



Inner South Canberra Community Council

Mr Mick Gentleman MLA
ACT Minister for the Environment and Heritage
GPO Box 1020, Canberra, ACT 2601
gentleman@act.gov.au

Dear Minister,

The Inner South Canberra Community Council supports action by the ACT Government to develop a viable plan to prevent irreplaceable heritage objects leaving the ACT as a result of the auctioning off of carriages and other artefacts collected over many years by the ACT Railway Historical Society.

We understand that a statutory process is under way through the courts with a liquidation of the Society's assets, and that the Government is not in a position to use public funds to pay off the Society's commercial debt.

We also understand that the heritage listed 1210 locomotive, the first locomotive to enter Canberra, is owned by the people of Canberra and held by the ACT Government, and that the Beyer-Garratt 6029 City of Canberra locomotive is not included on the auction list. That is positive news. We have heard that private groups have expressed interest in buying the auctioned assets and in running a museum in accordance with the lease purpose of a railway museum.

The ISCCC wishes to support action to maintain an ongoing presence in the Inner South of the railway museum or a broader transport museum, and the associated heritage assets, and highlights their significant tourism potential.

We look forward to working with Government and other stakeholders to achieve an outcome of benefit to the Canberra community and our heritage.

Yours sincerely

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ISCCC Chair
27 July 2017