

# ACT SCHOOL CANTEEN ASSOCIATION

Incorporated (A1552)

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[www.actschoolcanteen.org.au](http://www.actschoolcanteen.org.au)

*October 2009*

## ACCREDITATION FORUM

On 16 September 2009 ACTSCA convened a forum for its members and invited representatives from the Department of Education and CIT to outline and give an update on the Canteen Accreditation Program, DETSCA. It also gave canteen staff and members of P&C Associations an opportunity to pose questions and contribute to the general discussion about accreditation. The forum was well attended by both primary and high school representatives. ACTSCA believes that there are still more questions than there were answers as to the final form of the accreditation process and how it will be implemented. ACTSCA took extensive notes at the forum and a summary of the information provided, the questions, answers and general discussions that took place are enclosed with this newsletter.

ACTSCA again wishes to advise its members that both the CIT training and the proposed DETSCA program are under the control and management of the Department of Education. All questions relating to both the CIT training and DETSCA should be directed to **Ben Yuen**, ACT DET, Curriculum Support p-12, Student Wellbeing and Canteen Accreditation. ☎ 62057168 or email [ben.yuen.act.gov.au](mailto:ben.yuen.act.gov.au)

ACTSCA understands the frustrations that are being felt by many canteens and P&C/P&F Associations about the costs, delays and the uncertainties about final outcomes. On behalf of our members we will maintain a watching brief and will arrange further forums and discussion groups to ensure that all canteens in the ACT are kept fully informed on the ACT Department of Education's canteen policy and the implementation of its DETSCA program.

## FOOD SAFETY ISSUES

From time to time ACTSCA members phone wanting to know if it is acceptable and best practice for canteen staff to reheat food brought from home by students. We were of the understanding that this was not permitted under the Food Safety Act, and have advised members accordingly. A recent enquiry from one of our members caused us to take the matter up with Health Protection Services. ACTSCA outlined its concerns at this practice and asked for a ruling. We have now received a letter from Health Protection Services responding to our enquiry. Enclosed with this newsletter is **IMPORTANT INFORMATION** which deals with the question of whether food brought from home by students can or should be reheated in the canteen.

## FUTURE ACTSCA WORKSHOPS

At a recent meeting of the ACTSCA committee it was decided that even though CIT is running training courses for canteen staff, we believe that your Association has a role to provide workshop opportunities to its members on topics of canteen operations that are not being covered by the CIT course. Plans and discussions are underway to run a workshop towards the end of Term 1 2010 and we will forward details and invitations to members at the start of 2010.

### AFTERNOON TEA

Just a quick reminder about the afternoon tea that ACTSCA is holding –

**Wednesday 21 October 2009**

**3:30pm to 4:30pm**

**Alfred Deakin High School  
Denison Street, Deakin**

So, not only will the afternoon tea offer you the chance of mixing and chatting with canteen colleagues, you will also have an opportunity to take a squiz at the renovated canteen at Alfred Deakin High School. We are asking for a gold coin donation which we will pass on to Breast Cancer Research to support research into a disease that affects so many Australian women.

### PRICE COMPARISON 2010

**Can you help us to help you?** So that we can collate all the information to prepare the annual price comparison lists for Colleges/High Schools and Primary Schools we need a copy of your menu, together with details of how many students you have at your school.

Please send us your menu no later than the end of November so that we can put the information together over the long

summer holidays in time for the Term 1 2008 newsletter. Just –

Post - PO Box 56 Curtin ACT 2605

Fax - 6282 2158 or 6281 3763

email - actsca@optusnet.com.au

We respect your privacy so won't print any identifying information about your canteen.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The ACTSCA Annual General Meeting will be held on

**Wednesday 25 November 2009**

**3 pm**

**ALFRED DEAKIN HIGH SCHOOL  
Denison Street, Deakin**

(Afternoon Tea will be served)

All Committee positions will be declared vacant and there will be an election to appoint the Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Officer and at least three committee members for 2010.

Being a member of the ACTSCA committee is not hard, and it is not a time consuming commitment. We meet on average once a term, and it is a friendly group primarily made up of canteen staff, committed to making the work of other canteen staff as easy as possible. They recognise the importance of the work being done and how it will impact on the health of Canberra's school students. It is also an opportunity to bring your knowledge and ideas to ACTSCA so that we can continue to provide the service that is expected of the Association.

If you are interested in being involved in running your Association, please complete and return the tear off slip at the bottom of the AGM notice and return it to us at PO Box 56 Curtin ACT 2605.

**We need at least 12 people to attend the AGM so please join us – it's another great chance to catch up with you.**

## WEBSITE

Yes, we do keep going on about the website but it is there for your use and help. Keep up to date with what is happening with ACTSCA and other canteen organisations by regularly visiting [www.actschoolcanteen.org.au](http://www.actschoolcanteen.org.au). The latest FOCiS Registered Product list has recently been uploaded and is constantly growing.

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**There may be items in this Newsletter which will be of interest to the P&C/P&F Association. Please pass it on so that your employer can be kept up-to-date with the latest workplace information.**