buildings. Once the Authority has made a decision to hand over the buildings to the Department it will be possible for us to make an announcement and to commence work to enable the adult migrant centre and the community facilities to be developed.

I spoke to Mr Peck of the ACT Schools Authority. He assured me that arrangements could be made to clear a decision through the Schools Authority and its committees by Monday, 21 July. Mr Peck undertook to let Mr Cobb know of this clearance next Monday. Once this is obtained could we move quickly to get the Minister's agreement and the release of his press statement?

R A FOSKETT  
17 July 1975

~~To Mr Peck~~  
for action please

*AFB*  
24/7

→ Dr Beare

NFA. Department advised 22/7.

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C/o Narrabundah Health Centre,  
NARRABUNDAH, A.C.T., 2604

19 May 1975

The Minister,  
Department of Education,  
Parliament House,  
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

Dear Sir,

20 MAY 1975

RECEIVED BY MINISTERIAL  
CORRESPONDENCE CLERK  
34600  
21 MAY 1975  
REFERRED TO: D. H. Beare  
For Preparation of a Reply

ESTABLISHMENT OF NARRABUNDAH FAMILY CENTRE

I enclose a submission for the setting up of a Family Centre in Narrabundah. The cooperation and assistance of your Department is invited in order to bring this project into being. The programme for the establishment of the Family Centre is set out in Appendix "A" to the submission, and your advice and assistance is sought for the following sections of the project.

- (a) Your major contribution to our project would be by the release of the old Narrabundah Infants School building to the Narrabundah Health and Community Council for the establishment of the Family Centre, after it has been vacated by the Canberra School of Music in March 1976.
- (b) Your assistance in the setting up, staffing and operation of full-day and occasional child-care facilities in the various locations, *that are* necessary to initiate and develop a comprehensive child-care service, would also be of great value (see Programme Items 1, 2, and 3).
- (c) Your active participation in the setting up and conduct of family education classes including classes for migrants at the Family Centre would be welcomed. Such a service would be coordinated with the activities of the Narrabundah Primary School, and the establishment of homecraft and technical classes, and possibly a language laboratory for migrant English classes has been proposed. We would not wish the use of such a facility to be exclusive to the people of Narrabundah, but would see it as a part of your Departmental programme for the provision of community education.

The establishment of a Family Centre in the old Infants School building would provide a community service that is urgently needed in Narrabundah. It would benefit a broad cross-section of the community, and it is our contention that it would be the best use that could be found for the building, once it is vacated by the School of Music.

Representatives of the Narrabundah Health and Community Council would like to meet with officers of your Department to discuss the availability of the Infants School building as soon as possible, and to examine the various child-care and family education proposals that would benefit from the cooperation of your Department. The Council may be contacted through Mr. E.G. Wilson, phone 499376

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by day, and 957880 in the evenings.

Your assistance in our Family Centre project would be greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,



(E.G. WILSON)  
Chairman,  
Narrabundah Health and Community Council

2110  
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SUBMISSION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FAMILY CENTRE AT NARRABUNDAH

The combined committees of the Narrabundah Community Council and of the Health Centre, shortly to be incorporated as the Narrabundah Health and Community Council, seek to establish a Family Centre in the old Infants School building at Narrabundah to provide the following services for the community.

Child-care; occasional and full-day

Social and financial counselling as a family management service

Family education classes, to include special classes for migrants

Social and recreational activities for all ages

The assistance of the Australian Government is sought to provide accommodation for the Family Centre and to assist with the staffing and finance of its operations. The submission is a firm declaration of our aims and intent concerning the Family Centre, and its purpose is to inform all the relevant government Departments and Authorities of the assistance that the community considers would be required to establish a Family Centre in Narrabundah.

Child-care

- (a) The Family Centre will provide child-care on an occasional basis as soon as staff and accommodation are available, and would cater for 20 children.
- (b) As additional accommodation becomes available, full-day child-care will be introduced to increase the total number of children served to about 60.
- (c) Preference will be given to those with the greatest need taking into account sickness, hardship and the needs of single parent families.
- (d) A multi-disciplinary team approach by staff is envisaged, and it is proposed to increase the role of education in the child-care service.
- (e) The management and staff for both occasional and full-day child-care will be integrated, and wherever possible common facilities will be shared by both groups; if appropriate, some groups will be combined.

Social and Financial Counselling

- (a) The counselling service for individuals and families will provide advice and assistance before circumstances disrupt family life or bring about mental and physical hardship.
- (b) The role of the staff will be to help families attain control of their financial resources; they must collectively provide expertise in housing, legal, employment, child-care and health matters.
- (c) An 'open file' system in which the files remain the property of the clients will be introduced, and the staff will be expected to act as advisors, or as 'brokers' in dealings with the authorities.
- (d) The staff must work as a team and become accepted by their clients, both socially and professionally.

Family Education

- (a) A section of the Family Centre will be devoted to education, with attention to the needs of migrants.
- (b) The program will be coordinated with similar activities at Narrabundah Primary School to provide for the overall educational needs of the community.

245  
(10)

- (c) The teaching of everyday English to migrants, particularly women with children of pre-school age, is the greatest need; such a facility could operate as a centre to serve a wider area of Canberra.
- (d) Other classes are needed to assist families in attaining basic skills; classes in homecrafts, and cooking demonstrations linked with good dietary practice have been suggested, and the Centre should recognise needs as they arise, and have the flexibility to cater for them.

#### Recreational and Social Activities

- (a) Meeting rooms for people with common interests are required: e.g. bridge, yoga, music, choir groups, and senior citizens, women's and youth groups.
- (b) A Community Hall with light refreshment and beverage facilities is required for large mixed groups and for family activities.
- (c) The facilities envisaged would also include a general community drop-in centre for day and evening use by all age groups, a combined reading room and adult public library, and an expansion of the present Children's Library and reading centre.

#### Need for the Family Centre

The need for the Family Centre is based on the composition of the community, the standard of family accommodation, the earning power of the family group and the amenities within the local area; these are summarised as follows:


- (a) Narrabundah has a large migrant population; there are many single parent families, and the high proportion of shorter-term residents means a regular turnover of the population.
- (b) Narrabundah is a domiciliary suburb with a large number of low rental houses including small prefabricated dwellings, and it also contains two caravan parks.
- (c) Narrabundah has a large number of low income families, and families in which both parents work is the norm.
- (d) A small shopping centre serves the community, but there are no government or commercial offices in the suburb, no community or social centres apart from the R.S.L. Club, and no adult reading room or library. A small children's library and reading room is inadequate for the area.

#### Management of the Family Centre

The management policy of the Family Centre would be determined by the Narrabundah Health and Community Council. Management and organization of the Family Centre would be the function of a Management Committee, comprising equal numbers of staff and community members. The day-to-day administration and coordination of the Centre's activities would be the task of the Administrator, a full-time paid member of the staff.

#### Accommodation

The whole concept of the Family Centre is based on the use of the old Infants School building and other buildings in the area, and does not envisage any new construction. Whilst other community organizations are seeking large grants for capital expenditure on buildings for similar projects, we consider that our requests by comparison are modest, economically sound, and would provide a use for the building that would benefit all sections of the community. A programme for setting up the Family Centre is attached as Appendix "A", and it takes into account the availability and suitability of the following buildings.

244  
Building for immediate use for child-care

The need for child-care in Narrabundah has been recognised by the Department of the Capital Territory (DCT) for more than 18 months, and a request for an occasional child-care centre has already been made. A house or other suitable building is urgently required for this purpose.

Interim Health Centre building

The Interim Health Centre building will be vacated in November 1975. It is proposed that this building be acquired for occasional and full-day child-care of infants under 18 months. The use of this building would remove the care of infants under 18 months from the child-care centre already established and allow it to take additional children.

Old Infants School building

The most suitable building for a Family Centre in Narrabundah is the old Infants School building, a portion of which is currently being used by the Canberra School of Music as temporary accommodation until March 1976. Its advantages are as follows:

1. It is centrally positioned near the shopping centre; the Health Centre is nearby in the same block; the grounds are well appointed and it is served by public transport.
2. The two large rooms that made up the kindergarten portion of the school have infants toilets nearby, and would be fitted out to provide child-care for about 40 places.
3. The six classrooms would be used as follows:
  - (a) Family education with migrant education service; possibly a language laboratory and other facilities (two rooms). (To be coordinated with Narrabundah Primary School, the ACT Schools Authority and the Department of Education)
  - (b) Social and financial counselling with offices, interview rooms and group discussion areas (two rooms).
  - (c) Social and recreational area for use by community groups for meetings and social activities; a public library and reading room; the provision of refreshment and catering facilities (two rooms).
4. The assembly hall would be used for regular social and recreational functions of general interest.

Finance

Finance for the Family Centre will to some extent be fragmented by the sources of the funds that are available. It is hoped that a grant from the Children's Commission will be made available for the child-care and other children's activities. The interest of the Department of Education and the Department of the Capital Territory will be sought in the setting up and operation of the child-care section. The cooperation of the Department of Education, the ACT Schools Authority and the Department of Social Security is sought so that the family education centre with migrant facilities will eventuate, and it is hoped that grants for this section can be obtained. The social and financial counselling and the social and recreational facilities will require assistance from the Departments of the Capital Territory, Social Security and Tourism and Recreation; however, the sources of grants have yet to be clarified.

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(S)Staffing

The eventual development of the Family Centre would require the services of the following full-time and part-time members of the staff.

- (a) An Administrator with reception staff and a typist
- (b) Child-care teaching and nursing staff and assistants -- about 12 to cater for 60 places
- (c) Social and financial counselling would require two full-time social workers and two full-time assistants for operating the support facilities
- (d) Family education still to be clarified; however, two full-time language laboratory teachers and/or migrant education teachers with part-time assistance would seem reasonable.
- (e) Recreational and social facilities would require some part-time staff, a full-time youth worker and full-time librarian.

All staff, regardless of where their expertise lies, would be expected to work as part of an interdisciplinary team in setting up and running all the programs at the Family Centre; they would attend staff meetings and have representation on the Management Committee. The Management Committee would be responsible for all activities at the Family Centre, including the selection of staff, and the planning and coordination of their activities as a team.


Cooperation with other organizations

Activities at the Family Centre will be coordinated with other community and social organizations such as the School Board, Salvation Army and the Y.M.C.A. The aim will be to provide an integrated service, and use of the Family Centre by the above or other organizations will be welcomed.

The family education program will be planned with the assistance of the School Board who are planning similar classes at the school; however, the needs in this field require more facilities than are available at the school, and the use of part of the Family Centre is a logical step to achieve a better family education service.

Review of the Submission

- (a) The proposal for a Family Centre in Narrabundah has evolved from the needs of the people of Narrabundah, as conveyed by them over the last 18 months to the Narrabundah Community Council and the Health Centre Community Committee.
- (b) The broad framework of the submission is soundly based and takes into account the declared policies of the Australian government, the responsibilities of government departments, and the financial arrangement set up by the Government for the establishment of just such a centre for broadly based community participation and involvement in services for the benefit of all sections of the community.

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- (c) The establishment of the Family Centre now depends on the responses by the various Australian Government Departments, Authorities and Commissions to this submission.
- (d) We believe that a firm decision at a high level is required to bring about the participation of government bodies in the development of workable arrangements for the establishment of the Narrabundah Family Centre.



(E.G. WILSON)  
Chairman,  
Narrabundah Health and Community  
Council

19 May 1975



PROGRAMME FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FAMILY CENTRE

ACTIVITY	BUILDING AND DEPARTMENT INVOLVED	COMMENCEMENT DATE	DEPARTMENTAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTED FROM	FINANCE TO BE SOUGHT FROM
1. Child-care, occasional, all ages, 20 places	House through the Department of the Capital Territory	As soon as possible	Departments of the Capital Territory, Education and Health	Children's Commission
2. Child-care, occasional and possibly full-day for infants under 18 months, 15-20 places	Interim Health Centre building through the Department of Health	December 1975 after being vacated by the Health Centre team	Departments of the Capital Territory, Education and Health	Children's Commission
3. Major child-care facility for occasional and full-day for children older than 18 months, about 40 places	Old Narrabundah Infants School building through the Department of Education and the ACT Schools Authority	April 1975, after being vacated by the Canberra School of Music	Departments of the Capital Territory, Education and Health	Children's Commission
4. Social and financial counselling	As for Item 3 above	As for Item 3 above	Departments of the Capital Territory and Social Security	Still to be clarified
5. Family education classes with attention to migrant needs	As for Item 3 above	As for Item 3 above	Department of Education, ACT Schools Authority and Department of Social Security	Still to be clarified
6. Social and recreational centre	As for Item 3 above	As for Item 3 above	Departments of the Capital Territory and Tourism and Recreation	Still to be clarified



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BP/ST

MR EDWARDS  
MR HOOD

MINISTERIAL 34600 - NARRABUNDAH FAMILY CENTRE

We have received two submissions recently dealing with the provision of child-care facilities in Narrabundah. The first of these from the Narrabundah Community organisation presents a fairly elaborate case for us to relinquish the old infant school building at Narrabundah for the establishment of a family centre. The second is from the principal of Narrabundah College seeking the establishment of a creche or child-care centre at the College. Mr March is seeking the continued location of the canteen transportable at the College for this purpose.

So far as the Authority is concerned there is nomedical use to which it would want to put the infants' school building which has a higher priority than the uses proposed by Mr Wilson. I am not certain, however, whether the Authority's views on this are very significant as it is not clear to me whether this building will belong to the Authority or remain under the department's control. I think it really is a matter for the department to adopt a decision about in the light of the demands for technical and further education facilities said to exist in Canberra.

If this kind of development is to take place in Narrabundah, I would see some weakening in the case presented by Mr March. There is little doubt in my mind that Narrabundah College would benefit from having a creche on site because I think that enrolment pressures will be such that we might wish to divert the majority of mature age students to Narrabundah. I don't think that we can support duplication of facilities of this kind without a close investigation of the issues involved. Nor am I sure whether Mr March's proposal to retain the transportable canteen is viable.

I would appreciate knowing what action is proposed on this matter.

.....  
B PECK

29 May 1975

Mr PECK

I think this paper needs to go  
before the Buildings St. C. I  
was not aware that the CDC  
was also in the queue.

RAF:BW

RECEIVED

19 JUN 1975

Chief Education Officer  
A.C.T. Schools Authority

~~Mr Hood~~

cc Mr Edwards

→ Dr Beare  
Mr Allen

17/7

## NARRABUNDAH INFANTS' SCHOOL AND THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

During recent discussions with the ACT Schools Authority we talked about the likely future uses for the Narrabundah Infants' School buildings. At that time it was agreed that if the Authority was in favour the Department should take over the buildings for further education and community purposes. We had in mind that the Narrabundah site would have significant advantages as the location for the ACT Adult Migrant Education Centre and as a base for the operations of the Narrabundah Community Centre.

As far as the School of Music buildings at Manuka are concerned, I understand that negotiations are in progress with the Curriculum Development Centre for the latter to take over these buildings when they are vacated by the School of Music in mid 1976. I have no objection to this, particularly if we have given detailed thought to other possible alternative uses, as I believe it would make an ideal location for the CDC.

I think it is necessary for us to get the Minister's agreement for the proposed new uses for both sets of buildings. I would like a press statement to be released as early as possible about Narrabundah Infants' School buildings and its likely future uses. We would need to be more careful about the proposals regarding the School of Music buildings and their occupation by the CDC. As you would know the office accommodation needs of this Centre have been under scrutiny by the Government's Interdepartmental Committee on Office Accommodation, and we would need to tread carefully in our dealings on this matter.

Cabinet's decision and the Prime Minister's announcement about Albury/Wodonga are also relevant.

Since dictating the above, the attached note from Mr Townsend has been referred to me by Mr Morrison. Would you please prepare a draft reply for Mr Morrison's signature, taking into account the points raised above. We should also be pessimistic about CDC occupation in January 1976.

  
G. A. FOSKETT  
17 June 1975

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MR HOOD

MINISTERIAL NO. 34600 HAS BEEN  
FORWARDED TO MR EDWARDS TODAY 30/5.