



RENFREE HANRAHAN architects

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Canberra Airport Group  
2 Brindabella Circuit  
Canberra International Airport  
PIALLIGO ACT 2609

**Attention: Stephen Byron**

## **CANBERRA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – MASTER PLAN**

Dear Stephen

I am pleased to see the positive response to plans for the extensive upgrade of Canberra Airport terminal. As the capital city of Australia this new terminal will create a great sense of arrival for both domestic and international visitors who are coming to Canberra both for tourism and government matters. I have noticed for some time that airports are becoming the new hub for a whole range of activities, not only transport but also retail, commercial, conference and hotel accommodation. Your plans and foresight to diversify the development at Canberra Airport has no doubt helped to fund this new airport terminal development.

It would be a great pity if the thrust of your new development was to falter due to external influences such as curfews for international flights in and out of Canberra in the future. As curfews are only required where flight paths occur over residential areas, Canberra is in a terrific position having avoided that to this date due largely to good planning. It would be a pity if poor planning and short term financial considerations saw housing developed in New South Wales under the Canberra Airport flight path. As home owners see their home as their single largest investment in life they will invariably exaggerate any negative impacts of any nature and lobby governments of all colours until their perceived problem is removed. The real reason for doing this is simply to increase the value of their investment and does not necessarily reflect the true value or importance of any perceived problem.

As I understand it, part of your business plan is to diversify into a freight hub which would develop along Majura Road. Canberra is ideally located between Sydney and Melbourne to manage this type of integrated logistics and reduce overall flying hours, and in the long term become the most efficient hub for Australia's two greatest metropolitan areas.



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In the long term your Master Plan should include Canberra as a second airport for Sydney but this can only really occur if synergies were developed with a very fast train programme which delivered international visitors to large metropolitan areas with a transport mode that does not increase the load on Sydney's major airport.

I wish you well in your Canberra Airport developments and hope that the full potential for the airport precinct can be realised into the future.

Yours sincerely

**John Hanrahan**  
**Renfree Hanrahan Architects**