



## Media Release

### **ACT OFFICE FOR WOMEN ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING FOR YOUNG WOMEN LEADERS**

**16 April 2014:** The ACT Government has today awarded a grant of \$5,000 to the YWCA of Canberra to provide ten scholarships for young women to attend the inaugural *She Leads Conference* on Tuesday 13 May.

Held at Hotel Realm in Canberra with 200 delegates, the Conference will feature a line up of renowned Australian women including author, journalist and pioneering Feminist, Anne Summers, Executive Director of UN Women Australia, Julie McKay, Deputy Secretary Defence People in the Department of Defence, Carmel McGregor, and award winning journalist, writer and commentator, Virginia Haussegger.

Ms Crimmins said she was delighted to accept the scholarship funding from the ACT Government.

“These scholarships will allow us to provide a unique professional and personal development opportunity to women who would not otherwise have the means to participate in such an important event,” Ms Crimmins said.

The *She Leads Conference* addresses key areas of need under the current ACT Women’s Plan by providing responsive education, training and lifelong learning opportunities for all Canberra women.

“Developing women’s leadership and decision making skills is critical to ensuring that we see more women participating in our economy, and holding leadership roles in our communities and workplaces.” Ms Crimmins said.

Application forms and information about the ACT Government’s *She Leads* scholarships can be found at [www.ywca-canberra.org.au](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au) all other enquiries can be directed to [SheLeads@ywca-canberra.org.au](mailto:SheLeads@ywca-canberra.org.au)

Tickets for the *She Leads Conference* are now on sale and can be purchased at [www.ywca-canberra.org.au](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au)

- Ends -

**ACT Minister for Women Joy Burch and Executive Director of the YWCA of Canberra, Frances Crimmins are available for interview.**

**Media contacts:**

**Ms Crimmins - Joanna Allebone 0450 962 842**

**Minister Burch – Maria Hawthorne 0402 970 449**

**About the YWCA of Canberra:** The YWCA of Canberra is a feminist, not-for-profit organisation that has been providing community services and representing women's issues in the Canberra community since its establishment in 1929. The YWCA of Canberra employs more than 350 staff across the ACT, and delivers 30 quality programs in children's services, community development, housing, youth services, women's leadership, advocacy, and training. Represented in 122 countries, the YWCA has a global reach of 25 million women and girls. As part of this international movement, the YWCA of Canberra works for a world where reconciliation, justice, peace, health, human dignity, freedom and care for the environment are promoted and sustained through women's leadership. For more information visit: [www.ywca-canberra.org.au](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au)

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