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LIVE IN CANBERRA SUCCESS AT COUNTRY WEEK EXPO

The *Live in Canberra* program has again received a great response from the annual Country Week Expo, held in Sydney over the past three days.

The Expo, designed for Sydneysiders who are looking for a 'sea or tree' change, attracted thousands of people with a wide variety of skills looking for better jobs and a better lifestyle.

Chief Minister Jon Stanhope said the outstanding attendance clearly demonstrates that many people are actively seeking job opportunities and a lifestyle that Sydney cannot offer, and many see Canberra as a great option.

"The expo provided an ideal opportunity to 'sell' Canberra's job opportunities and lifestyle with the *Live in Canberra* team handing out over 600 information packs," Mr Stanhope said. "The *Live in Canberra* seminars were also very popular with Expo attendees.

"Canberra appeals to a broad audience - being a city of four seasons, with relatively low crime, no toll roads and very few traffic jams, great schools and other first-class community facilities.

"Representatives from the new Alexander Maconochie Centre were also at the Expo to talk with people interested in applying to become one of the 75 custodial officers required at the Centre when it opens. The team received expressions of interest from hundreds of people who are very interested in coming to Canberra to be a part of this new project," Mr Stanhope said.

"The Australian Public Service Commission, IP Australia and the Australian Institute of Chartered Accountants also attended the expo as supporters of the *Live in Canberra* program. Representatives from these organisations met people face-to-face, promoting the myriad of employment opportunities in the nation's capital.

"Since its inception, with the aid of the campaign's supporters, the *Live in Canberra* program has attracted a number of new residents and workers to the city. The *Live in Canberra* team will work to build on this success with more than 100 families indicating a strong interest in participating in a Canberra tour in November as a result of the Expo," Mr Stanhope said.

Statement Ends

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